

August 2021

Gold Country Gazette

Assisted Living Activity Department Newsletter



Celebrating August

International Pirate Month

American Adventures Month

**Read a Romance
Novel Month**

International Clown Week
August 1–7

Braham Pie Day
August 6

Sturgis Motorcycle Rally
August 6–15

Sandcastle Day
August 7

Elvis Week
August 11–17

Bowling Day
August 14

Chef's Appreciation Day
August 21

International Dog Day
August 26

Pony Express Day
August 29

The Song Collectors Collective

A small group of inquisitive young Irish musicians have taken it upon themselves to rescue a tradition of song when perhaps no-one else was willing to listen. With an emphasis on the Irish, Scottish, and English traveler communities, their project aims to put the elders of a nearly-past generation in front of a microphone, to enshrine their songs and stories for musicians and folklorists to hear and study for all time. Anthropologists and linguists often pass warnings about how much oral tradition the human race loses to modernity every year. In Ireland, a country famous for its singers, the [Song Collectors Collective](#) (SCC) celebrates that history by honoring the people who have kept its roots alive.

Those people are sailors, tinsmiths, tinkers, but most are from the reclusive and sometimes difficult-to-approach traveler communities. Their strong culture and tight-knit families make them living goldmines of folklore and song. In some cases, the words of these elders are caught on the microphone along with the songs, so you can hear their musings on where they heard the pieces the first time—and whether their mother used to sing the melodies to them.

The SCC writes that within the songs “there is a memory of the days of life on the road, in tents and the music, song and dance that went hand-in-hand with this way of life. “It is a common plea for the songs and stories to be recorded and shared as the old ways are not being passed on and this huge store of knowledge of an ancient way of life is forgotten”.

Copies of all the songs are donated to the Irish Traditional Music Archive and the National Sound Archive in London, so they can be enjoyed for centuries to come.



FROM THE DESK OF SANDY...

Just a reminder that it is an early fire season and we could experience possible Public Safety Power Outages. While we hope we continue to be on the emergency grid, its best for us to be prepared as that could change! Your emergency email contacts will help us reach out in any type of emergency, to provide family assistance to our residents. Do we have an email on file for you in case of emergency? We are working to create a blast text system for staff and residents, so please be sure we have your preferred phone number on file. Right now we are just collecting info for this blast notification project.

WE will post updates on our FACEBOOK PAGE when emergencies like a power outage happens. **Please LIKE our FB page!** Need help connecting? Please email us at goldcountry@rhf.org. You may also share this address with family and friends as a general (not private) email to message your family members on campus. We print them out and deliver them to your resident (Please remember we have 246 grandma's and grandpa's – we need their other name and unit number if you know it (Otherwise full first and last name)).

I know we are all becoming a bit COVID weary but we cannot let down our guard! The Delta variant can be spread by those of us that are vaccinated. It appears those currently being hospitalized are the non-vaccinated. So we cannot encourage you enough to be cautious, no matter how weary you are. Wash your hands more! Don't touch your face! Keep social distance from others as much as you can, especially inside! Wear your mask when inside and around others. We have staff who are not vaccinated-please help us provide service to you by keeping them well too!

We continue to struggle to hire enough staff in EVERY department on campus. We have severe to mild staffing crises all over campus. We tell you this, not to scare you or to make excuses, but to educate you. We are confident we are providing the most excellent of services, DESPITE our shortage! And we appreciate your patience during these times. We are surrounded by businesses that are experiencing the same or worse – so

we are confident you are aware of the situation. If I were to add all the open positions on campus up, we need upwards of 20 people to fill our holes. Thank you for your understanding if you notice this! Our goal remains that you will not experience or notice our shortages; but apologize if you do!

Health Center Families – please understand while visitation has opened up, we still appreciate you letting us know so we can monitor the number of visitors we have inside at any given time. Outside visits are no problem but inside we must keep from overcrowding! We still cannot have visitors in the Activity Room; you may join your resident for outside activities if we have room. Nor can you visit or eat with your resident in the dining rooms! If you wish to eat with your resident, or visit with them during a meal, it must be in their room, or outside.

Regarding off campus visitation during the ongoing COVID pandemic - while we cannot prevent our residents from leaving to visit family/friends or go shopping, we'd like you to consider their exposure when off campus – especially if they are not vaccinated. Even if they are vaccinated they may become exposed to asymptomatic COVID positive folks and then bring the virus back to campus. We ask you use your best judgment when taking your resident off campus and do your best to prevent them from becoming the carrier that affects their fellow residents and caregivers. We know they miss their off campus excursions, so if they must attend a family function, and you think they may have exposure – please tell us so we can monitor them carefully and even ask them to isolate for a few days. We don't want another outbreak or more heartache on campus, so we are asking you to help us be cautious – no matter how hard it is. As always and at all times, use good hand washing, socially distance as much as possible, and wear your mask!

Have a thought, question or suggestion on how we can be even better? Feel free to call me at (530) 621-1100, or email me at sandy.haskins@rhf.org You may also email us at a general mailbox at goldcountry@rhf.org which reaches several key team members.

HAPPENINGS at GOLD COUNTRY ASSISTED LIVING...



August Birthdays

In astrology, those born August 1–22 are Leo's Lions. These "kings of the jungle" are natural-born leaders, full of creativity, confidence, and charisma. Leos use their generosity and sense of humor to unite different groups into a common cause.

Those born August 23–31 are Virgo's Virgins. Virgos pay attention to details and like to keep things organized. Their deep sense of humanity and love of others makes them defenders of justice, goodness, and purity.

Lauren (Resident) – August 1st

Jason Momoa (actor) – August 1, 1979

Barack Obama (president) – August 4, 1961

Whitney Houston (singer) – August 9, 1963

Viola Davis (actress) – August 11, 1965

Magic Johnson (athlete) – August 14, 1959

Angela Bassett (actress) – August 16, 1958

Kobe Bryant (athlete) – August 23, 1978

Kenny Rogers (Musician) – August 21, 1938

Katherine Johnson (physicist) – August 26, 1918

Buddy Hackett (comedian) – August 31, 1924



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