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SPOTLIGHT

FEATURED

Seniors hand-make cards for elementary students

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With back-to-school season in full swing, the seniors at Mustang Creek Estates of Frisco are doing their part to create a memorable moment for students. The seniors have created welcome cards in hopes of fostering a love for learning for Kindergarten students attending Tadlock Elementary School in Frisco.

The idea began in collaboration with Penny Tipton, activity director at Mustang Creek Estates of Frisco, and the seniors who wanted to make the start of school a positive experience for kids.

“We just thought it would be a great idea with it being back to school time, and so many of the seniors remember when their children or their grandchildren started school,” Tipton said. “We thought it would be great for them to reminisce about those days and bring some words of encouragement to the little ones. We know how it can be so scary at the beginning of school.”

Over the course of two days, residents at Mustang Creek Estates hand-crafted about 90 cards in total in preparation for their delivery to the Kindergarten classrooms at Tadlock Elementary. One of the residents was Eloise Hayre, 88, who spent 45 years of her life as a teacher.

“I enjoy it,” Hayre stated. “It’s a good activity since I was a teacher. I taught first grade and I remember making the cards before so I’m happy to do this. It’s right down my alley. If you have a message like, ‘school is lots of fun’ that just reinforces their attitude towards school at the beginning for them.”

This will be the first time the seniors will make and deliver cards to the students. However, with the excitement surrounding both the residents and the kids, this won't be the last. Creating back-to-school cards will become an annual activity for the seniors. Penny Tipton also hopes creating and delivering the cards will create long-lasting relationships between the seniors and children as well.

Previously, seniors at Mustang Creek have read to kids at Tadlock, this past March. "The residents read Dr. Seuss books with them for Dr. Seuss Day and the children just really lit up," Tipton said. "We'd like to partner with Tadlock, and start doing more activities with the children."

Seniors delivered their cards to Tadlock Elementary on August 29. As the seniors visited each Kindergarten classroom, the students were surprised and overjoyed to receive some moral support.

"For the students, it gives them a chance to meet some of our wonderful seniors and hopefully they'll build a relationship with them in the future. Of course for the residents, the benefit is just the joy of giving to the children."