

Resident Profile Series: Onalee Goss

Onalee Goss appreciates beauty. During the pandemic, she discovered and cultivated a love of plants, which is obvious in the pictures of her apartment which she refers to as a “jungle.” She describes her decorating style as something you would see in a castle in Spain, with plenty of “viney” plants.

“When my little sister comes to visit me, she tells me she feels like she’s walking onto the set of the Lord of the Rings,” laughs Onalee.

Onalee is just as animated as she talks about her apartment at Rocky Mountain Communities’ Grand Manor in Grand Junction. When she moved in almost five years ago, there was brown carpet she wasn’t crazy about. Now after recent renovations, she has new flooring, appliances, carpet...everything. Even the parking lot got repaved. She’s also quick to point out how nice the grounds are, saying, “the grass is really nice and green!” Onalee’s 8-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter enjoy the grounds as well; they play outside while she watches them from the picture window in her apartment.

“I like everything about Grand Manor. Especially my redone apartment!” gushes Onalee.

She says she’s even more grateful for the office staff at Grand Manor. She knows they’ll always work with her, which was a huge relief during the height of COVID-19. Onalee lost her job as a server at the last remaining Pizza Hut with a dining room in Colorado, and while she wasn’t worried about losing her housing, she had other stressors much like other folks. It made all the difference though, knowing she had the Grand Manor staff and her neighbors to rely on. “It’s nice, having a good staff,” says Onalee.

Now, she’s searching for work with a schedule that will accommodate childcare and eventually, her kids’ in-person school schedule in the fall. She says the job hunt has been difficult despite so many “we’re hiring!” signs. “I think they’re being very picky about who they hire right now,” explains Onalee. She’s staying positive and feels certain something will come up soon. “I just have to keep trying. Eventually, someone will hire me and they’re not going to regret it; I’m a wonderful server,” says Onalee.