

### Players Throw a Few Rocks in Support of the “Roc”

A record \$6500 was raised at this year’s Curling Funspiel. Funds will go toward helping Rocmaura purchase our new wheelchair bus. About 75 players participated in the 12th annual event chaired by Emil Olsen on January 23rd at Carleton Curling Club. Emil has been a member of the Foundation Board for over a decade and the funspiel has grown bigger every year. “I enjoy doing it and everyone has a great time, especially our hilarious auctioneer, Roland Roberts.” Many thanks to all the teams and volunteers who took part. Congratulations also to **Joanne Babin** from the Dietary Department who won \$250 in the 50/50 draw!

Mark your calendars. Next year’s event is set for **January 28, 2017.**

### Thank you Sponsors!

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The Foundation is making more wishes come true! Esther O'Connor enjoys a new Thera Glide rocking chair recently donated to Trinity Court. Recreation Therapists says many residents are constantly in motion, but are often not able to maneuver their wheelchairs on their own due to their advanced dementia. The new chair gives the benefit of rocking in a safe way and helps them self-soothe when they are feeling anxious or under or over stimulated.

Foundation Board Chair Rod Flood says the board was happy to fill this \$1200 request to help make life better for our residents in their "home away from home".

**Is there something on your WISH LIST for Rocmaura? Please let us know! Funding requests are considered by our Foundation Board members, to provide the "Extras" not funded by government. Contact 643-7090**

[Foundation@rocmaura.com](mailto:Foundation@rocmaura.com)



The campaign to raise funds for a new wheelchair bus is rolling along. Thanks to the Rotary Club of Saint John we are getting closer to our goal, with a \$15,000 donation over the next 3 years. Club President Charlie Fraser says this is a great way for the Rotary to help our seniors and be more visible in the community with their logo on our bus.



"I enjoy getting out a lot" says Resident Mary Landry, "we need a new bus soon."

And the Winner is ...

Congratulations to Joan Grant who won the fully loaded 2015 Mirage SE from Loch Lomond Mitsubishi in our Oktoberfest Car & Jewellery Draw!



The Second Prize Winner was Barbara Kane who won the \$3000 diamond pendant donated by Spicer's Jewellery.



Generous supporters opened their hearts and wallets at Oktoberfest, to help Rocmaura Nursing Home raise funds for a new wheelchair bus. Our 14 year old bus failed its MVI the night before the event. The 18 passenger bus takes residents on over 140 outings and appointments annually, greatly improving their quality of life. We need about \$43,000 more to buy a new bus and hope to be back on the road soon.



Oktoberfest Co-Chairs Gerry Lowe and Ralph Landers enlisted many Saint John business people to help with our cause, and breathed new life into the event bringing "Donnie & the Monarchs" out of retirement. Honourary Chair Sergeant Kevin Vickers brought video greetings from Ireland while Host CTV's Cindy Day returned for the third year. The hilarious Tim Maloney outfitted in his lederhosen entertained the audience during the casino and auction. Stay tuned. Next year's event is set for Oct 15, 2016 with "ROCKTOBER!"



## A Family Devoted

My mother Evelyn Gallant has been a Resident of Rocmaura Nursing Home for the past 6 years. She is 92 and still going strong.

Mom was born December 18, 1923 and lived in Rogersville & Adamsville, NB before coming to Saint John. She married in 1945 and had us children Joan, Jerry, Barbara, Kenny & Judy. Life was not easy for mom, a single mother of 5 small children when it wasn't fashionable to be without a husband. We lived on King St. West and life was difficult for her. She worried constantly about putting food on the table and keeping us safe and loved.

Despite her difficulties she was extremely strong and hardworking. Mom was the first person I know who recycled, way before the word was ever used. She could make anything and stretch a dollar a long way. She was an amazing knitter which kept us in warm socks, mittens, sweaters & hats. She could make a tasty meal out of a turnip and onion and her baking and cooking skills were delicious.

We were the only things that mattered and she was determined to bring us up with values and respect. We were brought up in the Catholic religion and we all spent many days in the Assumption Church on the west side. Mom made sure we all went to school (St. Patrick's) and she had rules that we tried never to break.

*Mom always said to me, even though life was difficult when we were small, it was the happiest time of her life.*

We moved to town when I was in grade 5 and things began to get a bit easier for mom. She got a job at MRA's department store on King Street serving tea to employees on their breaks. Eventually she got a job on the

floor and sold sweaters. As we started to grow and leave the nest, mom got a job with Irving Oil. She spoke fluent French (even though she never finished school because she had to quit in grade 9 to help in the family home,) she was smart and stayed there until she retired at 65.

Mom was devoted to volunteering at St. Joseph's Hospital, and her beloved Cathedral on Waterloo St. was her love. She never faltered in her beliefs and religion. She was very strict and resourceful, and loves her family more than anything in this world.

Mom now has 12 grandchildren, 2 step grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, 3 step great grandchildren, and 2 great great grandchildren. I know deep in her mind she remembers us as small children running around and playing. We are so blessed to be in her life and love her and thank her for the continued love and support she has given us so we could have a better life.

Love Always, Your Youngest Daughter,  
Judy Allen (Gallant) St. Albert, ALBERTA

**Four Generation Photo: Judy Allen(Gallant), Evelyn Gallant, Erin Decker (Allen) & baby Avery Decker.**



*"I'm so happy that my sister Evelyn Gallant resides there. She gets such good care and loves everybody. We looked at so many homes but we are glad we chose Rocmaura. Everything is so clean and they serve the meals like home. You can tell the people really like their jobs and they treat the Residents like family.*

83 year old Jean Hachey,  
Dieppe

Jean is Evelyn Gallant's sister and only surviving family member from their family of 10.

Share your story with us!