

The Bandera PROPHEET

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Fundraiser for the Cottages of Silver Sage set for Sunday

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The Bandera Prophet

So touched by a presentation promoting a cottage community for the county's senior citizens, Karen Osman heard the call to action.

"Seldom do we hear stories of such kindness and compassion and I am so proud to live in a community that promotes love and support for our senior citizens," Osman said.

Art Crawford, Silver Sage executive director, recounted stories of people who receive Meals On Wheels - primarily, but not exclusively, elderly county residents who may not have a hot meal or any other human interaction if not for that daily service.

"It's so easy to turn our heads and not recognize how many hurting people live right next to us that just need a hand once in a while," Osman said. "Maybe they can't get to the store to buy groceries or the pharmacy to pick up their meds. Maybe their spouse passed away and they have to idea how to fix a flat tire or who to call or trust. Most of them are too proud to ask. These stories are endless and they are happening right under our noses."

So, in addition to volunteering as a driver for Meals On Wheels, Osman, a member of the Bandera Cowgirls, organized a benefit for the Cottages of Silver Sage, an affordable housing community for seniors.

The fundraiser will be Sunday, Feb. 16, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Silver Sage on Buck Creek in Bandera. Live music featuring entertainment by Doc and David, Mickey Burleson and Curtis Kosub will fill the air while Polish and German foods are served.

“This is hosted by the Bandera Cowgirls for the sole purpose of raising as much funding as possible for the Silver Sage Cottages,” Osman said. Other events include a gourmet Bloody Mary bar, craft beer, a raffle and a silent auction. Each \$25 ticket includes a complimentary drink. All of the proceeds will go toward the cottages project, which is estimated to cost about \$3.6 million. Phase I will have 47 cottages, with potentially two phases to follow. Rent will be on a sliding scale based on income, for seniors who enjoy an independent lifestyle but need to be closer to amenities that the Silver Sage offers, such as transportation, prepared meals and social interaction.

“We’re on target,” Crawford said. “We’re raising money in the community, and will start the grant writing process in April.”

Any donations for the project may be made at www.silversage.org and follow the links, or go to the Bandera Cowgirls’ Facebook page at www.facebook.com/banderacowgirls

Tickets are available at the Silver Sage, Bandera General Store, True Value, Texas Hill Country Bank, Spirit of Texas and Prairie Song Upscale Resale.

“It is a real honor for the Bandera Cowgirls to take on this project. It means a great deal to our community,” Osman said. “I know this is a busy weekend with Valentine’s Day and Mardi Gras, but we sure would love for our community to support this event. Come eat lunch or have a Bloody Mary or Craft beer with us!”