

As spring comes to life all around us, you may be noticing a common theme with Rocmaura Foundation ~ Everyone helps us grow! No matter how big or small your gift, you are making a BIG difference in our Residents lives.

Through our events, not only do we raise funds to help make life better for Residents in their "home away from home", but we are also building our "Community of Caring People" as part of the Mission set out by the Sisters of Charity.

Everyone can leave a legacy to Rocmaura and help us grow into the future. Be part of our new Donor Wall in the main dining lounge. Make a lasting tribute in honour of someone special, whether it is a staff member, neighbour, relative or friend, or a Resident past or present.

With a \$500 donation you can have a butterfly, a bird for \$250, or a leaf inscribed with your personal message with a \$100 contribution.

The government does not fund everything we need at Rocmaura, so the Foundation can help enhance our Residents lives by providing some of the *extras*, from medical equipment to recreation programs.

Leave your lasting legacy and help us grow into the future. Call 506 643-7090 or visit <u>www.rocmaura.com</u> or Email <u>foundation@rocmaura.com</u>

Merlot 2 Masterpiece

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A field of sunflowers was painted on April 27 and our sold out event of 70 budding artists raised \$3200 for Rocmaura! Many thanks to event Chair Sheila Fitzpatrick and committee of Marie Murphy, Jennifer Flood-Waugh, Maureen Creamer, and Lynn Wack. Many thanks to artist Sheila Howell for leading us through this fun filled evening. Great news! We are looking at returning for a holidaythemed painting in November. Stay tuned for details!



Breakfast About 200 people turned out Saturday May 14 for our 2nd annual community breakfast which raised \$2200 for the Foundation. Thanks to Chef Dianne Cassidy and all volunteers for a delicious success!

If you have questions about going to a Nursing Home, Making a Will, Or you would like Tips on How to Save on Estate taxes Don't miss this important free session!



Online Art Auction Place your bid by June 1st This gorgeous Gerard Collins 24"x36" oil on canvas painting could be yours! Just place your bid on Facebook. "St. Patrick Street Spring Bouquets" is valued at \$3000. Bids now stand at just \$600! All funds raised go to enhance our Residents' quality of life.



Visit our Facebook **Online Auction** <u>Event Page</u> to place your bid! Or call the Foundation Office at 506 643-7090. Hand Portraits by the Artsy Lady

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Jillian Breen donated 50% of her profits to the Foundation from nine Hand Portraits totaling \$360! The Mother's Day Special was such as big success, she has offered to extend her promotion until August 15! She will donate 25% of all proceeds from her pen and ink sketches to Rocmaura. This is a great way to support a local up and coming artist and your Foundation! 5x7 \$30 or 8x12 \$50



Contact Jillian Breen Email: <u>j.d.b.2590@gmail.</u> <u>com</u> or Cell text 506 333-5835



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Story by Kimberley Fowler

"Murray Yorke became a professional painter later in life and is living proof that you can take on new challenges, no matter your age.

At the age of 85 he now suffers from Alzheimer's and no longer paints, but his technique and inspiration lives on through his students work including Richard Reminger and Kerry Eriksen."

Life is a Canvas – A Resident's Story

Sylvia Yorke brought her husband to Rocmaura last New Year's Eve. A smile lights up his face now whenever she comes for a visit. He was diagnosed with Alzheimer's fifteen years ago. Sylvia cared for him at home as long as she could. "I tried to give him a normal life, took him out to dinner, to the symphony, and to listen to choirs." Murray signed and numbered his last painting four years ago for his granddaughter who was getting married.

Murray sketched and painted as a child but it wasn't until he was 43 when his did his first showing of marine paintings. Another local painter encouraged him to take on the craft full time and he left his business career and became a professional painter and art teacher. Although he had no formal training, he became a renowned marine painter whose subjects typically include seascapes, fishermen and boats, images based on his experience as a fisherman in his youth, sketches he made as a boy, and childhood memories of summers spent on the fishing wharfs of his hometown of Parrsboro, NS. Yorke's paintings have found their way into many prominent homes and galleries throughout the US and Canada. A long list of collectors have owned his works including Malcolm Forbes in NY, Jack Nicklaus, JK Irving, and Mitchell and Beverly Franklin.

Yorke's artworks portray a way of fishing that has gradually disappeared from NS; replaced with commercial trawlers and a large industry. Although the method of fishing depicted in his paintings is now all but lost, Murry and other Canadian marine painters have captured an important element of Canadian marine history.

When asked why he preferred to paint the sea, Murray replied "Because it offers a lot of challenge. It has so many different faces. It's constantly changing." Ironically there are many parallels between his subject matter and the illness that now affects so many and their families.

If you have a story you would like to share with us, please contact Sally Cummings in the Foundation Office by Email <u>foundation@rocmaura.com</u> or call 506 643-7090