

Inventing the Future



What would we do without the innovative imaginations of the inventors of the world? We can honor inventors and their great achievements on February 11, Inventors Day. When we think of inventors, sometimes the first who come to mind are people

like Thomas Edison, who invented the lightbulb, or Leonardo da Vinci, who conceived of marvelous devices like airplanes and parachutes. But inventors are not only people of the past. Truly, it seems as if new inventions are flooding the market every day, thanks to strides in technology and computing.

Robots and artificial intelligence are all the rage in today's tech sector. Personal robots, such as Amazon's Alexa and Google's Home, are like personal assistants, helping us make calls, maintain schedules, and purchase items. A new home robot named Jibo is attempting to make the home assistant more personal and lifelike. Jibo looks like a little cartoon, with a squat white body and a glowing "head" with eyes and a mouth. The body swivels and turns to face you as it speaks, making it seem all the more human.

Robots are not just boxes on our tabletops; they are being integrated into cars and appliances. The Tesla company may have invented the most futuristic cars yet. They are fully electric and boast self-driving features. Refrigerators are even getting into the robot game: not only do some fridges boast interactive screens that give you updates on the fridge's contents, but Panasonic has just designed a voice-controlled mini-fridge on wheels that will come to you when its called. You no longer have to get up from the couch to get a cold drink—your fridge will bring it to you!

Inventors are not just focused on robotics. Some are also focused on improving ice cream. That's right, the Halo Top company has invented a flavorful, low-sugar ice cream that is only 360 calories per pint. Their motto is "Go ahead, eat the whole pint." It's good to know that inventors have their priorities straight.

Important Telephone Numbers

Office Hours – Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:30pm
 Saturday & Sunday 9:00am-5:00pm
 Office 916-929-3966 Fax 916-929-3627
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 Van/Transportation 916-468-3091
 Dining Room 916-921-5998
 Police Non-Emergency 916-264-5471
 Emergency & Fire 911
 Comcast Cable 1-800-266-2278
 AT&T 1-800-310-2355
 Paratransit 916-429-2744
 Yellow Cab 916-444-2222

Beauty Salon Jane Ma 916-223-9658
 Wednesday-Saturday
 Clean Touch Dry Cleaning 916-366-6666
 Pick-up & drop-off Monday & Thursday

Culinary Corner

The new food and dining committee met for the first time this year in January. As a reminder, the following residents are your voice: Lu Bakken, Ed Briles, Pat Edmonds, Judy Guardalabene, Genelle Palmer and Rick Trnka.

A new suggestion/comment box has been installed and bolted to the wall of the dining room, to the right, as you leave. The box is checked 2-3 times a week and all comments are copied so Christine can review, and then all originals go directly to Richard. Richard then reviews them and discusses them with the cooks and waitstaff. If you want a call back, or wish to discuss a certain issue, please put your name and phone number on the comment card and don't forget to put the date. This helps Richard identify the meal, and/or situation, in a timely manner.

If you would like to call or email Richard directly, his email is Richard.Beyerl@sodexo.com and he can be reached by calling the kitchen at 916-921-5998.

Campus Commons

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 Rick Comer, Housekeeping

Shawn Asberry, Karen Schaefer
 & Penny Rand, Evening Porters

Christine's Comments

Love is in the air as we welcome February ... already! February is known for many things; the Super Bowl, Valentine's Day, Saint Valentine's Day, or the Feast of Saint Valentine, which is celebrated on February 14th and President's Day. Which reminds us, we have another holiday this month on February 18th. You'll receive your housekeeping reminder within the next two weeks. Thank you for being patient over the past five holidays since Thanksgiving. We won't have another one until May ☐.

For those that are unaware, Sia is now our transportation driver taking you to your medical appointments Tuesdays, **WEDNESDAYS** and Thursdays. That's one more additional day for all medical appointments. Banking was moved back to Friday. Please review your calendar each month to see where we will go shopping on Fridays and sign up accordingly.

With Sia moving to transportation, we welcomed Natalya Mugoryyeva. Her last name really isn't that difficult to pronounce. Practice makes perfect. Now that we have everyone in place, please be patient with all of us as we continue to train and learn new positions.

We have a sweet day planned for you on Valentine's Day – Thursday, February 14th. At 4:30pm, we will have our Candy Bar available for you to get some sweet treats before dinner (or during if you prefer) set up in the lobby. For the newer residents, you are probably wondering what a Candy Bar is. It's not your traditional candy bar... in other words, it's a bar (in our case, a table) filled with different candy. It's always a fun time and we enjoy seeing you all get a kick out of it. Dinner will be at the regular time, 4:30-6:30pm, but entertainment won't start until 5:15pm. We look forward to this special day each year.

Tonya's Activity Corner

We have another month filled with plenty to do! First up, John Bost has worked hard to get Sacramento District 6 Councilman, Eric Guerra, and District 6 Traffic Investigator, Eric Poon, to stop by on Friday, February 1st to discuss the traffic on Cadillac Drive. We'll meet in the Cabaret Lounge from 1:30pm to 2:30pm. The Cabaret Lounge will be set up for happy hour, so please join us, as there will be time for questions, ideas and safety measures.



Super Bowl LIII is Sunday, February 3rd, and our party will begin at 3pm with a nacho bar with all the toppings, plus chicken wings. We'll serve beer only, but you can bring your own beer or wine if you'd like. Who will you be cheering on: Patriots or Rams?

Many of you have asked about going to Red Hawk Casino, so it's on the calendar for the 6th. Music at noon at the Westminster Church and boxed lunches is on the 13th. If you love Mexican food, we'll go back to El Novillero for lunch on the 20th, and then on the 27th, we'll go to Carmichael to the Fine Arts Museum and lunch out. Be sure and sign up for any of the above outings, and if you have to cancel, please do so within 24 hours of the outing.

We have a new entertainment group that will perform on the 15th called Moon Glow. We're always looking for new performers, so hopefully you'll like them. If not, I'm sure you'll let me know, as I look for your feedback regarding entertainment.

February Birthdays

In astrology, those born between February 1–19 are Water Bearers of Aquarius. Water Bearers are deep-thinking intellectuals, unafraid of exploring outlandish ideas. Their strong sense of community makes them good friends and valuable team members. Those born from February 19–28 are the slippery Fish of Pisces. Selfless Pisces are very wise and empathetic, making them always willing to help others. These deep emotions also make Pisces talented artists and good friends.

Violet Dillion, February 5th
Doris Edwards, February 14th
Rita Baldarelli, February 15th
Gloria Soto, February 23rd
Ed Briles, February 24th
Ellen Bromberg, February 25th

Campus Anniversaries

Ruth Magaziner – 2 years
Joanne McKee – 19 years
Joan McGee – 2 years

Natasha's Marketing Minutes

The Renaissance Society returns this month with two very interesting topics: early Human Development & Migration on the 11th and Songs of Protest on the 28th. Sound interesting to you? Invite a friend if you want.

Michelle the Scarf Lady will stop by on the 12th with her new boutique and items for purchase. Michelle will also be happy to show you how to wear your scarfs different ways and styles. She's always fun to have back here.

Our New Resident lunch with the staff is scheduled for Thursday, February 7th, at 11:30am in the dining room. If you are a new resident from December and January, look for your invite in your in-house mailbox.

We welcome Dorothy P. and Sergio B. to Campus Commons this month!

February's Featured Resident

by Shirley Riemer

Esther Franklin, a new arrival at Campus Commons, was born in drought-stricken Kansas, part of the famous "Dust Bowl." Then, not long after, moved to Utah.

Having graduated from the University of Utah, she later earned her teaching credential at UC Berkeley, leading to her very first teaching position – putting her in charge of 39 kindergartners in Richmond, California.

Then, having earned her M.A. degree at the University of Washington, in Seattle, she began a career in what was to become a major focus of her teaching career: "Library Services," (later referred to as "Public Information.")

As a member of the faculty of CSU Chico, Esther taught children's literature as a member of the library faculty.

She then moved to Sacramento in 1964, where she worked as a Consultant in School Library Services for 18 years. She traveled to schools all over Sacramento County – primarily in an effort to encourage schools to hire trained librarians. During this period, she brought well known authors to Sacramento schools, giving children opportunities to meet, person-to-person, many famous writers. She also taught part-time for Sacramento State University, in the library field –as well as at U.C. Davis.

During this time, she founded the "Royal Readers" program in elementary schools, whereby "Royal Reader" elementary students were selected to attend a "Royal Reader luncheon," at which a "Royal Speaker" – a famous author – made a presentation. Kyra Petrovskya Wayne, a refugee from Russia, was one of her guests invited to speak at a Royal Readers program.



Esther retired from Sacramento County schools in 1982. After retirement, she had more time for her five children and four grandchildren.

Following her marriage to (yes!) Ben Franklin, a faculty member at Chico State University, Esther became a consultant in peace education, organizing educators for social responsibility. Around 1984, when the "Peace Child" musical was being performed around the world, educators were busy sponsoring participation in the venture. For example, children from Russia were brought to Sacramento to sing in the musical.

Esther, at one point, had the opportunity to learn to tell "The Gingerbread Boy" story – all of it in the Russian language! She then went to Russia, where she presented the story (in Russian), then returned to the United States to tell of her experience to American students.

Esther and her husband, a professor of Constitutional History, helped organize "Sacramentans for UNICEF" (the United Nations Children's Fund) around 1975.

She was also active in WILPF (Women's International League for Peace and Freedom), organized during World War I at The Hague. The organization was inspired by the motto of the founder, Jane Addams, "There can be no peace without justice."

Esther worked for world government at the World Conference for Peace in Amsterdam, increasing her interest in the organization. In 2015, during the 100th anniversary of WILPF's founding, she and her family traveled to The Hague to attend the celebration. There are WILPF chapters all over the world.

The Sacramento branch of WILPF meets monthly. Esther and her daughter are active in the organization, regularly attending the related peace marches.

Esther has also been active in The Peace History Society, a national society founded in 1964 following the Kennedy assassination. In fact, in 2017, she was nominated for a lifetime achievement award in the Society, and ultimately became a runner-up for the award.

Since 1985, her main personal emphasis has been peace activism, as it remains today.