



# Newsletter

Winter 2016

## RESIDENTS OVERFLOW WITH CHRISTMAS SPIRIT



Linda and fellow Shannon Oaks Residents were busy wrapping their Annual Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child donation boxes!



The Heights at Mt. View collected 13 boxes of donated items for Cool Aid Society's Shelter!



A group of Marrion Village Residents are affectionately named "Knotty Gals" because of the technique they use making blankets by knotting 2 pieces of fleece with no sewing required. They donated 15 cuddle blankets to Santa's Anonymous. They were joined by 3 gentlemen who assembled 17 wooden toys to be given out this Christmas!

## THANK YOU FROM THE COMMUNITY

Wow! The Ladies Knitting Club at Village at Mill Creek selected the Family Hub to be the lucky recipients of their knitted goods and treats as part of The Season of Giving. Thank you ladies and thank you Kate Dusik, Marketing Manager in Kelowna. You are all awesome. We look forward to sharing these with families next week. Stay tuned.

• **Central Okanagan Family Hub - Kelowna**

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

✦  
For  
God so  
loved the  
world He gave  
His one and only  
Son that whoever  
believes in Him shall not  
perish but have eternal life.

**John  
3:16**

"On behalf of our Board of Directors and Baptist Housing Family I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

• **Howard Johnson | CEO**

## INSPIRED

In addition to being one of our valued Maintenance Team Members, Weldon also volunteered his time at Okanagan College's recent Repair Café. The Repair Café is a community event where people (many of them seniors) can bring their broken items and have access to tools, resources, and volunteers to help them fix, keep, and use things which otherwise would be discarded. Repair Café aligns with our Baptist Housing value of Stewardship, in which we use resources wisely to preserve their future viability. I am also reminded of how wellness for seniors thrives in the context of supportive communities. Thank you, Weldon, for being a part of creating a supportive community for your neighbours and for modeling the way for us!

• **Marc Kinna | EVP of Operations**

## NEW YEAR'S ADVICE FROM OUR CENTENARIANS

Baptist Housing's Centenarians hold a special place in our heart. They inspire us to value each other and treat every day as a gift. We had the opportunity to interview eleven Centenarians across several Baptist Housing residences. Our in-house celebrities have shared their heroes and childhood memories. They may also have given us clues to a long life... Meet some of the Centenarians we have had the pleasure of getting to know:



### ADELE

**Who has had the most influence in your life?** My mother and father.

**What are you most proud of?** Everything. I helped found Stillwaters - a Community Residence for Seniors, which is now my home and is known as Village at Mill Creek.

**What was your favourite toy?** We didn't have toys.

**Who is your favourite celebrity?** Not sure.

**What is your favourite piece of advice?** Be thankful.



### ALBERTE

**Who has had the most influence in your life?** God and I admire Swiss Culture.

**What are you most proud of?** Saved people from overexposure of fluoride after seven years of fighting, strong advocate for nutrition. Team Members also remarked that Alberte exercised daily on the treadmill until the age of 99!

**What was your favourite toy?** We were very poor and had no toys.

**Who is your favourite celebrity?** God

**What is your favourite piece of advice?** Teach your children about God.



### ANNE

**Who has had the most influence in your life?** Myself! I have confidence in myself.

**What are you most proud of?** Overcoming my obstacles, as well as my family.

**What was your favourite toy?** I didn't have toys, so I would have to say my fingers! I had to entertain myself somehow!

**Who is your favourite celebrity?** Bob Hope.

**What is your favourite piece of advice?** Don't worry!



### AUDREY

**Who has had the most influence in your life?** My mother. She was always there for us. I always feel so badly when children do not have a good mother so I feel very fortunate to have had a good one. I am the fourth child of seven children.

**What are you most proud of?** My family. I was fortunate to have a wonderful family. We were all very close.

**What was your favourite toy?** My Teddy Bear. I called him "Teddy". I was very upset when one day my brother decided to cut Teddy's hair off. His explanation to me was "Well he's a boy. He shouldn't have long hair."

**Who is your favourite celebrity?** Not sure.

**What is your favourite piece of advice?** Treasure the people who mean a lot to you.



### KATHLEEN

**Who has had the most influence in your life?** My Uncle Tommy.

**What are you most proud of?** That I kept the faith.

**What was your favourite toy?** My scooter.

**Who is your favourite celebrity?** I don't know.... Miss Halm! She was a singer in the choir I used to be a part of. She wasn't famous, but she was a celebrity to me.

**What is your favourite piece of advice?** Keep smiling.



### LYNN

**Who has had the most influence in your life?** My dad! He died very young, but always encouraged me to do things, even if it was hard work. Because if you work hard you will get what you want.

**What are you most proud of?** My children! I have 5 children & every one of them is my best friend!

**What was your favourite toy?** My very large doll.

**Who is your favourite celebrity?** Clark Gable.

**What is your favourite piece of advice?** Don't bite off more than you can chew.



## MARY

**Who has had the most influence in your life?** As a child my mother. As an adult my husband - he spent 5 years in the Navy.

**What are you most proud of?** My family. My mother was one of the first women to graduate from University and she became a teacher. My four brothers are all university graduates. My 2 sons: one lives on a 50-foot boat and one lives in Victoria. My six grandchildren and my four great grand children.

**What was your favourite toy?** A big doll. She was dressed in Icelandic clothing. Both my parents were from Iceland and my mother had won that doll at an auction.

**Who is your favourite celebrity?** Clark Gable and Amelia Earhart.

**What is your favourite piece of advice?** Laugh a lot and look at the bright side.



## PEGGY

**Who has had the most influence in your life?** My father when I was young, Then my husband when I got married.

**What are you most proud of?** My life in general. I was a very good nurse, and a very good mother, raising three children.

**What was your favourite toy?** My live cat! We used to dress him up in baby clothes and push him around in a stroller. He loved it and we loved him.

**Who is your favourite celebrity?** Frank Sinatra! I loved his singing!

**What is your favourite piece of advice?** Live and let live! I don't understand the wars in the world? Just live and let others live their lives.



## ROSE

**Who has had the most influence in your life?** Difficult to answer.

**What are you most proud of?** My children.

**What was your favourite toy?** A doll with a pink dress, with a big red bow! We never had many toys.

**Who is your favourite celebrity?** Dean Martin & Bing Crosby.

**What is your favourite piece of advice?** Do unto others as you would have done to you.



## VERA

**Who has had the most influence in your life?** My mother. She was always very helpful and aware with her children.

**What are you most proud of?** My two daughters. I love them dearly and I am so proud of them. I cherish the fact that they gave me 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

**What was your favourite toy?** I didn't necessarily have a favourite toy. I was a real tomboy growing up. I loved running, doing handstands on my lawn, and playing baseball at school.

**Who is your favourite celebrity?** Vince Gill (country singer). I love his music.

**What is your favourite piece of advice?** Don't smoke and drink occasionally.



## UNICE

**Who has had the most influence in your life?** My daughter Arlene has had the most influence in my life. She's a real hands-on girl, she looks after all of my affairs and gets me everything I need. She has taken all my troubles and concerns away.

**What are you most proud of?** Raising my family, seeing them establish similar values in their homes. I feel like I've been able to leave a legacy. *Unice wrote a book about her life, she'd started writing around 19 years of age.*

**What was your favourite toy?** I had wanted a bicycle for years. I baby-sat and did housework for others and saved up that money to buy a bike. It was a second hand bike. I bought it off the paper boy for \$16. I had saved a long time to get that kind of money together. It was a boy's bike, I believed it was stronger than a girls bike. I cherished that bike and took real good care of it. I used it for everything. I married and moved away but returned for a visit a year later and learned that my father had sold my bike for \$9 and kept the money. I was heartbroken!

**Who is your favourite celebrity?** Carol Burnett, that girl cracks me up every time.

**What is your favourite piece of advice?** Follow your heart - I did that, works every time!



## 25 STOCKINGS AND \$3000



A group of 15 Residents from Marriion Village's Bible study had a presentation by a local kids outreach group called Extreme Outreach. The Bible study group was blown away and responded with a \$3000 donation and a commitment to fill 25 stockings!

## MERRY CHRISTMAS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS



Look out for Tea Parties, Lunches and Thank You Notes! Our communities are taking the time to celebrate our volunteers for their generous contributions this season.

Wishing our volunteers a very warm Merry Christmas!

## THE HEIGHTS AT LEADING AGE

Howard Johnson, Baptist Housing's CEO, had the opportunity to represent The Heights at Mt. View during this year's Leading Age conference held in Indianapolis. Attended by senior living executives and leaders from throughout the US, Howard joined ZGF Cotter Architects and Perkins Eastman in a co-presentation on our research findings and post occupancy report of The Heights. The presentation was delivered to a packed room of attendees, eager to learn about our transition from two old care facilities to The Heights, a purpose built care community.



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### Volunteering & Employment

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