DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD: The Pillowcase Dress Project

Dress A Girl Around The World - often referred to as The Pillowcase Dress Project - is a program whose objective is to provide pretty dresses to impoverished girls in emerging countries. This simple idea consists of transforming pillowcases or fabric, with a bit of cutting and stitching, into attractive, colorful pinafore-style dresses.

Our local contact, Carolyn Griebe, came to Mirasol in early May to describe the project in more detail to an interested group of residents. She spoke about the work being done by her associates in one particular area of Uganda. This group has built a school, a kitchen providing hundreds of meals daily and they provide seed money for women’s small businesses and raise funds in the U.S. for water-well drilling in Uganda. Carolyn’s video showing delighted girls wearing their new dresses was heartwarming.

With that, Mirasol residents swung into action. Pillowcases, donated fabrics, bias tape and elastic were measured and cut, pockets were cut and pressed, and then all the components were packaged into kits for the seamstresses to take home and sew. As the finished dresses have been returned, the sense of accomplishment and cooperation among participants has grown.

As an added gift, each girl will find panties and a rag doll in the pockets of her dress. Thus was begun the “Undie Fund” table at the recent garage sale. The proceeds of the sales at that table (over $100) will go a long way in providing underwear for the girls.

A big thank you goes to all who have participated in so many ways on this project - donating fabrics, pillowcases, trims, bias tape, elastic; ironing, cutting, pinning, measuring, sewing - the generosity of all is wonderful to see.

Stay tuned for more (non-sewing) service projects.
Pat on the back to all Mirasol residents!

....Jane Burns
BIRTHDAY CORNER

Happy Birthday Wishes Go To….

The Mirasol residents and friends celebrating birthdays in June are:

Sharron Bicking (5th), Verla Dunn (13th), Trish Hall (20th), Jim Hunt (3rd), Jan Kennedy (5th), Karen Nelson (11th), Marianna Price (16th), Bev Thirolf (9th), and Donna Wallace (14th)

The birthday celebration is held each month immediately following the Resident Council Meeting. (If your birthday is not shown above, please contact Mark Betz to be sure it is included in our Resident Directory.)

RESIDENT COUNCIL

The next Resident Council will be held on Thursday, June 20th at 1:30 p.m. in the Event Center Grande Room.

Please plan to attend to hear about all of our upcoming summer events, including, but not limited to:

6/15 Pictionary Game  - a rousing good time!
6/16 Father’s Day Ice Cream Social
6/23 Car Wash (Staff washes residents’ cars)
6/24 Pianist Fred Grimm
6/28 Broncos Behind the Scenes - Ted & Linda Williams give us the scoop on the Broncos.
6/29 Julie’s Patio Potluck - Mirasol will provide a main dish - BBQ sandwiches - and residents bring sides and desserts (BYOB). Julie says if the weather is nice, she hopes to have music around the firepit. Casual, comfortable, picnic style!
7/4 4th of July Picnic - Menu will be discussed at Resident Council. In past years we have had an old-fashioned American Picnic with fried chicken.

Grandparents Day: Planning is underway for a “Grandparent's Day” on a Saturday in August. New ideas are welcomed and encouraged. In the past we have done games, rubber duckies in a pool, face painting, balloons, pie-eating contests and, of course, food. And photos are taken of the families. Talk to Kathy Sigg to be part of the planning committee. This is a big event!

August 10th - Murder at the Juice Joint - see elsewhere in the newsletter for more….

Check your Mirasol calendar for details of these events and more!

THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Your thoughts and prayers will be appreciated by these Mirasol neighbors hoping for improved health and continuing recovery:

Harold Hansen, Jim Wessels, Martha Stender

SYMPATHY

We recently learned of the death of Dee Austin, a former longtime resident of Mirasol. She moved from Mirasol to be closer to her family in Arkansas. Our sympathy goes out to her friends and family.
Happenings
By
Kathy Sigg

As I write this column we have just wrapped up a beautiful salad luncheon to honor Suzette, Melodee, Barbara, Tonia, Vivian and soon to be our newest addition, Adrienne. We’re all familiar with the wonderful things these ladies do, and have done, for us but I’d like to recap these things here. Not only do Suzette, Melodee and Barbara have their own businesses here at Mirasol, but they have always been so gracious and giving in donating their time and talents to the residents. They all charge far less than you would find outside of Mirasol on a daily basis, and in addition to that they have offered free services as their gift to us on occasion. Adrienne donated manicures for Mother’s Day and she will soon be joining us on a regular basis. Every month Tonia and Vivian host a themed Afternoon Tea that is put on out of the kindness of their hearts. It’s not an easy feat to cook and bake for a crowd this large and they do it with grace and style. So, again, THANK YOU! We appreciate all that you do.

We have some very fun things coming up. The happening I’m most excited about is an Arts and Crafts Show featuring the talents of our residents. Whether your interest is painting, sewing, knitting, crochet, photography, woodworking, sculpting, beading, playing an instrument or anything else you can think of that you like to create, I would love to hear from you and if I don’t hear from you I may be knocking at your door! This will be a great opportunity for other residents to learn a little bit more about you. We’re looking at then creating a permanent location for displaying our residents’ talents somewhere here at Mirasol. The show is tentatively scheduled for the third weekend in September so start planning now what you would like us to showcase.

Our very own Bonnie Jones is in “Fiddler on the Roof” at Jesters’ Dinner Theatre in Longmont. The last performance is a matinee on July 14th. Tickets must be purchased in advance at $18 for seniors for the show only. Groups of 12 or more get discounts, but we need to know fairly soon how many are interested in attending. Please let me know as soon as possible so we can see if we would qualify for a group rate.

Don’t forget to come to the event planning meeting on the first Friday of each month at 9:00 am. This is the best time to get your ideas heard on events and activities you would like to see on the calendar.

Hugs to you all, Kathy

PS: Don’t forget the Father’s Day ice cream social on 6/16 and the car wash on 6/23. Please sign up!

Pictured below: Hat Decorating Class and Kathy busts some moves at our Cinco de Mayo Party
MARK’S MESSAGE

Starting July 1st, the event center will start using a pass card system for entry. Those of you who live at one of the apartment buildings are already familiar with this system: you have a card that you flash in front of the card reader and the door is unlocked for you. While apartment building residents already have a card (and this card will be updated to allow access to the event center – that way you won’t need to carry two cards), home renters and home owners will be issued a card before July 1st. The locking system will not engage until 5:00 PM Monday through Friday and at 11:00 AM on Saturdays and Sundays. In order to access the event center after these times, you will need to bring your card with you and flash it in front of the sensor reader. Once the locking system engages, it will remain locked until 7:30 AM the next morning (when breakfast starts). It is important to note that the pass card reader for the event center is at the east entrance only (this is the “single door” entrance). The reason for this change is to ensure more security at the event center. Please note that since your card is assigned to you, there will be a record of who used their card to visit the event center after hours when the locking system is engaged.

Here are the movies for late June and early July:
June 18 – 50 First Dates
June 25 – Argo
July 2 - Not Without My Daughter
July 9 - Ever After

See you around!
Mark

(Notice the 2013 Energy & Green Building Award we recently received, for our Phase II apartment building, from the National Association of Housing & Redevelopment Officials)

Tessie Morin speaks about Native American Life

Mother’s Day Ice Cream Social (with guests)
For our first Murder Mystery Dinner the Grande Room will be transformed into a 1920's Speakeasy. In addition to dinner and drinks being furnished, and served to you by the Juice Joint Waitresses, the evening will feature a photo booth, music, dancing and a special performance by the Juice Joint Singer. The evening is free to residents, but donations at the door are encouraged to help defray our costs (early donations can be made to Trish Hall or Zita Dressel). Due to limited space, this event will be for residents and staff only. And, of course, Murder is on the Menu!

Sign-up for this event has already been lively! Sign up to attend (and just be an audience investigator) or go all in and ask for a character part. Costumes (or at least a feather in your hair) are encouraged, but definitely not required. The sign-up sheet will be pulled on August 2nd, so we can plan seating and quantities of food and drink.

Character parts will be assigned by the end of June for those who wish them, giving you time to “get into your role”. Zita Dressel (shown below) has pictures and ideas to share about what was worn in the 1920’s, so check with her if you need ideas. (We will have a photo booth set up to take shots of you and your pals - prints will be available later for under $1 per print.)

See Pat Marshall if you have wide mouth pint canning jars that you would be willing to share for the evening - it's for our "bathtub gin".

You can be as involved as you wish to be in the Murder Mystery. You can sit back and enjoy the show - or let your inner flapper/mobster come out!

See you at the Juice Joint - and don’t forget to say that “Rosie Invited Me”.

Murder at the Juice Joint
August 10th
4:45 p.m. at the Mirasol Speakeasy
NEW NEIGHBORS:

Ann Bassett – Apt. 320, Phase II
Ruben & Rosalie Blumenshine – Apt. 154
Gwen Boswell – Apt. 190
Richard Crooks – Apt. 211, Phase II
Beverly Doyle – Apt. 311, Phase II
Tom Elliott – Apt. 303, Phase II
Donna Horton – Apt. 205, Phase II
Helen Jamieson – 521 Canyon Wren Ave.
Ruben & Victoria Jara – Apt. 101, Phase II
Carol Jenkins – Apt. 122, Phase II
Sandy Johnson – Apt. 218, Phase II
Jan Luce – Apt. 201, Phase II
Lori MacDonald – Apt. 111, Phase II
Mel & Diane Moore – Apt. 212, Phase II
Donna Rose – Apt. 216, Phase II
Barbara Taylor – Apt. 318, Phase II
Iris Trachsel – Apt. 217, Phase II
Dina Vander Borgt – Apt. 301, Phase II
Thelma Dillon — 658 Inca Dove Dr.

Neighbors who have moved away:
Charles & Lee Boynton
Gayla Shay
Gloria Short

Our Garage/Bake Sale/Lunch netted over $500 in proceeds for our Resident Council coffers. The drama group, choir and “undies fund” also made lots of money for their projects.

Maurice’s Free Haircut?

Mirasol “Dudes”