



UPDATE

The Ridge

June 2010

From the Executive Director

It's been a lively spring season! We held a Spring Fling luncheon party at our new Dudley Home to express our appreciation to the Dudley family, and to do a little fundraising. The silent auction was fun, and everyone agrees the home and yard are beautiful, and it will be a wonderful addition to our residential program.



Speaking of Dudley Home, we have received generous donations, including a major gift through County Supervisor John Tavaglione, which will provide financial support during the start-up phase of operating the new home. After the home receives final certification from the Dept. of Health (after about 60 days), we can begin billing Medi-Cal as additional clients move in. However, it will be nearly the end of the year before the state catches up with all reimbursements for new clients. We will be especially dependent on donations during the rest of the year to carry us to that point.

In April we hosted our Annual Celebration, with many parents, community members and residents in attendance. We honored our Employee of the Year, Donna Shamoun, and our Volunteer of the Year, Rod Seiler and his dog Seymour. We were privileged to have Corona Mayer Karen Spiegel and City Council Member Stan Skipworth join us that afternoon.

On May 27 we sponsored the Good Morning Corona breakfast meeting of the Chamber of Commerce. We were able to distribute material and make a presentation about the wonderful work we do at The Ridge. During the presentation, attendees viewed photos of clients, homes and activities. We were warmly received and we intend to make this an annual part of our public outreach.

Coming up on June 24 will be an informational event for parents, hosted by Ability Counts in Riverside. I have been asked to be one of the speakers on the panel. The full information is included in this letter – please come if you can, and we'll make a great impression for The Ridge in the disability community. Also included in this newsletter is the information distribution form from Inland Regional Center (they need to receive the response on their form).

In our fundraising, we are beginning our Annual Fund Drive. The support of our family and friends is instrumental in being able to accomplish our mission, not only of providing homes, but also of providing the highest possible quality of life for your precious loved ones. We value our partnership with you.

Audrey Turner
Executive Director



C-Home

Hello Everyone!



Summer time is rapidly approaching, along with many fun activities. Michael O., Michael J., Missy, Greg, and Kenny are all preparing for the ARC State Bowling Tournament in San Francisco, at the end of May. We will all be rooting for them here! Also, Sharon, Kenny, Greg, Michael O., Michael J., and Missy are excited to return to Pilgrim Pines Camp this July.



We celebrated Gene C.'s birthday on April 25th and Michael O.'s birthday on May 13th. Gene celebrated his birthday with a pizza party.

We have been enjoying the warm weather with bar-b-ques in the park. Also, the clients have been keeping very busy with all the Ridge activities. They have been regularly attending Bingo, Party Parners, Common Ground Birthday Parties, arts and crafts, and Fitness 19. Also, we had a really great time at Sea World in April, thanks to the funds generated by the Love Walk. In addition, Missy, Terry, Greg, Maria, Michael J., and Michael O., had a blast at the arcade at Castle Park.

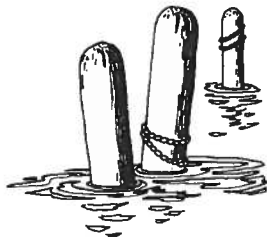


We want to congratulate Kasey McG., for completing High School. She will be graduating in June. Kasey has come a long way and is very happy now and in good health.

C-Home would like to thank all the parents that continuously donate to our home.

Sincerely,

C-Home Clients and Staff



Families & Friends

Welcome to Summer!

I hope we are ready for the hot days ahead and for the great Ridge celebration on the Fourth of July. This event has become a tradition at The

Ridge and all the residents look forward to spending the morning parading and being with all the families and friends. The staff does a terrific job getting every one dressed in red, white, and blue, making everything even more festive.

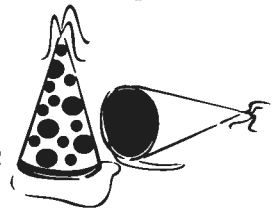
Remember that making this event as great as it is, takes all of us. As in years before, The Ridge will provide the meat, buns, condiments, lettuce, sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, and paper goods. We, you and I, must provide salads: potato, macaroni, rice, chicken, tuna, green, and any other kind you can make. Also baked beans are a favorite. Pick out a recipe and double or triple it so that we will have enough for all. Desserts are also needed, again make plenty.

This year we will have a silent auction. We already have a few things donated. Bring your check books, wallets, or piggy banks and be ready to bid and buy something nice and help us help The Ridge.



The festivities begin at 10:00AM in the Legacy Plaza at The Ridge.

Come early to help cook and set up. See you then.



Wynn Home

To all loved ones, greetings from Wynn Home.

We have had a busy time here at Wynn Home with celebrating Beth Y.'s Birthday at Claim Jumper Restaurant. All of our clients spent Easter with their loved ones on this special day, which they all enjoyed. Pam B. and Kurt B. spent Mother's Day with their moms. Let me tell you they were sure looking forward to that weekend!

We had some outings the last couple of months, which included going to the El Capitan Theatre to see 'Alice in Wonderland' and had lunch after in Hollywood. John W., Pam B., and Joanne L. participated in a talent show at Party Parners and came in first place for best participating group.

We at Wynn Home have some exiting outings planned for the upcoming months. We will keep everyone posted on dates and destinations on all of our activities.



We send our love to all the families from Wynn

Del Park



Dear Parents and Friends,

I want to start off by thanking our parents who sent their donations for our new washer and leather sectional sofa. Thank you, Mr. Don Allemann and his family, Amy & Charlie, Mr. & Mrs. Weinberg, her daughter & son-in-law, Sheri and Mark Hoffman, Mr. Hocker and Janet Petroff / Herman Family, for your generosity! Our residents and staff appreciate your gifts to our home fund!

“THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS.”

Our men have been very busy with all our Ridge activities such as our Fitness Group, which helps us with those extra pounds we sometimes gain! Glenn, Mark and Andrew joined the “Venturing Crew”, which Tom and Colleen have started on Thursdays. Our Stress Management, on Wednesday, is very helpful in talking things over with Tom that may be troubling us. Horseback riding continues to be fun every Saturday morning. Michael, Kevin, Raymond and Andrew are learning to be great horsemen! Party Partners continues to be a favorite activity twice a month. And the Common Ground



Birthday Celebration on the third Friday of the month is fun to go to in Angel Hall.

We celebrated Kevin’s birthday on April 6th. His mom joined us with cupcakes and ice cream for every one! Donnie’s birthday was on April 20th, he celebrated his 64th! Happy Birthday!!

Mark is already talking about the Bar -B -Q on Memorial Day. Our men love those special Bar-B -Q days!

Glenn, David, Andrew, and sometimes Kevin have been practicing with “The Rejoicers.” They went with Colleen to Hillcrest Congregational United Church of Christ, in La Habra Heights. Glenn stated the church was big and beautiful! They enjoyed every minute there!



Our guys loved the Cinco de Mayo dinner outside on the main patio. The weather was perfect! The volunteers who helped serve with Colleen and Tom were very nice. Thank you!

Eric and Karina took some of the guys to Dos Lagos to a car show on May 15th.

Crossroads Church Day Camp on April 24th was an extra experience for some of our men who were brave enough to go up in the air balloon. They enjoyed all the activities and came home with their own picture album!



We’re happy to have our Dear Donnie home after being in the hospital. As our men grow older they are more susceptible to getting ill. Our In-services come in handy. We learn to be more patient, and learn the correct way to care for our residents at this more delicate time. Next month we will cover dementia at our staff meeting. Helping us understand these steps that our residents may be entering.

Again, THANK YOU for all your support!! Summer is around the corner, enjoy!

See you soon!

Del Park Manor



Aspen

Hello from Aspen Residents and Staff,

Aspen residents are continuously on the go and keeping busy. In March, Aspen residents celebrated St. Patrick’s Day in Angel Hall. Also Dawn H. and some of the other residents spent the day at the mountains, where they learned how to ski, thanks to Colleen, Tom, and Matt. John, Mark, and Dawn went to Mission Hills San Diego with the Rejoicers, where they sang and had lunch. Aspen residents also went to the American Legion Easter party and had lunch. Everyone received Easter baskets with candy, eggs, and a stuffed Easter rabbit.



In April, residents celebrated Easter with their families. Those who did not get to spend Easter with their families had an Easter dinner at Aspen Home, with ham and all the trimmings. Aspen residents enjoyed the afternoon at Crossroads



Church -Around the World Day Camp, where they did arts and crafts, had lunch, and dinner.



In May we celebrated Dawn H. birthday with a pizza party and her favorite chocolate cake that her mother bakes. We also celebrated Tina P.'s birthday with a night out at Chilis' and then a movie. Everyone had

a good time. Aspen residents spent the weekend in

San Francisco CAL State Tournament; good time. Anthony Sharon Cherry accompanying San Francisco.



for the ARC-Bowling everyone had a Thank you to Stallworth and for the residents to Aspen residents

celebrated Cinco de Mayo in Angel Hall where they were served dinner and dessert. Thank you to Colleen and Tom and all the volunteers that made this event happen.

Aspen residents continue to participate in Stress



Management, arts and crafts, Bingo, Party Parners, and going out in the community for shopping, movies, lunch or dinner or just for a snack. Thank you to all those who donate monthly, they are greatly needed and appreciated.

Until next time,

Mark, Tim, Dawn, Tina A., John and Tina P.

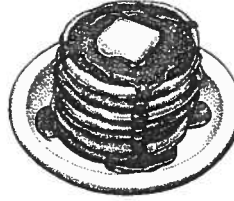
Roger Residence

Greetings from Roger Residence!

It is hard to believe that we are already half way through 2010. Our residents have been busy and have really been enjoying the many activities of the last few months.

Our residents continue to enjoy their regular activities in and out of the community. They enjoy activities like going to church on Sundays, Stress Management with Tom, the park, and shopping; getting their monthly haircuts, and of course,

their favorite...Party Parners.



In addition to these activities, our residents have been enjoying some special activities. During the month of March they attended the Kiwanis Breakfast at

Rainey Jr. High School and the Easter Party at the American Legion in Riverside.

During the month of April, our residents enjoyed going to the Regal Cinemas, the musical show at the Village Theatre in Orange County, and really had fun at the Dos Lagos Carnival Rides. Our most exciting trip so far was our trip to the Staples Center to see the Los Angeles Sparks take on the Washington Mystics.



Staff Development

Here is a review of the training topics covered in recent months.

- Harassment Prevention presented by Bruce Matlock, Attorney at Law
- The Stress Seminar presented by Dr. Melissa J. Green, D.C.
- Speech & Language Services and Swallowing Considerations and Precautions, presented by Lisa Bradshaw MS, Speech Pathologist

Kim Smalley
Staff Development Coordinator



Garrison House



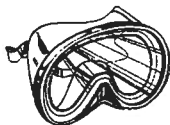
During the month of March we celebrated birthdays for Douglas M. and Lori L. They both enjoyed delicious birthday cake, visits from family and lots of presents! John, Bill, and Fred attended a St. Patrick's Day dance at ARC. They had a blast dancing and other fun activities.

In the month of April, the entire Garrison gang went to the American Legion for the Easter party. Everyone received a gift basket from the Easter bunny. We also decorated Easter eggs and participated in an Easter egg hunt.

As we transition into the warmer months; In May, we started off celebrating Cinco de Mayo at The Ridge. In addition to participating in Monday Night Fitness every week, we partook in many fun activities and outings this month. First off, we attended a concert at the Corona Friends Church. Our Rejoicers, Bill, Fred, John, Mary, and Sonia performed at UCC La Habra to sing praises and spread the joy of our choir. We had the opportunity to play Bingo at Citrus Intermediate School. Our dedicated Boy Scouts, John and Fred assisted with a fundraiser. We also had fun attending the carnival at The Ridge. Finally, Sonia and Fred participated in the CAC meeting to teach their peers about safety and responsibility. We are looking forward to making new memories as we journey on to new adventures!



Sincerely,
Garrison Gang



Conner Residence



March got off to a good start. We went to the American Legion Easter Party and ate pizza and soda, and then we saw the Easter Bunny. We went shopping at Wal-Mart and bought some games and CD's. Everyone enjoyed the outing. Then we all went for haircuts and everyone looks wonderful.



April went well also; we went to Day Camp at Crossroads Church and everyone had a wonderful time with all the fun activities. We also went shopping at Big Lots. Then we went to Stress Management, which is always a favorite part of our week.

In May we went to the Recycling Center, and turned in our aluminum cans and bottles. We went to our Ridge Cinco de Mayo party in Angel Hall. Then we went to a Girl Scout carnival, then off to Wal-Mart and The Dollar Tree for more shopping.

June is in the planning, and everyone is looking forward to lots of summer fun.



Last but not least, we had five birthdays: William C. March 31st, Ray M. March 18th, Laura B. April 10th, Robert M. April 14th, and Darlyn E. May 4th.

Happy Birthday to all!

Until Next time,

Conner Residence



Cypress Point

Hello everyone from Cypress Point. We have been doing great the last few months.

In March we kept busy with Day programs, shopping and St. Patrick's Day parties. All the residents went to Universal Studios with staff, Crystal, and had a blast! Peter, Tim and Debbie went to San Diego with the Rejoicers and sang their hearts out and enjoyed a nice lunch. All of our residents had a wonderful time at the American Legion Easter party where Easter baskets and lunch was had by all. And we can't forget the visit from the Easter bunny!

April was started out with a birthday party and BBQ for Tim, with all his Ridge friends. We attend the Common Grounds Birthday party to celebrate all Ridger's who share birthdays in April. We have also enjoyed attending Monday Night Fitness, Stress Management class with Tom, and really have fun with the Venturing Crew.



In May, we went to Castle Park to practice our golfing skills. We had a wonderful



Cinco de Mayo dinner in Angel Hall. Debbie went to San Francisco for the ARC-CAL Bowling Tournament:

she did very well and had a great time. Thank You to Anthony and Sharon for going with them and helping making this a great weekend for our clients! Bobby and Cindy went to the movies and saw the new Robin Hood, and gave it two thumbs up! Bobby has been doing great at work and is now on the Safety Committee at the Von's store. Good Job!

We are looking forward to all that summer has to offer and can't wait until next newsletter to tell you all about it. Until then, we will continue to love, laugh, live, work and have a great time.

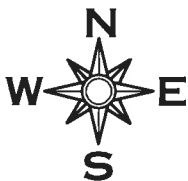


We also want to thank everyone who helps us to do this. To the Cypress Point staff, thanks for all your hard work, love, and support. Without you we can not do what we do. To our families, Thank You, for your love and support and we appreciate you and welcome your involvement. Until next time have a great summer!

Love,

Tim, Peter, Debbie, Cindy, Bobby, & Lucas

Villa Vadnais



Greetings from Villa Vadnais,

Wow, we have been busy the last couple of months! We had a wonderful time at the Valentine Day party in February, and we went to the bowling tournament too; unfortunately our residents did not win but still had a great time.

In March, we ventured to the city of Ontario for an Art Exhibition, and of course we were busy getting ready for Easter, decorating the house, and the "Big" party! We had such a good time that in April we went to an after Easter party and egg hunt at The Ridge. The carnival at Dos Lagos was

awesome, and we did eat a lot too. This year was the first time for us at the Crossroads Church Day Camp, but not the last, from now on we will

attend; everybody had a good time and by the time we came home we were pleasantly tired.



May was just as much fun; we went to another Carnival and to Temecula for the Art and Music Exhibition. We are looking forward to June, especially for the BBQ party! See you all on the 19th at the party.

Till next time,

The Residents and Staff from Villa Vadnais



Mandel Manor



The last three months has led to a lot of transition at the Manor. Mandel has discharged two residents and we have admitted two new residents. Thanks to the efforts of parents, as well as others, we have a more compatible peer group than ever before. The two new residents are Thomas, "Tommy" and Kasey. Kasey is our first female resident of the home. Everyone is very happy about our new residents and we are looking forward to improving their quality of life, as well as having lots of opportunities for fun and adventure.

Currently, all of our residents go to the gym (Fitness 19) and really look forward to going, really! We have gone to movies, attended Stress Management, and participated in horseback riding, as well as Party Parners, and frequenting most local restaurants.

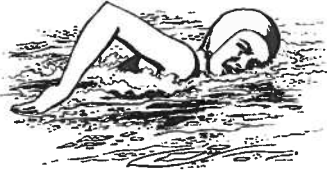
Life has been great & exciting for our folks lately! Certainly, life would not be as wonderful if it weren't for our parents who advocate for our home and ensure our residents' needs are met. I can single-handedly thank Andi Mandel for helping to ensure our residents are happy and comfortable in their home by advocating on their behalf regarding comfortability, more relaxed atmosphere, more privacy, and respect for others property and each other.. It is essential that our residents' home is a place of comfort and relaxing atmosphere. Mandel Manor is currently living up to the reason it was created in the first place. Thanks Andi for your continued support, advocacy on behalf of all of the individuals in the home, including staff. We are forever grateful to you and Rich for your efforts.

All of our residents are doing great at this time. The home is much quieter, safer, and all is well!

Shalom



Activities Department!



Summer is right around the corner, and we are ready for it in the activities department. We will be swimming every

other Saturday and doing aqua aerobics every Tuesday evening.

Each month, we are led in a fun arts & crafts project by our dynamic volunteer, Tracy Peterson. Tom & I are advising our new Venturing Crew as they decide what activities they wish to undertake. The crew has elected its' officers (Fred K., President; Debbie R., Vice President; Lucas D., VP of Activities; and John R., Quarter Master) Congratulations to the new officers!

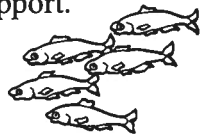
As of July 1st, 2010; we will no longer be participating in the horseback riding program with Quantum Therapeutic Riding Center. We have been presented with an amazing opportunity to ride with another program that offers many more benefits to our clients. I am very excited about the change, as I am sure you will be. Details will be sent out to everyone soon.



Thanks to amazing volunteers and staff, our Cinco de Mayo celebration went off beautifully. The food was good, the company was better! Several of these same volunteers came back for our Memorial Day barbecue (well, we ended up cooking in the kitchen due to a barbecue error). My gratitude and thanks goes out to the volunteers, staff and clients for a fun afternoon. In particular, Jaquetta Moore (volunteer) Tom Thomas (Activities Dept) and Jennifer Obritz (FM, Cypress) made the day fantastic. The event could not have gone as well without them.

On behalf of Tom Thomas, I thank everyone for their hard work and continued support.

Colleen Keehan



HOME FUNDS -- As of June 8, 2010

ACTIVITIES – for Ridgers	\$ 1,119.65
Activities – Horseback Program	3,460.00
Activities – Camp Fund	687.50
ASPEN Home Funds	140.12
C-HOME – Home Funds	1,976.22



HOME FUNDS Continued...

CYPRESS POINT – Home Funds	1,589.63
MANDEL MANOR – Home Funds	1,321.91
V.I.P. / L.I.F.E. Supported Living	608.76
CONNER – Home Funds	4,214.32
DEL PARK – Home Funds	2,174.19
EVERGREEN – Home Funds	3,328.61
GARRISON – Home Funds	2,510.92
ROGER – Home Funds	4,416.02
VILLA VADNAIS – Home Funds	218.36
WYNN – Home Funds	2,393.98

THANK YOU for all your LOVE & SUPPORT

Planning For The Future

Your “Special Needs” Child and You

Agenda:

The Importance of a Special Needs Trust

-Dennis Sandoval, Special Needs Attorney

Managing Assets for your ‘Special Needs’ Child

-Merrill Lynch Special Needs Group

Importance of Work in the life of a ‘Special Needs’ Adult

-Alan Schwerdt, Director Ability County

Housing Options for ‘Special Needs’ Adults

-Audrey Turner, Director Peppermint Ridge

Recreation and Sports for ‘Special Needs’ Adults

-Riverside Special Olympics

Date, Time, Location:

Thursday, June 24, 2010, 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Ability Counts Vocational and

Special Olympics Training Center

3810 Garner Road, Riverside, California 92501

All costs for the Seminar have been paid for by:

Ability Counts Inc.

If you have any questions please contact:

Damian Dufour, Merrill Lynch 951-695-6615