



February 2016

Fund Facts

“That’s Amore”

BY GAIL MADDEN

Come to the Silent Auction in the Seventeen51 Restaurant and Bistro in Pan Hall! The Benevolent Fund Board invites you to join them from 3:00–5:00 p.m. on the afternoon of Wednesday, February 10th at this year’s Fund Drive Kick-off event. Please join us for a glass of wine, appetizers and a 50/50 raffle as well as a silent auction of goodies, services, and treasures you can bid on through the afternoon. And don’t forget to wear red! Remember—we need your donations to make this auction work for all of us! This year the theme is “That’s Amore”—show your love by giving.

What about a vacation timeshare in Palm Springs area or a catered picnic, movie tickets, a car wash, wine, house cleaning or dining out, or a spring garden basket? No minimum bids are assigned, and small and large items will be up for auction. The 50/50 raffle is a chance to buy a ticket where one winner will split the proceeds with the Benevolent Fund—certainly that’s worth a chance or two.

You may bring your cash or check donations to the Panorama Benevolent Fund

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Pictured left to right: Marcia Royer, Dottie Simonsen, Mary McAfee, Karen Greenfield, Ella Solstad, Marylou Blair, Eva Fitz, Glenis Nelson, Susan Englar (back), Jan Reinhardtson (front), Cathy Smith, Sally Flaherty (back), Colleen Allende (front), Carol Royer, Bev Franklin. Not pictured: Diane Wilderman.

Salute: Benevolent Fund Packing Crew

BY COLLEEN ALLENDER

Panorama residents have stuff. Lots of stuff. And no one knows that more than the Benevolent Fund Patio Sale Packing Crew. When the Panorama Corporation notifies the Benevolent Fund that a residence has been vacated, Diane Stiles and Jo Love Beach do a walk through to check for furniture that needs to be picked up and to estimate the amount of boxes and paper needed for packing. The Patio Sale Packing Crew Lead estimates the number of volunteers needed to get the packing done in two hours or less and puts a Crew together. Each Crew consists of a minimum of two people and usually no more than six. Most of the time we meet our two hour goal but not always. Occasionally a second shift needs to be set up to finish the job.

Some jobs require only 4–5 boxes but sometimes as many as 80–100 are needed. The average is probably 40–50 boxes. There are currently about 15 volunteers who are called on to work once or twice a month. It is difficult to predict

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AMORE

with you to the event or sign a pledge sheet for a monthly amount to be added to your Panorama bill. The Panorama Corporation has worked with us to ensure that monthly pledges made last year and this year will continue without interruption into future years until you instruct us to stop or change the allocated amount.

So why give? Simple—the Benevolent Fund is “living insurance” and your funds go to support our programs—financial assistance for independent living residents who have outlived their resources, the three full-time social services staff in Independent Living Services, the SARA system, and other projects to improve our lives at Panorama. We are all interconnected and interdependent whether we like it or not. Without community, we find life intolerable. When we make sacrifices for others, it is not simply unselfish; it is because we would be completely miserable if we chose to look the other way. The moment we decide to give is the moment we admit that as people we have a responsibility to sustain each other. The fact that helping others also helps us does not diminish the act of giving. It is a certainty that giving makes this community work.

Join us February 10th 3:00–5:00 p.m. and give in the spirit of “That’s Amore”. ♦

Patio Sale—Merge two events?

BY SUZANNE DAHLMAN

The Patio Sale Succession Planning Team recommended that Santa’s Shop at the Barn and Christmas Comes Early merge. After deliberation the Board of Trustees decided such a merger would not be in the best interest of either group under current circumstances and that the recommendation would not be implemented at this time.

Characteristics considered during this review:

Historical development and audience/sales targets. Santa’s Shop began in 2003 as an activity directed toward provision of Christmas items for purchase by residents. Santa’s Shop has historically occurred on the first weekend in December. Christmas Comes Early may have begun as a bake sale in the 1990’s; the history is not totally clear. The date for this event has varied from early fall to the weekend prior to Thanksgiving. The audience, while it includes residents, is more focused on non-residents.

Products for sale. Santa’s Shop offers the buyer everything from artificial trees, outdoor lights and yard art to fine linens and collectibles as gifts. It also includes tree decorations, package decorations and wrapping paper. Christmas Comes Early currently offers the buyer a variety of handcrafted gift items ranging from jewelry to pen and pencil sets or clothing accessories, and books from the Panorama Benevolent Fund.

Proceeds from Events. The funds collected go to support different activities and organizations. Christmas Comes Early funds benefit the individual vendor/artist (80%) and the Resident Council activity fund (20%). Santa’s Shop receipts go to the Panorama Benevolent Fund account in support of its mission.

Space for Event Parking. Should there ever be interest in holding the events on the same weekend, there would need to be significant pre-planning with Panorama due to parking limitations and traffic congestion.

Developing/Continuing Responsible Groups. Both activities appear to be resident driven and supported. Like many volunteer activities, they have probably changed considerably from inception based on growth, additional ideas, and the abilities found in the volunteer groups.

This Succession Planning recommendation did not generate any appreciable degree of interest or support from the Christmas Comes Early group for current or future consideration. This article serves to record the consideration of the recommendation on the part of the Benevolent Fund Board and also serves as the basis for not implementing the recommended merger of these two activities at this time. This recommendation may be marked as essentially completed until there is some basic change in one or more of the fundamental characteristics of either one of the activities. At that time the issue can be reopened and reexamined in light of the changes. ♦

That's
AMORE

Wednesday, February 10,
3–5 p.m. in Seventeen51.



PACKING CREW

when or how many residences will be vacated at any given time, so crew members usually only have a few days' notice to complete a job. During 2015 we packed up over 65 residences.

Packers need to be reasonably fit, able to bend and reach, and do some light lifting and carrying. Decision making is also a big part of packing. Pack? Toss? Bag? Box? Hand carry to Barn? But with practice, it gets easier and faster. Items that could be damaged (cracked, chipped, or squashed) in packing or transporting may be set aside to be hand delivered to the Patio Sale Barn by the crew leader. Papers with personal information are reviewed to determine proper disposition. We direct as many items as possible to the recycling center or the food bank. Medications are taken to the pharmacy on campus for disposal. Firearms and narcotics go to the police department. Clothing is bagged up for ARC. When all the packing is complete, the Barn is notified and the Pickup Up Crew transports the boxes, bags, and other designated items to the Barn for pricing, sales, or repacking and moving to storage.

Crew members quickly understand how sensitive this job can be, and so we do our work with a sense of respect and privacy. When you enter a vacated residence it contains many elements of the former occupant's life. As you sort through the cupboards, closets, and drawers you run across family photographs, awards and certificates, souvenirs, and many personal items. Depending on the nature of the items and where they are found, the former resident or resident's family may be contacted to assure that leaving the item was not an oversight. Among the many beautiful and amazing things, there can be evidence of successes and losses; glimpses of a sense of humor or personality; and a picture of their daily life. We are very mindful of that.

Packing is hard work, so what keeps us coming back for more? A sense of accomplishment, the satisfaction of having contributed to our community, and the camaraderie resulting from the shared experiences of the crew are a few obvious reasons. One side effect that might not be so obvious is the development of a strong urge to go home and clean out our closets. ♦



Above: Silent Auction 2015. Come to this year's fun fundraiser: "That's Amore", Wednesday, February 10th, 3-5 p.m. in Seventeen51. Wear your name tag and wear red!

New faces

BY SUZANNE DAHLMAN

Goodbyes are hard. As we begin the New Year there will be some familiar faces missing around the table this month. Mary Mann has retired after some 13 plus years of working with the social assistance program. We will certainly miss her ready smile and twinkling bright eyes.

George Hinkel has decided to take a break from active case management and move into more of an advisory and consulting role. So, while we will not see him at meetings, we still have the benefit of his counsel as needed. To both of them we say thank you, thank you and best wishes in your next endeavors!

Trustees whose terms of office are expiring include Bob Degler and Gail Madden. Our special thanks to them for their service and patience as we experienced construction ups and downs with the new barn and with succession planning challenges. We know that they will continue to be active around Panorama, and we wish them well.

On the other hand, hellos are easy and fun! At the end of the annual meeting on January 26th, the new trustees took office. Please join us in congratulating Nancy Luck on her second term and in welcoming David Bartruff, Anita Turcotte, and Norman Wohlken as new board members. ♦

BOARD

Panorama Benevolent Fund

1751 Circle Lane SE
Lacey, WA 98503

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U S Postage
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Thanks to our donors!

The following residents donated to the work of the Benevolent Fund this quarter. The donations were in the form of memorials, gifts of appreciation, cash donations, or bequests.

Jane Barry	Claude & Dorothy Lakewold
Priscilla Bowerman	Bill & Dora Murray
Elizabeth Curneen	Elfriede Niedens
Suzanne Dahlman	Harry & Carol Thomas
Annie Hargrave	Robert Tweit
Betty Hutt	Jack & Dorothy Van Leuven
	Pam Wilson

Honor gifts

Ernesta Ballard in honor of Carol and Harry Thomas.

Bob & Ruth Brigden in honor of Don & Rosalie Melnick's 50th wedding anniversary.

Mary Gleb in honor of Pam Wilson.

The Benevolent Fund, a not-for-profit organization operated for and by residents, 1) provides financial assistance and support to residents in need, 2) provides services and funding for quality-of-life projects for the benefit of all residents, and 3) helps provide a smooth transition through the phases of aging.

Contact Us

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Staff

Secretary: Connie Cameron
Social Services: Adele Hadley,
Corrine Wasmundt, Sara Wasser

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President: Dale Vincent
Vice-President: David Bartruff
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Newsletter: Linda Crabtree

Santa's Shop

BY SUZANNE DAHLMAN

Usually stories start with the phrase “On a dark and stormy night”, but this one started with “On a wild and windy, rainy morning”, the crowds gathered at the Barn, both inside and out. Elves greeted and dispensed hugs as needed. Cider, cookies and special mustard were there to tempt the taste buds. And oh, the goodies for sale; strings of lights, trees (decorated and plain), wreathes, bells, bows, linens, toys, doll houses, collectibles, decorative tins, trinkets, art and anything else you can think of to decorate the home or use as a gift.

The warm spirit and the cheery atmosphere inside the barn were in direct contrast to the wet and cold rain and wind outside. In spite of the weather, the proceeds from this year's event set a new record of \$3,839. Thanks to each and every one of the many volunteers who made this event possible—and to all of the shoppers who found just the right thing to complete their decorations or to add to the holiday spirit.

Although not directly related to Santa's Shop, or even directly to the Christmas season, the following story was shared with me the other day. The Patio Sale activity receives greeting cards donated by residents and then makes the cards available to other residents in each of the apartment buildings. There is a network of distribution and oversight within each site. One of the individuals who is a part of this network shared with me that after looking back to just the holiday cards processed in 2011 they collected \$48.71. The amount collected for holiday cards rose and fell a bit since 2011 for no apparent reason each year. But this year they collected \$101 just for holiday cards! While this is not a complete accounting of all the sites, or for any other time of year, it just goes to show that many residents use the services of those who volunteer year after year in special, quiet, and often invisible ways. Our thanks go to each and every one of these special and thoughtful volunteers!

As I complete what I expect will be my last report to Fund Facts as president of the Benevolent Fund, I would share with you the following: “Life is not about surviving the storm, but about dancing in the rain.” I do not know who said it first or how long it has been around, but I hope each of you has a chance to experience the joy and wonder of dancing once more in the rain! ♦



PANORAMA BENEVOLENT FUND

1751 Circle Lane SE, Lacey Washington 98503
360-438-7556
A 501(c) (3) Non-Profit Corporation
Established in 1972

Gift/Pledge Form Panorama Benevolent Fund

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Email _____

I wish to support the *Panorama Benevolent Fund*.

. Please select one of the boxes below:

One-Time Gift, my check is enclosed.

I pledge this amount \$ _____ and will deliver a check by _____
(anticipated date)

*Please make your check payable to: ***Panorama Benevolent Fund***

Recurring Monthly Gift billed as part of Panorama's monthly invoice

I wish to make a gift of \$ _____ each month.

I wish to change my existing monthly gift to \$ _____

Please begin my gifts on this date: _____

For your convenience, Panorama permits pledges to be billed by Panorama's accounting system. An item will appear on the monthly invoice.

By my signature, I authorize Panorama to include this charitable gift on Panorama's invoice. I understand that I may stop my giving at any time. Until I do notify Panorama of any change, this schedule will continue.

I understand that I will receive for tax purposes, in January of each year, a summary of my gifts for the prior calendar year.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please return this form to Panorama Benevolent Fund, 1751 Circle Lane SE, Lacey, WA 98503.

Panorama Benevolent Fund is 501(c)(3) organization. Gifts are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.