# Foundation News Feb. 2021 Coronaversary Edition



# History in the Making

As the one-year anniversary of the Coronavirus arrives, so has a ray of hope! Residents received their first Covid-19 vaccine of Moderna on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, and their second dose 28 days later on February 19. Father Brian Hansen blessed the vaccine and was the first Resident to receive it.



Rocmaura Inc. Executive Director Sheana Mohra extends a huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped Rocmaura make history. "It truly was amazing! What a wonderful feeling to be able to give this good news!"



"Residents were closely monitored and everyone pitched in to help. We are so thankful this was offered to our Residents and that some of our staff have also received vaccinations over the last while."







but everyone will eventually be vaccinated.



"Everything went very smoothly and efficiently. It was truly remarkable, and that is a direct result of so many people

taking individual ownership of all the pieces so that the jigsaw puzzle could come together. We have a great team, every single one of us," says Mohra.

# **Designated Support Persons**

It has been a year since the Coronavirus arrived, and now a third wave with a more contagious variant is causing worry. Rocmaura has been working hard following ever-changing protocols.



During the yellow phase, DSP's were allowed in, physically distanced, in masks and gowns, but then our home closed again to indoor visitors in the red and orange phases.



While at times growing weary, we are also feeling very blessed to keep the virus away. We are especially grateful to all families who support us through tough decisions to keep everyone safe.

# Facebook Feels



Joanie Gallagher A year ago we were so happy with the care you gave. Now we are so much more grateful and appreciative of all it takes for you to give this

much more grateful and appreciative of all it takes for you to give this care. Thank you all so much!

Like · Reply · 1d

Christina Harvey facilitates window and Face time visits as families share special moments in a new way.



# Sentinel testing

Covid testing is now available in-house to all staff who wish to receive it. It is quick and convenient and gives us great reassurance.



# Curling Fun Spiel Postponed



Our 17<sup>th</sup> annual Curling Fun Spiel planned for February 6 was cancelled, but as long as we are in the yellow phase, the event can go ahead on **October 30, 2021. Save the Date!** Our goal to raise \$10,500 will help refurbish three rooms with new wardrobe units. The event has been moved to the larger Thistle Club with participants spread out on two floors in "bubbles" of four and will run with strict Covid-19 protocols to ensure everyone's safety. Volunteers will help sanitize, and lunch bags will be provided by Subway!

If you would like to take part, Hurry Hard and Sweep your worries away by throwing a few rocks in support of the "Roc". The cost is \$40 per person or \$160 for a team. We have room for 20 teams. No experience is necessary to have a rockin good time! We are grateful to our supporters who have already generously sponsored this Foundation Fundraiser!

> Access 24 Self Storage & East Side Car Wash MacDonald Applicators Susan Fullerton & Chipman Hill Suites Wolseley Mechanical and HVAC Park Fuels Chandler Sales Orthopaedics Plus

## **Mission Possible Lotto**



Congratulations to 98-year-old Donald Powell who won \$4000 in our 50/50 draw on December 22 and a BIG THANK YOU, because he turned around and donated \$1000 right back! His wife was a Resident of Rocmaura. He's already purchased ten tickets in our next draw March 31! Tickets are \$30 each with three \$1000 prizes! You can E-transfer to <u>foundation@rocmaura.com</u>. Be sure to give us all your contact info, or call 643-7090 with a credit card. Get yours before they sell out!

#### Wardrobe Project





**BEFORE RENOVATION** 

AFTER RENOVATION

Six more Residents are enjoying newly refurbished rooms with the installation of new wardrobe units in December. The Foundation has been working away at this project since 2007 and is building the last 40 units on Terrace Court. This project is long overdue, being the first major renovation to rooms in our home's nearly 50 years but we still have a ways to go.

If you would like to donate to the Wardrobe Project, with a \$3500 gift you can have a plaque engraved with a company or loved one's name on it. Call 643-7090.

# Major Gifts



We would like to thank Bernice and Daryl Dibblee who donated \$10,000 in memory of Edna Dibblee-Wellnar who lived at Rocmaura for eight and a half years until the age of 103. She is sadly missed. Your kindness will help bring

joy to our home, by providing some of the extras that help us to enhance our Residents' quality of life, like recreation programs rehab equipment, music therapy, and comfort items.



# Anonymous Donor Brings Joy

The Foundation is also very thankful to an anonymous donor who made a major gift of \$25,000 in October. "These funds come at a time when fundraising has been difficult during this global pandemic and so we are very thankful to our generous supporters," says Foundation Executive Director Sally Cummings. "I just wish I had a way to thank them!"

Whether you choose to make a gift through a memorial donation, or support our Foundation by buying a lotto ticket, or bid on an item in our online auction, you are helping to make life better for someone in their "home away from home."

We are thankful to all those who supported our Armchair Gala in June, and responded to our annual Direct Mail Appeal last fall.

"We had to change our fundraising plans quickly after March 2020, and embrace new things we had never tried before," says Cummings. "Fortunately our supporters came right along with us!"

# **Big Pivot**

Our Zoom Arm Chair Gala in June raised over \$71,000 and our Direct Mail Appeal in September raised \$14,500, which included the donation of a wardrobe unit. "Our Online Auction raised \$3500. That is significantly lower than the \$30,000+ our in-person events frequently raise, however we are also seeing more monthly donors join our Monthly Giving Club," says Cummings, "so that is wonderful to see people supporting us that way!"

# Monthly Giving Club

You can be part of the club! All you have to do is send a void cheque and we will automatically withdraw your gift. This is an easy way to support us and you will get a charitable tax receipt at the end of the year.

# **Donor Wall Blooming**

Even though we haven't been able to place new decals on our Donor Wall together these past few months, our Leaves of Legacy are still budding with new tributes! We have so much gratitude for all those who are continuing to give, resulting in \$1050 donations including four leaves, a bird, and a butterfly in our main dining room!



# Mothers Garden

We can't wait for spring to see our tulips bloom! Thanks to many donations, we were able to plant 160 bulbs in the courtyard in October in addition to the perennial bed, which the Residents enjoyed all summer long.



# Wishes Bring Comfort

The Foundation is helping to make the transition into long-term care a little easier by giving our Recreation Department \$600 so that each new Resident who arrives at Rocmaura receives a welcome basket filled with personal care items!

Candace, Kelly, Cindy and Selina also say thank you to the Knights of Columbus #6595 Council for their generous donation of \$2500, which purchased body, pillows on Terrace Court to assist Residents with positioning at bedtime.



# Applause

Thanks to Octavio Ribeiro for donating two theraglide rocking chairs valued at \$3500 to Trinity Court. The delivery of the chairs was delayed a few months during the pandemic but Residents are now enjoying them so much! This is the sixth rehab chair he has donated. Octavio also gave this Gerard Collins painting which beautifies our home.



Many thanks to the Spear Family for a \$600 Christmas donation in memory of their father Charlie. Carla Olive and Laurie Clynick delivered the gift for our Residents.



# Art Gallery Project

Many thanks to John McAvity for a donation of artworks from his mother's collection. The Catherine McAvity



paintings are appraised at \$5500 and we can't wait to see them framed and up!



Twelve paintings were also donated by artist Harold Marks whose

wife Marlene was a Resident. Those are beautifying the walls on Terrace Court. Thanks also to our Deputy Mayor Shirley Mcalary who donated a painting of Rocmaura done by Ed Coleman, which we used for this year's Foundation Christmas Card.



#### Bernie and Elf Pop By

Bernie Sanders and the Elf on the Shelf snuck in to give everyone a laugh, when protests, President Trump, and the inauguration were making headline news.



# Christmas Cheer

Christmas looked a little different this year, without familes able to gather for our traditional Christmas dinner, but Santa sure brought a mountain of gifts!



Will Fraser delivered hundreds of handwritten Cards from Grade six students at Rothesay Park School. That was just one of many special deliveries received. Residents really appreciated getting so much mail!



# Staff Appreciation

During Covid times when family members were not been able to drop off treats, donations and gift cards started coming in to show their appreciation to staff. We have been doing "Compliment a Coworker" draws on each court in which staff members must nominate someone who makes them smile during these unusual times. Director of Nursing Shirley Fraser says all of staff's extra efforts are being recognized. "It's all about teamwork." It is not unusual to see someone helping to serve lunch or pitch in on another unit. "At Rocmaura everyone chips in to maintain a safe environment."



#### **Contact Us!**

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Sally Cummings, Director Memorial Donations Planned Giving Bequests Life Insurance, Annuities Personal Property Payment by cash, cheque Debit, credit card, Emoney Transfer, Monthly Auto Debit

#### Welcome Aboard!

Welcome to our new Foundation Board Members who have recently joined us.



Denise Long is a former District School Coordinator and Manager of Jo's Boutique at St. Joe's, and supporter of many causes in our community.



Billy Tyler is a Funeral Director at Fundy Funeral Home, and grew up around Rocmaura when his Mother supervised Environmental Services.



Heather White Brittain is the Director of Development at the Imperial Theatre. She loves working with newcomers, Intergenerational programs, and giving back to community.

#### Around the Home

Staff lined the halls to pay their final respects to Resident Edith Kinsella. She was our cook for forty years dating back to the days when Sister Lucy Demonceau used to manage the kitchen. Whenever someone passes away, our staff gather for an honour guard. It is one of the many special things that happen at Rocmaura.



Fellow coworkers also were saddened by the death of a 57-year-old coworker Yvette Roy, part of our home for years.



#### What People are Saying About Us

"We would like to express their heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the entire staff of Rocmaura Nursing Home f the exceptional care and kindness that was always provided. The friendship and support shown towards Laura c her family will be remembered forever. Thank you for provid her a comfortable and enjoyable home. God Bless you all. From Gordon Redfurn - Laura Mae Clements' son



Bobbi Frost Signing with hair dresser Tina Bradley

1 Il have misuled my sister, Ritherta Fost, many thought, to myself, how perturnite there Each Time I same back hone, I would tell friends and my family how well she was ted and how she loud ing

From Quita Wadman – Roberta Frost's sister



