

IRVINE COTTAGES NEWSLETTER

March 2011



EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS BONUS FUND

We send a big thank you for all of the Christmas Bonus money that was donated to the bonus fund. All caregivers received a family appreciation bonus! Wow! We are grateful to our generous families for their kind contributions.

HOLIDAY GALA

The 2010 Christmas Luncheon was a huge hit!

Celebrations were held at the Four Seasons Banquet Hall in Irvine.

Entertainment included The Dickens Carolers, Shelby Lindholme on the Harp, Dane Brimer Balloon Entertainer, The JSerra Catholic High School Choir and Toni Imus - Pianist/singer.

A special Thank You to all of our volunteers: Marc Carlson as Santa, Michelle Nesbitt, Rachel Dupont, Aileen Sherman, Marla Harms, Gina Marzan, Marci Canipe and staff who attended for their help with our Holiday party.

Thank you to Sandy Baren at Jewish Family Services for transporting our special residents.

Our residents loved the Holiday Gala, scrumptious food and delicious Christmas cake for dessert. Staff, residents and guests participated in a holiday raffle and many went home with some great surprise gifts. Thank you to all our residents, staff, special friends and family members who attended.

FAMILY SURVEY RESULTS

At the end of 2010, we mailed out a survey to all of our Irvine Cottages families. The purpose of the survey was to communicate with our families and allow them provide us with their thoughts and concerns about the care their loved ones are receiving. They could also inform us on how we are excelling and also to let us know which areas they think we can improve.

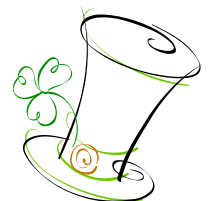
On the whole, the results were very favorable. Caregivers and relievers were rated as the most important employees at Irvine Cottages and the best 100% were rated as excellent! Thank you to all of our wonderful staff for their "Excellent care!"

Some of the positive comments that came from our families included:

1. Excellent Exercise Program
2. Excellent personal care
3. Excellent Snacks
4. Houses were "Clean and Tidy"
5. Caring and Compassionate care
6. Excellent Communication

Good Job everyone and thank you for all of your hard work!

We wish all residents and their families a Happy St. Patrick's Day! Wednesday March 17th Residents will enjoy cake or delicious cupcakes.



MARK'S ACTIVITIES UPDATE....

As a singer and performer of hit songs from the 40's 50's and 60's I am continuously adding new songs to my performance list. I am able to sing these songs to the residents as a group and face to face. By doing this, I am able to convey the love and care that I have for the beautiful residents of



Irvine Cottages. I also add mimics to the lyrics of some of the songs. This generates smiles and laughter. I have had much success at several of the cottages with the magnetic lap bingo game. I host the game and sing at the same time. New fun cognitive games will be added e.g. the "name something" game and "hang man". Cash prizes are awarded to the residents for games. Anthony Bagtas has recently joined the activities group as a piano player. Anthony serves as a volunteer piano player at a local Catholic church.

Mark Neria

OUTINGS IN JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH

Irvine Cottages residents enjoy outings to Irvine Park where they like to feed the ducks. They enjoy scenic drives around the lake and also around local neighborhoods.

Staff continue to take able residents on daily walks around the neighborhood and they often eat lunch on the patio (weather permitting). Our special residents love going to out to eat lunch, their favorite places include: Del Taco, In & Out burger, McDonalds, Baskin and Robbins, Kentucky Fried Chicken and more recently, Starbucks.

All homes sing karaoke every day and all residents are encouraged to participate. They have movie day one to two times a week. The more alert cottages entertain the residents with Nintendo Wii games and air hockey.

CARE PLANS

Want a care plan meeting? Gerontologist Dr. Jacque Dupont is always open to meet to answer your questions and concerns. Please call anytime for a meeting (949) 533-5938 or Jacqldupont@aol.com

SPRING TIME IS HERE...

We are encouraging in all cottages:
 More Walks outside
 More Patio time - especially meals and snack time.
 More Outings

MOVIE OF THE WEEK

Each home has a popcorn/movie party one or two days a week!

During February & March, resident's enjoyed many different kinds of movies, especially romantic movies around Valentine's Day. Popcorn and snacks are included! Ask mom or dad about the movie of the week! If you have movies to share, please let us know.

NEW ACTIVITY DIRECTOR

Aubrey David comes to us with an excellent back ground in Gerontology, Caregiving and Dance. She has been a semi professional dancer and has even cared for her grandmother Faith who is living at Irvine Cottage 1. Aubrey has the compassion, patience and kindness needed to do activities with older adults. You can tell in one minute that she loves them. Welcome to our team Aubrey!

APRIL IS PIE MONTH!

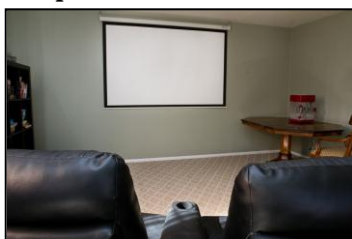
More Pies! April is Pie of the Week Month. Each home will receive a different pie each week. Let us know if Mom or Dad has a special pie they love. Favorites include fruit and cream pies and also Lemon Meringue.

WELCOME BACK NANCY....

Nancy O'Neill has recovered from surgery and is going to return back to work starting out at the Mission Viejo Cottages. Welcome back Nancy we have all been praying for your recovery.

NEW MOVIE THEATRE AT IRVINE COTTAGE 9

Cottage 9 in Newport Beach has a new Movie Theatre room. Gina will start taking residents on outings there to watch movies. Popcorn and snacks included.



PLEASE EXCUSE OUR MESS

Please excuse the mess at Cottage 2 and Cottage 5. After a total remodel, we have a new look. Thank you to everyone for helping and being so patient!

Thank you to the families and to House Manager Marie at Cottage 2 who has really stepped up and helped with her ideas and time. Cottage 2 is looking amazing and even better is the excellent care of staff there!

Marie and Jerry are kind, compassionate and dedicated to improving the lives of all of their residents!

It is such a happy cottage!

A new air filtration system was also implemented to improve the air quality.

Thank you to Cottage 5!

Our new double enlarged shower is finished. Our French inspired cottage is finally completed!

Thank you to June our manager for being on top of absolutely everything and the staff and families for being so patient! Everyone helped out so much! Cottage 5 will also receive the new air filtration system this week.

Thank you again!

OUR OWN TALENTED NELSON CASTILLO

Nelson painted a beautiful painting for UCI Mind institute and it is now hanging in their Mind Clinic. Thank you Nelson for helping!

Every year Nelson and the cottages have supported Wine for Mind, a gala to keep the Memory Clinic open.

This year, Jacque helped raise over \$120,000 to keep the clinic open for Memory Assessment and Research.

CONGRATULATIONS...

To our General Manager Gina Marzan for her well-deserved Alzheimer’s Association of Orange County Nomination for Caregiver of the Year! Gina was honored at a special luncheon hosted by Olympia Dukakis. We are so proud of you Gina!



JSERRA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL PROGRAM GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

The JSERRA Catholic High School Girls Basketball Program visited twice to some of the Cottages over Christmas and Valentine’s Day. This was an awesome experience for the student athletes to give back to the community. The girls touched so many hearts; they sang Christmas Carols, read books, made Valentine’s Day crafts, played games and just talked with the residents. The residents were so happy, smiling, laughing and loving life. Thank you to all of the girls!



BINGO, SCRABBLE OR CARDS ANYONE?

We encourage all residents to participate in game time and play games. Bingo Prizes continue to be big favorite! We also encourage all residents and staff to participate in singing Karaoke every day. Please let us know if your loved one has a favorite song or game! We love it when our visiting families join in too!

IRVINE COTTAGES BIRTHDAYS

Celebrating our resident’s birthdays is very important to us. Gina Marzan (949) 633-1595 will call you for a fun Birthday party for your loved one 2-3 weeks in advance. Each resident will receive balloons, a special gift and a birthday cake. We will make it as flexible as possible so that 100% of our families can attend!

Did you know that we give a birthday bonus to all full time employees?

January Birthday’s

January 3rd Martha Joleen Wade
 January 18th Carl Kesler
 January 25th Buck Ying Lee
 January 26th Edna Bell

February Birthday’s

February 5th Norma Frazer
 February 7th Helen Mury
 February 7th Audrey Loftstrom
 February 9th Grace Guss
 February 13th Shirley Saunders
 February 14th Renie Del Curto
 February 22nd John Cote
 February 27th Florence Horan

March Birthday’s

March 3rd Virginia Coughlin
 March 9th Alice Salter
 March 11th Wilma Sparks
 March 17th Patricia Rosauer
 March 17th Phillip K. Moore
 March 17th Ann Mitchell
 March 18th Agnes Anderson

April Birthday’s

April 5th Georgette Bojak
 April 6th Gary Brower
 April 21st Malcolm Graham
 April 23rd Judith Grace Chilcott

IRVINE COTTAGES TRAINING UPDATE

Training is on-going at Irvine Cottages and in recent months, we have covered the following topics:

Alzheimer’s Association Training
 Communication and Managing Behaviors

Apex Home Health Training
 Transfer Training and Body Mechanics

Sonnet Home Health Training
 Assisting with Occupational therapies

Training from Marla Harms
 Medication Training Communication and Body Language
 Behavioral issues and redirection

NEW COMPANY VAN

We have installed a new electric wheelchair lift in our luxurious Chevy Van. Gina will be taking residents on more outings in the upcoming months. Please encourage all of your able residents to go in our new electric wheelchair lift van!

MUSIC WITH TONI IMUS

Since the beginning of 2011, Toni has been playing Jazz, Big Band, Hymns, and Popular music with the residents in all 11 cottages. She has also been doing Sing-alongs where the residents play musical instruments which are a lot of fun.

In March, Toni and the residents will be singing Irish music for St. Patrick's Day and in April they will be singing Easter songs and hymns.

IRVINE COTTAGES SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

We are currently interviewing all high school and college interns for the summer. Please let us know if you know of anyone who might be interested and if so, please call Gina at (949) 633-1595. All homes are open for interns and a stipend is offered.

Internship ideas:

Arts and Crafts, exercise, walks to the park or around local neighborhoods, reading the Bible or any book to a resident, Baking or cooking with residents, Gardening Program, Movie nights or outings with Gina. We will need a permission slip waiver from the guardian if they are under 18 years of age and if they are younger than 12 years of age they will need an adult to accompany them. If they are over 18 years of age and want to visit more than 10 hours per week, we will need to fingerprint them. Irvine Cottages will pay for the cost to fingerprint them.

*Residents will enjoy an
Easter/Passover Luncheon
Celebration*

*At their Cottage
On Easter Sunday
April 24th 12 noon*

*They will enjoy a Ham lunch, Green
Beans, Salad, Rolls and Dessert.*

*Please stop by and join your loved ones
for dessert!*

*Residents will also receive an
Easter Bag of Chocolate Goodies
made by Rachel Dupont &
Michelle Nesbitt*





Save the Date

Thursday, April 14, 2011

New Venue: The Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa - 7:30am - 11:30am

Keynote Speakers:

Dennis Prager, Radio Talk Show Host and
**Fr. Seamus Finn, Director of the Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation
 for the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate**

The Bishop Tod D. Brown Award for Exemplary Business Integrity will be presented to

Dr. Jacqueline DuPont, Gerontologist
CEO & Founder of DuPont Residential Care, Inc. and Assured In Homecare, Inc.
 and **John J. O'Connor, Founder**
Shamrock Supply Company.

For sponsorship opportunities and ticket information visit www.oc-foundation.org,
 call 949-722-6551 or email info@the-oneillgroup.com.

Congratulations to Jacque Dupont who will be awarded
 The Bishop Tod D. Brown Award for Exemplary Business Integrity
 on April 14th!



MARCI'S ARTS AND CRAFTS CORNER....

We started the year off with special guest Colleen Porch who played charades with us. We've also been reading books including poetry books, Cars and Hot Rod books are a favorite with the guys. We always try to paint and do lots of crafts including beaded bracelet watches and of course we made decorations for Valentine's Day. No matter how much fun our projects are the best part of visiting the cottages and all of the special residents are the big Smiles that happen while we're creating.

Marci Canipe



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Visit us on the web:
www.irvinecottages.com