



Fun Times in Assisted Living

September 3, 2021 Edition

COVID STATUS

We currently have 4 COVID positive employees. They are quarantined at their homes. Our residents continue to remain healthy and well. Unfortunately, our visitation restrictions must continue.

Please check our website for the most up-to-date information:

www.oddfellows.com/covid-19



STONES

If you have lived in our beautiful valley for more than a month, you are aware that we have rocks here. LOTS OF ROCKS!! I became acutely aware of just how many rocks we have when I was working for an electrical contracting company and digging ditches to lay conduit in to power homes. It was about that time when I learned that rocks can procreate. Because as many rocks as you take out of a hole, twice as many still remain.

Then my sweet little cherub faced babies discovered painting rocks. Fortunately (maybe unfortunately?) where we live has an endless supply of rocks in all shapes and sizes leading to some talented creations. We found one in our backyard the size of my husbands' head once. It was a great discovery except we were trying to put in a fence post where the rock was. Regardless, my children are much older and my house now abounds with painted rocks

I guess it depends on how you look at things, because rocks can be a complete nuisance or an art form. Heck, some rocks are considered to be gemstones. I ran across the quote to our left today and it really gave me pause. This has been a week where I have felt the rocks being thrown. Continued cases of COVID, county rates soaring, huge group gatherings still happening, regulations tightening, vaccination mandates. Seriously, how much more can we take??

I guess it's all in how you spread the peanut butter. Nice and smooth or thick here and thin there? What if I took those rocks being thrown and piled them all up to get a better perspective? Would we see things differently? Would things be clearer? What if instead of fighting the rocks we embraced them and learned to work with them. If I've learned anything over the years is that rocks are a forever constant. You will never rid yourself of them, they only multiply. Take that challenge the rock throws at you and turn it around. Do something good with it. Paint them with a pretty picture, turn them into a cute little lady bug, stack them up and make them into a step stool. But don't succumb to the weight of them. Turn your rocks into blessings.

Blessings,
Kari





FRIENDS

Remember the television show “Friends” that used to air every week. Joey , Rachel, Ross, Phoebe, Monica and Chandler. That goofy series always had me laughing. Sure, it was a funny sitcom, but it portrayed a group of people who made each other nuts sometimes but in if one of the was in trouble, the others rallied behind them in a moment. Sometimes I marvel at the friendships that develop here. But with this pandemic and the limitations in visitations I’ve seen much stronger bonds, deeper friendships develop. The wonderful people who call this place home are the only ones who truly understand what it’s like, what each other are experiencing. And because of that the friendship are rock solid.

MR BERRY

Over the years, OddFellows has been called home by some of the most talented people you will ever meet. We’ve had TV and movie stars, producers, artists, writers. This week we were awed by another incredibly talented gentleman who calls this place home. Mr Berry is a quilter. Now for those of us that sew, you know that making a quilt using a sewing machine takes hours and hours of piecing and sewing fabric together. Then off to the quilting machine it goes for the finishing touches. But not Mr. Berry!! Each of his incredibly detailed quilts were stitched by hand, start to finish. And with each one of those stitches, loved poured into his quilts. Thank you Mr. Berry for allowing us to see one of your many talents.



BINGO

The Activities staff here at the Home are nothing if not creative. This week we combined candy and baseball to make one of the silliest but most enjoyed BINGO games we’ve seen in a while. Candy and quarters abounded for prizes all while a baseball game played on in the background. And from the looks on these faces, BINGO is serious business!



AND A LITTLE MORE FUN . . .

From brain games to trivial pursuit to walks to the sidewalk, we’ve had a busy week here at The Home. It’s wonderful drawing a week to a close, but even more fun spending the time together to make the memories that came about this week. I think my dad is right with his phrase “Making Memories”. It’s those moments when we feel like rocks are being thrown at us but we turn around and a friend makes us laugh. Our day just turns around at that point. Thank you, OddFellow’s Residents, for making some memories with us this week.



OUR CANDLE IN THE WIND

When I think about my friend Betty, Elton John's song "Candle in the Wind" plays in my head. Maybe because I think she might have been our Marilyn Monroe. She was such a regal beauty. She cared about her friends and neighbors becoming our cheerleader for much of the pandemic. Even when her caregivers grew tired, she'd remind us that we're going to make it through this. Betty held herself and those around her to a high standard, be proud of yourselves she would say, act in a way to make yourself proud. When she started laughing, you knew something was about to happen. I will long remember her phrase "I'm old not dead you know" followed by the slyest little chuckle. Goodbye Miss Betty! We hope you have found peace and are surrounded by love and pictures of Matthew McConaughey.

