

Broadcaster

An Information Journal of Life at Bethany Lodge

November 2006



36
Years of Excellence

Ruth Naismith - Assistant Director Of Nursing



Over the past few months, I have had the pleasure of meeting many of our Bethany community; including families and friends of residents and staff. Recently, I was asked to write about my background and how I came to my present position.

Bethany Lodge is as much a part of my background as family, church and school. Our family regularly visited relatives and friends at Bethany, while our church youth group visited and sang for the residents. Bethany is a place of firsts. I spluttered my first (and last) vocal solo at Bethany. My first job was working for Jean Matthews in the housekeeping department during the summer of 1981. My first royal wedding (Prince Charles and Lady Diana) was viewed in residents' rooms that summer. Back in the early 80's, many of the residents did not own a TV, but the rooms that had one, received an extended cleaning that day as royal fever was at an all time high.

During nursing school, I worked in the Audit Department of the City of Toronto. Following nursing school, I was graciously offered a full time position that was too good to refuse. Eventually, I transferred to the Computer Information Systems Division, designing and teaching courses to City employees. While there, an additional challenge arose: computerizing the City Audit Department since many were unfamiliar and panic-stricken about this technology. For many in the late 1980's electric typewriters were still the norm, not computers!

Following the birth of our first child in 1991, I resigned from the City of Toronto and switched professions, joining Bethany Lodge's nursing department as an RN. Working on a casual basis, I was able to schedule shifts around family commitments.

When the Assistant Director of Care position became available at Bethany, my husband, Dave, and I felt this was a challenge I should pursue, given my background and interest in organizational affairs, combined with my relevant nursing experience.

The past several months have been challenging as our family adjusted to my transition to full time work. Dave has been supportive and understanding as I work to balance

responsibilities at home while completing a master's degree.

Prior to working at Bethany I kept busy at home schooling our four children. This endeavor began when it quickly became apparent that our second son, Stephen, had Down's Syndrome and needed extra support. After a year working exclusively with Stephen, our other children joined him at home for two years. Adapting their education to their individual learning styles and strengths allowed them to flourish. Last year, they transitioned back into a classroom setting at Willowdale Christian School. Stephen (13) has the support of a classroom assistant and resource teacher while Kendra (9) and John (6) enjoy grade four and one respectively. Andrew (14) our eldest is in grade 10 and attends Mary Ward Catholic Secondary School, an independent learning school that suits his desire to accelerate through his favorite subjects. Our children's extra curricular activities will keep us busy during the coming winter months.

While I look forward to our new home at 23 Second Street, the amount of planning and detailed work that must be accomplished over the next several months is unbelievable. In addition, I am coordinating Bethany's Pandemic Plan. The potential threat of a worldwide flu pandemic is often in the news and is an ongoing concern. This position is exciting and rewarding and offers variety. I am thankful to have this opportunity to serve our residents, their families and the rest of our team. Coming to work each day is a pleasure especially when staff and families are grateful for what is accomplished. Belonging to a dynamic and vibrant management team with Basil Tambakis, the Administrator, at the helm along with Heather Kelly, our Director of Care, provides quality mentoring and invaluable experience.

Please pray for us at Bethany West as we seek to serve the Lord day by day. Specifically, pray for wisdom, insight, and the ability to prioritize as the amount of work is escalating dramatically due to our much anticipated relocation. At present, we need volunteers at Bethany West for a variety of tasks which can be tailored to your interests even if for only a few hours now and again. We appreciate the assistance of everyone who currently lends a hand making our Bethany home 'special'.

In This Issue

Ruth Naismith Story	1
Mike's Corner	2
Golf Tournament	2
2007 Banquet Ad	3
Past, Present & Future	3
Comforter Article	3
Financial Info	4
The Sounds of Music	4
A letter from the President	4



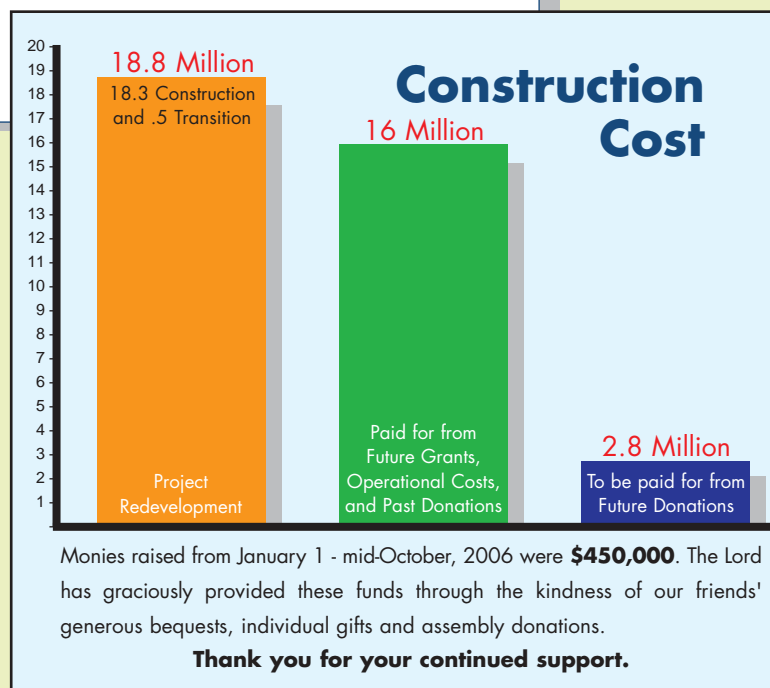
from the President

Markhaven is a 96 bed, non-profit Christian Long-Term Care Facility located just east of Main St., in Markham. Recently, in response to an urgent request from their Board of Directors, Bethany agreed to provide temporary management services to Markhaven. These services are being provided under a short term contract, and for a fee.

Both organizations have agreed to use the present circumstances to evaluate whether or not there might be a mutual benefit to a longer term contractual relationship. Such a benefit would have to bring significant cost savings to both parties, without compromising either our complete independence from each other, the quality of care, or the individual attention accorded our residents. The cost savings could then be applied to increase the quality of service provided to Bethany residents.

When a final decision is reached, we will report further in the Broadcaster.

John Paul,
President



Bethany Manor

With the opening of the new Bethany Lodge, we are anticipating the availability of further accommodation at Bethany Manor. There are one and two room suites available. For information or to arrange a tour.

Please Contact:
Helen Gabrielse
(416) 990-2309
or Christina McKenzie
(905) 477-3838, Ex 232

The Sounds of Music

The history of Bethany has a long connection with musical events, hymn sings, and choirs. As we move into our beautiful new home in the spring, we would like to make sure that our piano is 'in tune' with the new surroundings. The piano will be situated in the new lobby area on the main floor.

We have two options facing us: to repair our former piano OR to purchase a new instrument. If you are able to make a donation towards this project, we would be most grateful.

Cheques should be written to **Bethany Lodge Foundation**, attention "Baby Grand Piano".
Thank you for your continued support.



Donation Pledge

- I am interested in receiving the **Bethany Broadcaster** at home
- I would like to make a donation to the **Bethany Lodge Foundation** (see box below)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail Address _____

\$ _____ Cheque enclosed (Charitable Donation Receipt Will Be provided)

Tax Registration # BN89320 7647 RR0001

All mail must be sent to the original address:

**Bethany Lodge,
23 Second St. Unionville,
ON L3R 2C2**

Please visit our website:
www.bethanylodge.org



MIKE'S CORNER - (Conclusion)

Mike Da Silva, G.S.C.
Blackthorn Project/Construction Managers

By the time the first 2007 issue of the Broadcaster is published, the residents should be settling in at their cozy new home.

The last 14 months have been quite a journey. As reported previously, countless hours were spent on pre-planning with consultants and various authorities. The budget and schedule was produced by a cost monitor (Altus Helyar) for a combustible building. In simple terms, this means a wooden frame structure, much like the homes in which we live. However, this type of building was not acceptable to the Bethany board of directors for many reasons, the main one being the safety of our residents.

We pressed forward with a non-combustible facility of concrete and steel although the budget and schedule remained the same. Many negotiations took place with the various trade groups using value engineering as our basis to remain within budget.

(I must confess that some of these negotiations took place alone in a closet (Matt. 6:6). In short, the odds were against us from the start but this situation existed in the early days as well. Thankfully we can say, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us, (1 Sam 7:1-12)

As I write this account I can report that we are now on the home stretch. Every week brings more finishing touches such as painting resident rooms, installing flooring, light fixtures, plumbing fixtures, etc. It's a very busy place at present with as many as 75 trades people working daily on site. We even have one female plasterer's apprentice, Nina! Despite the fact that we experienced an unexpected Ministry of Health tour, the results were all positive, as reported by Bethany's administrator, Basil Tambakis.



Please continue to pray for safety and health on the site. Last June, a young husband and father (22 yrs.) slipped off the new roof and fell 3 stories/35 feet to the ground. The rescue response was amazing to watch. Within minutes, Highway 7 and Kennedy Rd. were closed off to allow a helicopter to land and air lift the injured worker to Sunnybrook Hospital. Today, the young man has recovered and is doing well. When the Ministry of Labour came to do their investigation, all the workers were brought together for the meeting. They were asked if anyone knew why this worker had survived his fall. Many answers were given (i.e. good safety practices, etc.) However when the management team was allowed to address the troops, we told them that the only reason this man survived was because God's people prayed for them every day. The simple answer is, **God overruled**. Even the Ministry of Labour official bowed his head in agreement.

In conclusion, we would ask you to keep on praying and we'll keep on building, and together, we will give Him all the praise and glory. See you in the New Year, in the new Bethany! (D.V.)

Benefit Dinner

Bethany Lodge

Invites you to our
Fifth Annual Benefit Dinner
at The Grand Baccus in Toronto, Ontario

Friday, April 27th, 2007

Reception and Punch at 6:00 pm

Dinner at 7:00 pm

Tickets: \$150 • Table of 10: \$1500

(Tax receipt for \$100 - all proceeds will go towards the building fund)

For Tickets:

Download order form from

www.bethanylodge.org

and mail to

23 Second Street, Unionville, ON L3R 2C2

(905) 477 3838 x 232 (Christina)

by March 31st, 2007

The Grand Baccus 2155 McNicoll Avenue, Toronto
(Just north of Finch between Kennedy Rd. and Midland Ave.)



Join us for an evening with

The Watchmen Quartet

Past, Present & Future

As Bethany moves into a new chapter in 2007, we are pleased to announce the upcoming release of 'Bethany: Past, Present and Future'. This is a commemorative book filled with pictures, inspiring stories, memories and the history of Bethany Lodge since its inception in 1970.

This book will be available at the annual Benefit Dinner planned for Friday, April 27th, 2007. Make sure to get your copy of this memorable book, priced at \$20.00. All profits will go towards the Building Fund.

WARM AND COZY

Are you interested in 'dressing up a bedroom'? Read on!

Our interior decorating team have discovered comforters and pillows which meet the Health and Safety standards required for our new home. Better still, they are reasonably priced at \$125.00 per bed.

Thanks to the 'Friends of Bethany' golf tournament held this fall, we have already found the money for 48 of the required 128 beds. With a little more help from our wonderful friends and supporters, we'll be able to complete this project.

If you are able to assist us in reaching our goal, please address your cheque to the 'Bethany Lodge Foundation', attention 'Comforter Fund.' Thank you for your assistance and we'll keep you informed on our progress.

'Friends of Bethany', Golf Tournament

On Friday, September 22, 2006, the 'Friends of Bethany' hosted the first annual Bethany Golf Tournament. Despite ominous clouds in the sky, the rain held off until after the last presentation. With 70 golfers in attendance, the event was considered a great success. Many participants expressed their enjoyment with the day's activities and plan to circle this event on their calendar for next year.

We would like to thank everyone for their participation in this event. In addition to individual players, we are most grateful to our corporate sponsors for their generosity in making the day a success. Thanks also to the volunteers who spent the day at the Cardinal Golf Course ensuring that everything ran smoothly.

In total, we raised \$6,000.00 which will be put towards pillows and bedspreads for our residents in their new home. Please count on joining us for another round of golf in September, 2007, D.V.



URGENT NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Programme Coordinator urgently needs volunteers for a specific assignment.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the Mon-Fri. walking programme, held between 9:00 -10:00 am. The volunteers would work with the staff in fulfilling this most important function. If you can commit to a regular time slot, it would be most appreciated.

Please contact Christina @905 477 3838, Ex. 232.