

# Renaissance Lifestyle

SPRING 2021



## Families Can Now Visit In-Person with Residents!

We're pleased to share that we are now accepting appointments for families and friends to visit with their loved ones within our community. You can call (951) 319-8243 to book your appointment. Please note you can find all the guidelines for visiting with your loved one in person on page six of this newsletter!

## CORONAVIRUS SAFETY TIPS

- Use alternative forms of communication such as phone calls & video chat services to speak with loved ones.
- Practice physical distancing. Avoid physical contact & maintain 6 feet of distance between yourself & others.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Engage in good handwashing techniques. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap & hot water.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow.

## Executive Director's Corner

Dear Residents, Family, and Friends:

Happy Spring from all of us at Renaissance Village Murrieta! We're continuing to make changes to open up group activities. We're pleased to share that we've been featuring live entertainment for residents.

Laurel Gerhardt also joined the Renaissance Villages Family as our new Activities Director. She's already done a great job of sparking engaging activities for residents, and we love her innovative spirit. Be sure to welcome her to the team if you haven't already.

Geri-Fit is back, and so is Barry! You can join this excellent strength training class which is accessible for all ages and fitness levels. Classes are 45 minutes and take place on the back patios on Saturdays and Mondays at 1:30 p.m. Don't miss out!

We're also excited to share that we've opened up the community for scheduled appointments to visit with your loved ones indoors thanks to updated guidelines, and you can find all the information you need to know on page six. If you have more questions, do not hesitate to reach out!

*Stay safe! We're here to help in any way we can!*

**Brian Taube, Executive Director**



## Resident Spotlight: Joe P.



Joe P., 18 year old, Sailor.

Joe P. was born in El Paso, Texas, on March 5, 1926. Both of his parents are from Mexico, and his mother worked in El Paso. She had him in the United States, which enabled their family to move for a better life. His father moved their family to San Francisco, California, because he had brothers living there. Joe is the oldest of five siblings, which after Joe is Genito, Alfonso, Cecilia, Emily, and Bobby.

Joe was in high school during World War II. He later quit when he turned 18 because he was eligible for the draft. The Navy drafted Joe, and he took his oath of office at the federalist building in San Francisco before heading to San Diego for boot camp. He was glad to go into the Navy rather than the Marines because he saw *With the Marines at Tarawa*, a movie that depicts graphic war scenes. After the company graduated from training, they took them to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. Joe recalls a Navy Officer stating he was tired of all the Marines getting slaughtered on the way to Japan. As a result, they became part of the Amphibious Corps division, including both Navy and Marines.

They boarded the USS Hinsdale APA-120 near San Pedro, California. They went to Pearl Harbor on Honolulu, the Japanese home islands, Kwajalein, Eniwetok, and Guam. As they got closer to the island, they could see Iwo Jima's highest mountain, Mount Suribachi. They dropped anchor and received instructions to put on their combat gear. Joe grabbed his rifle, bayonet, shovel, pack, rations, and everything he needed before heading to the fifth hold. He remembers hearing the battleships shooting Mount Suribachi. Before receiving their go-ahead to depart, they called a cease-fire, so the ships stopped

firing for some time before proceeding.

Joe remembers the boat took off as mortars, and other weapons exploded around them. When they hit the shore, the boat went a little further before it stopped. The ramp dropped, revealing the black sand of the beach. They began running up the sand and started building foxholes. He and two other sailors were digging when Joe heard his lieutenant needed him. The lieutenant tasked him with taking a message to a nearby captain. Two Marines drove Joe over in a DUKW before bringing him back to continue his work.

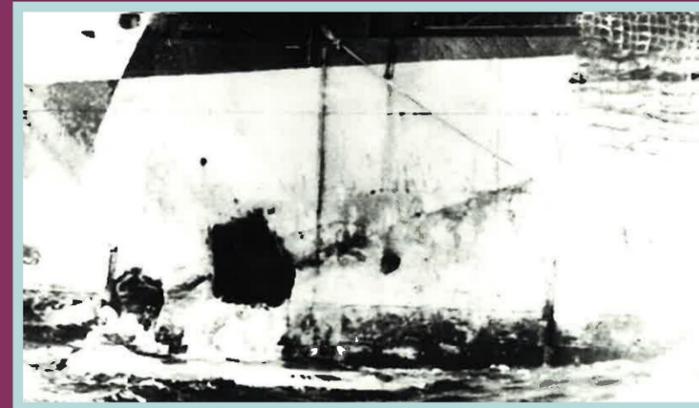
He went back to his foxhole, and later another officer came and asked Joe to send a message using semaphore, a flag communication they learned in training. Mortars continued to fall as he headed back, and getting cover was imperative. He saw Marines goofing off, and when he tried to take shelter with them, he was told, "There's no room for you in here, sailor." Joe quickly made his way back to his foxhole. After it quieted down, they went back down and passed by that foxhole, but the mortars burnt everything to a crisp. A few days later, the men captured Mount Suribachi's top, and they raised the American flag in victory.

While they were on Iwo Jima, the USS Hinsdale left at night because of the enemy submarines. The USS Hinsdale also became a hospital ship to transport the wounded. Joe and his company received instruction to head back to the ship. However, they couldn't locate the ship, so they boarded another to get some after about 7-8 days of service on the island. Joe passed out on a bunk, but when he woke up, blood covered his uniform because of where he laid.

The USS Hinsdale unloaded the wounded men at Guam and stopped by Saipan before their plans to join in on Okinawa's invasion. However, a Japanese kamikaze plane struck the ship on its way to Okinawa. The plane hit the ship's port side just above the water

line and ripped into the engine room. Three explosions went off, and everyone in the engine room was killed.

An officer told Joe he needed his helmet, and as soon as Joe stepped into his bunk, the plane hit. Power on the ship failed immediately, and they told everyone to move to the starboard side to help level the ship as it began listing. One of the lieutenants came over to Joe with a flashlight and a submachine gun and asked him to watch the starboard gangway.



A shot of the damage to the USS Hinsdale from the kamikaze plane.

Later that day, a tug arrived and towed the ship to Kerama Retto for repairs. They later pulled the ship to Ulithi and spent time on Mogmog. They received orders to go up the east coast through Panama as they broke for a thirty-day leave. On July 2, 1945, they pulled into Brooklyn Navy Yard 2 in New York.

While they traveled home, the war ended. Joe received discharge at Camp Shoemaker on August 20, 1945. After discharging, Joe had the opportunity to go to college. However, his parents never stressed the need for a college education, so he went to work at a sugar refinery. A few years later, the Korean War brought Joe back into service. He joined the Merchant Marines, and since he had two years of sea time on a Navy ship and received an able body seamen endorsement, he served in Korea on the USS Mission Carmel. He remembers anchoring in Inchon, which had 30 ft tides. The Koreans could walk out along their ship because the tide was so far out. Their ship shuttled barrels of aviation gasoline, and luckily

their ship was never hit by the bombs. Joe developed pleurisy during his service and went home.

He worked for Transocean Air Lines and Southeastern Airlines as an aircraft mechanic, which he worked there until he retired. He married his wife, Helen, a woman he met while working for the airlines. He encountered her at the Mexico City Café in San Francisco. As soon as he laid eyes on her, he couldn't take them off her. Eight months later, they got married. Helen had a daughter named Janie, and he and Helen later had their daughter, Lauree. Joe also has a few grandkids he gets to see when they visit Helen's niece, Marilyn, and her husband Kent, who live in The Colony. Later in life, Helen spent about 20 years in a nursing home, and Joe visited her every day.

Joe enjoyed making things out of silver, stainless steel, and copper. He also likes to go to the casinos to play Keno. He's also very involved with the veterans of Iwo Jima. Joe later went back to Iwo Jima and other places he served during World War II and Korean War. He's lived at Renaissance Village Murrieta for almost two years. Joe is glad that the staff is friendly and he enjoys talking to his fellow veteran residents about their time in the service.

## BRAIN TEASERS

*Are you great at puzzles? Give these riddles a try!*

1. How can you tell which rabbits are the oldest in a group?
2. What's a rabbit's favorite game?
3. How do trees access the Internet?
4. How do you properly identify a dogwood tree?
5. Why can't the flower ride its bike?

# GREAT DAYS AWAIT AT RENAISSANCE VILLAGE!



Residents have been taking advantage of every exercise opportunity.



Philomena and all residents received a rose, candy, and a handwritten note on Valentine's Day to show them how much we love them. Thank you to our partners for donating candy!



Residents love participating in Chair Kickboxing!



Arlene ringing in the New Year right!



Bobby showing off his St. Patrick's Day spirit!



Paula doing Chair Kickboxing!



Karyl and her beautiful St. Patrick's Day themed face mask.



Residents doing Chair Tai Chi.



Residents enjoying our live entertainment with Sharon & Pat on St. Patty's Day.



Karyl, Kay, and Angelina putting together floral centerpieces.



Jan & Paula doing Geri-Fit out on the back patio.

# EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



## January

Charity S., Caregiver

Charity is a knowledgeable and patient individual. She works hard at everything she sets her mind to and does it successfully. Charity always has a smile and treats all of the residents and her co-workers with kindness. She's a great caregiver and consistently does her best. We appreciate her diligence and dedication to her job.

## February

Irene B., Med Tech

Irene is reliable and always willing to go the extra mile. She always smiles and exudes a positive attitude, which spreads to residents, families, and co-workers. Irene is intentional and loves to extend a helping hand. She has excellent interactions with everyone and is the social butterfly around our community. Thank you for helping bring people together.



## March

Julianne P., Server

Julianne is an employee that always acts positive and professional. She is always trying to help others and will do things to improve dining and kitchen. Julianne's attendance is impeccable. She is very positive and has a great attitude. In addition, she always has a smile on her face. She's a valuable employee and we're happy she's part of the Renaissance Villages Family.

# Updates for Indoor Visitation at Renaissance Villages



Residents checking-in to receive their COVID-19 vaccine.

The last year was challenging, but the support of the Renaissance Villages Family, we've made it through. We missed celebrating holidays and holding our loved ones tight, but the recent changes in guidelines and more Americans becoming eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine give us hope for a brighter future. In addition, Riverside County crossing over to the Red Tier of California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy.

California Governor Gavin Newsom declared on Thursday, March 25 that by April 1, vaccine eligibility would open up to Californians 50 and older. He followed this statement by stating that by April 15, vaccine eligibility would open to Californians 16 and older. Newsom characterized this news as a bright light at the end of the tunnel.

Toward the end of March, Renaissance Villages also opened their doors for indoor visitations with friends and family members. Many families are already taking advantage of this opportunity, especially family members who are vaccinated as they can once again hug their loved ones. We released new guidelines for visitation. These guidelines may change at any time, but are as follows.

**Guidelines for All Visits:** All visitors must make an appointment ahead of time. We will screen visitors upon entry. If visitors are vaccinated, they should present their vaccination records to the

front desk for records. Visitors will need to leave name and contact information for contact tracing in the event of possible exposures.

Visitors that are vaccinated may engage in close physical contact. Visitors must wear a mask and practice proper hand hygiene before and after any close contact. Visitors that aren't vaccinated may not engage in close physical contact (must remain at least 6 feet from residents at all times). We recommend that individuals visiting the community limit their contact with others as much as practically possible when outside the facility. Visitation is limited for residents that have an active diagnosis of COVID-19.

**Guidelines for Indoor Visits:** Residents are limited to two visitors at a time (inside the building). Visitation permitted within residents' apartments, not in common areas. Visitors must go directly to the apartment. The common areas are not available for use. Visitors should maintain 6 feet of distance between all residents and staff. We recommend opening the windows during visits to increase airflow. We recommend maintaining shorter indoor visits and more extended outdoor visits.

**Outdoor Visit Recommendations:** Outdoor visits pose a lower risk of transmission due to increased space and airflow. Therefore, outdoor visitation is preferred and should be used whenever practicable.

Once again, thank you for your understanding and patience with us as we navigate these new guidelines. Thank you for your Please continue to partner with us in ensuring the safety of residents and staff at Renaissance Village Murrieta. If you are not feeling well or experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19, we ask that you choose to delay your visit to our community for a later date. Have more questions? Give us a call! (951) 319-8243

# SUDOKU

## MEDIUM

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SOLVE THE PUZZLES? CHECK WITH CONCIERGE FOR THE SOLUTIONS.



**RENAISSANCE**  
*Village*

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## SUDOKU

VERY HARD

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**SOLVE THE PUZZLES? CHECK WITH  
CONCIERGE FOR THE SOLUTIONS.**

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