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Reedley, CA 93654

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**Sierra View Homes Retirement Community**  
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# In the Company of Friends

## July 2020



## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE . . .**

Summer sun, long days of sunshine, fresh fruit and knowing what it means to be hot are all reminders that July is here. For me July is a time for picnics with friends in the mountains and taking family vacations. My hope is that the COVID-19 virus will be conquered and we will once again be able to meet and enjoy the company of our family and friends.

In June we realized how sneaky the coronavirus can be. One of our Garden Apartment residents caught the virus by accidentally coming in contact with someone who was infected. She was very smart and took action to keep the virus from spreading. She self-quarantined and avoided any further contact with others. As of this writing, we have had no new cases in the apartments.

We now have tested all care center staff and residents and have had no positive results. Assisted Living residents and staff have remained completely free from this virus. Certainly we will continue to surveil our whole campus and try to keep you safe and informed as best we can.

Again we want to remind residents and staff that social distancing, wearing a face covering and washing hands frequently are still the most effective ways to keep any infection at bay. Although COVID-19 seems to be a bit more infectious, other infections such as MRSA, AIDS, and SARS can be just as dangerous to the vulnerable people who suffer from heart and respiratory diseases.

We look forward to the day that the fear and the reality of COVID-19 will be quelled by its own mutation to a lesser infection, vaccine, and/or curative medicines. In the meantime, Sierra View Homes will remain your home in taking precautions and God willing still trying to allow a quality of life. Happy July

*Ro Linscheid*

## **Dear Staff at Sierra View Homes . . .**

We want to thank you for the lovely plant in memory of our mom Ruby Dick.

We are so grateful for the wonderful care and companionship she received in her 15 years there. Your thoughtfulness and kindness is greatly appreciated.

**Bruce Watkins and Family**

## **Retire To Work . . .**

We are sure you have heard this story before, a retirement to take care of the grandchild. Well, this one is special. Virginia Cruz has decided to hang up her certification after 42 years of service at Sierra View Homes. She started in 1978 when Sierra View was much smaller. Indeed, the space that is now the Activity Office for Skilled Nursing was the kitchen for the community. So, Virginia has seen a lot of changes and managed to work with many different Administrators and Director of Nurses.

Virginia will be missed. She is a CNA that always has a smile, time to talk to you and genuine caring/loving attitude. Our missing her will be her granddaughter, Kyana, two-year-old's benefit. She will be running after and playing with her granddaughter from here on.

We are so grateful to Virginia for her years of service and wish her well. She has so much energy she might come back and work from time-to-time. That would be fine with us.

## **Fourth of July . . .**

**CANCELLED**

Our Fourth of July will be celebrated on Friday, July 3, 2020. Our luncheon will feature special backyard burgers on a special Brioche Bun and Italian Parsley Potato Salad. The desert will be a very blue, blueberry pie.

All residents are invited to participate in this barbeque luncheon. Given the COVID circumstances and restrictions, we will bring to go boxes to you. The first 30 garden or terrace resident who so desire, will be allowed to eat in the Kings Canyon Dining Room. Social Distancing will be enforced. Residents who have been hanging around together can eat at the same table. Otherwise, it will be two to a table. Again, the first 30 residents who come into the office by July 2 and sign up will be allowed to use the dining room. Lunch will begin at noon. Residents who do not make it on the sign up list will be delivered to. All residents will get a free July 4th meal.

The tradition of the Fourth is steep in independence celebrations. On July 4, 1776, the delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence. After several years of war, the birth of a tiny nation came to realization.

### **SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE**

This service is on hold until further notice.

This service usually happens every few months, but with the COVID-19 precautions in place of no gathering of groups larger than 10, this will have to be put on hold. We will let you know as soon as we can schedule a service.

## **A Blessing to All . . .**

A month has passed since the church celebrated Pentecost in which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit, as told to us in the first chapter of Acts. Jesus' final words to his disciples was to spread the good news of the Kingdom of God work that does not end at the end of the season of Pentecost.

The word *pandemic* has Greek origins and did not always have the negative connotation that it has today. The literal translation in the Greek is "of or belonging to all people." In some ways then, the church is to become pandemic!

In Genesis, God tells Abraham that "all people on earth will be blessed through you" (12:3). Has there ever been a greater need for blessing and healing in our world? May we continue what God started in the call to Abraham so many years ago: To be a blessing for life and a testament to the love and hope that can only come from God, our creator and sustainer.

Caley Ortman, Chaplain

## The Story of an Extension . . .

Believe it or not the extension onto the Kings Canyon Room will be open this month. The building is exquisite in design and built like a fortress with its fire-proof glass, deep and thick foundation, double wall thickness, and pounds of calking sealant. The room has added 38 double-glazed windows plus six windows in the doors and two windows in the attic.

Since it's connected to the Care Center, it had to be built to hospital specifications, monitored and verified for each screw that was used and be equipped with more expensive pieces of machinery that could be procured at the time.

Construction started in October of last year. It took the year prior to get it approved through the state bureaucracy. The construction start was delayed with some weather issues and the limited supply of sub-contractors because of the housing boom.

Throughout the rest of the building period, COVID delays, inspection delays, sub-contractor mistakes, wrong parts, and defective parts being replaced, have been a rule rather than an exception.

But thanks be to God, persistence and determination has finally brought this building forward. So as we open the new 1600 square foot room, take note of our sigh of relief.

A new specialty coffee machine and soft serve ice cream machine will be featured. New chairs and tables will adorn the space but will not arrive until August.

We hope this space will be the setting for friends to get together, enjoy the little desserts of life or just have a place to commiserate together.

## Sierra View Administration and Staff of all areas of care . . .

The Goertzen Family want to say **THANK YOU** for your leadership and support provided to our Mom/Grandma/ Great Grandma during this pandemic and shelter in place requirement.

We appreciate your diligence in keeping all the residents at every level of care safe and maintain a healthy environment.

We are praying for your facility and the well-being of each person. While our prayers are for the physical health of those living at Sierra View, we also pray for the Holy Spirit to wrap a blanket of peace around each person who is feeling lonely, isolated, or afraid.

Thank you for being the daily smile for each one of the residents.

With gratitude and respect

God is in control

Ivan, Bev, and Pam

Children of Joyce Goertzen (a garden apartment resident)

## WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD . . .

Here is a list of some new faces you may be seeing around the campus.

### Garden Apartments

Stan and Carol Brandt

Deanna Koobation

### Terrace Apartments

Betty Gene Hamstrom

Virginia Rose

We hope you will welcome these new residents into the Sierra View Homes family.