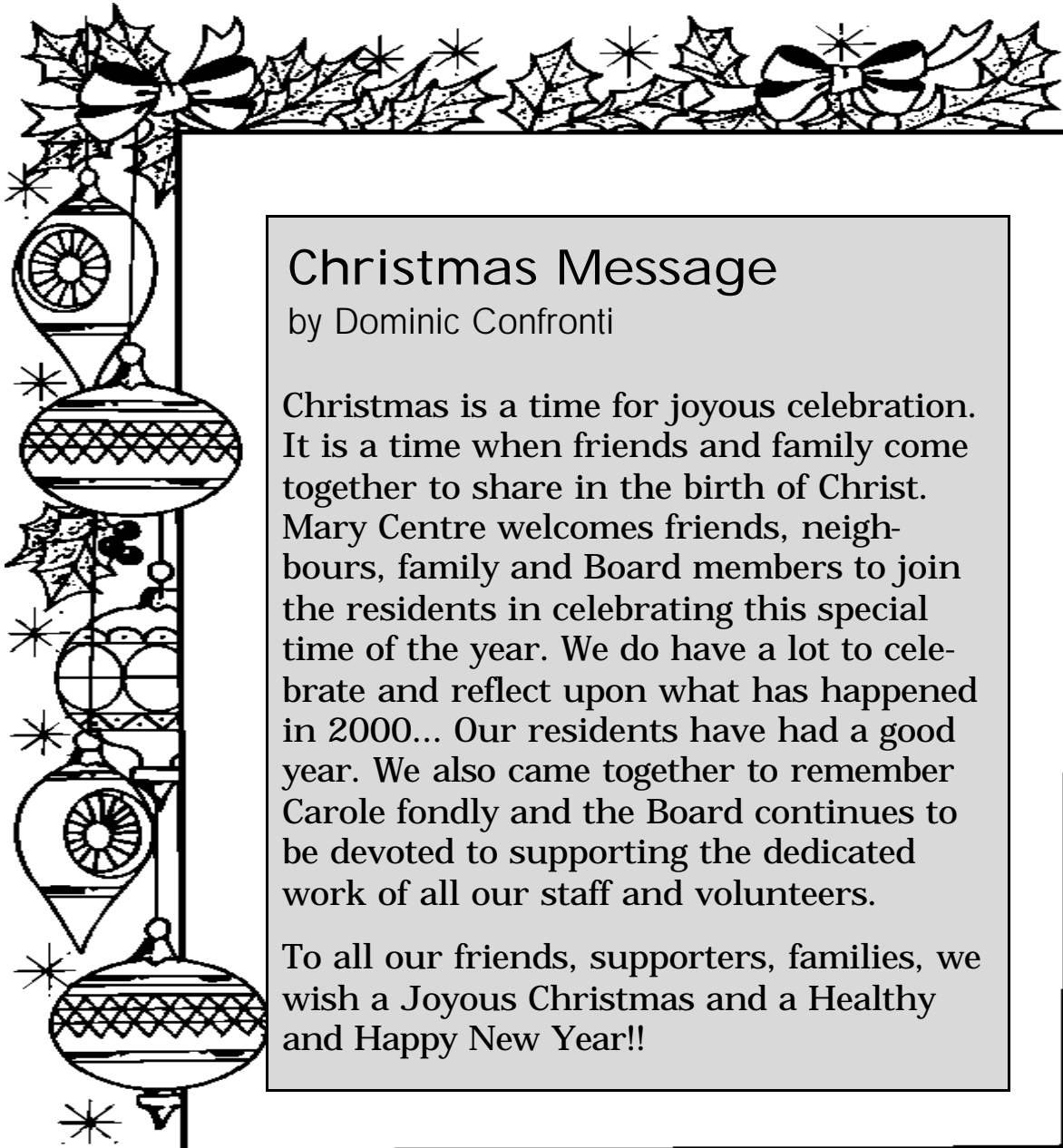


Mary Centre Newsletter



Committed to enhancing the lives of people with a developmental disability



Christmas Message

by Dominic Confronti

Christmas is a time for joyous celebration. It is a time when friends and family come together to share in the birth of Christ. Mary Centre welcomes friends, neighbours, family and Board members to join the residents in celebrating this special time of the year. We do have a lot to celebrate and reflect upon what has happened in 2000... Our residents have had a good year. We also came together to remember Carole fondly and the Board continues to be devoted to supporting the dedicated work of all our staff and volunteers.

To all our friends, supporters, families, we wish a Joyous Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year!!



Mary Centre residents entertained at Famous People Player's 3rd Annual Gala

By Tracey Berman

Once again, Mary Centre's Board of Directors and Staff were successful in their

Annual Fundraiser and Silent Auction, which was held at the Famous People Player's Dinner Theatre on November 2 and 3 of this year. We were served a delicious chicken dinner and dessert. The production, ***Those were the Days***, had everyone in the audience laughing and enjoying the music. The agency was able to raise just over \$38,000 in support of the various programs.

Later in the evening, Gloria Martin of **680 News** was on board again to host the Silent Auction. Janet Christensen, Mary Centre's bookkeeper displayed a hidden creative talent, making most of the beautiful baskets sold at this time. It was

fun to watch and participate in the bidding wars which help raise close to \$8,000.

We would like to thank our Corporate sponsors and our individual Friends who have participated in the fun for the third successful year in a row. If it was not for their continued support in making this event possible, Mary Centre would not be able to provide the much deserved quality of life to the residents such as the respite program. For this, we would like to express our appreciation.



Fundraising Update

Thanks to the Corporate Sponsors and individuals who brought their friends in support of Mary Centre at our Famous People Players' event.

Magna
Talvest
CIBC
Honda Canada
Thomson, Kernaghan
Clover Administration
Enbridge Consumers Gas
Beayni Group Ltd.
Bestfoods Canada
Deloitte & Touche
MFP
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Royal Bank
Bank of Montreal
Heidrick & Struggles
TD Canada Trust
Yale Trucks
Creaghan & McConneil
Stephanie McDonald
Tom McGrenere
Patricia Gawen
Doreen Cullen
Frank McAuley
Janet Christensen



Introducing the Respite Care Staff

By Tracey Berman

As the Respite Care program continues to grow, I would like to introduce the staff who are associated with this program. Some of you may already have met them while working in the residential programs.

First, let me introduce our In-House support staff. They go into the family's home to work one to one with the consumer on a variety of skills development; Marsha Roman-del, Grace Umenyi and Linda Favaro. Linda also works as a part-time staff in Brampton.

Then the program has two Host Families who provide support to the consumer in their own homes on the short term basis; Ken and Giannina Hall who live in Scarborough as well as Heather Rooyakkers who lives in Orangeville.

I would like to thank everyone for all their hard work and support for making my job a lot easier.



Volunteer Corner

By Lorna Duquette

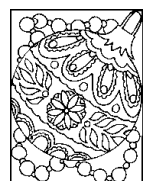
It's hard to believe that another year has passed by. It seems like yesterday that I was waddling from one place to another as I eagerly awaited the birth of my baby. Now that Kaitlyn has arrived, I've realized that I didn't really know what busy was all about. For those volunteers who were unable to attend the Volunteer Social in October, I wanted to let you know that I've decided to become a full-time mom to Kaitlyn and it is with bitter sweetness that I say goodbye. Not only has the past year gone by quickly but so has the last nine years with Mary Centre. I have you, the volunteers, to thank for that.

Mary Centre is what it is because of you. Each volunteer has brought a special something, either to the agency as a whole or to the residents. There's Miljenko who publishes our newsletter so professionally and the group of workers from Toronto Association Community Living Employment Training Services who efficiently send it off. There's the wonderful group of people from

Bridlewood Presbyterian and St. John's United Churches who willingly drive residents to programs, appointments, and church services as well as befriending them. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the ladies who make the most creative and unique crafts which we sell at our fundraising events. Finally, there are many volunteers who've been matched up with a particular resident to share the most valuable commodity of all - **'time together'**.

I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know each of you. I've loved hearing about your travels, children, grandchildren, hobbies, aspirations and whatever else you've decided to share with me. You have been role models for me and it has been a privilege and an honour to work with you. I wish each and every one of you all the best and I hope our paths cross again in the future.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

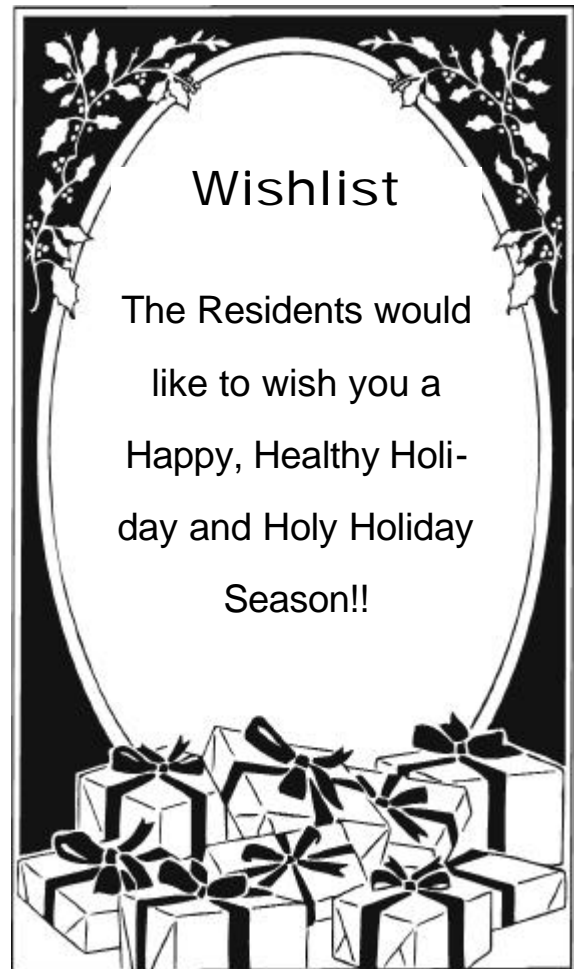


Staff Salute

by Terry Elliott

When we talk about benefits at Mary Centre, we are discussing more than the extended health plan. We are describing one of our employees, Debbie Cvetkovic. She has worked for Mary Centre for the past five years. This lady is an asset to both the group home at Redcastle and the Supported Independent Living Program at Our Lady of Victory Place where she provided support to the individuals of the programs.

Debbie has recently accepted a full-time position at Redcastle. The residents of Our Lady will really miss her enthusiasm and expertise in helping them to resolve issues with community services. She has assisted the residents to enhance their lives through new employment opportunities and community integration experiences in leisure and volunteer initiatives. We know that Debbie will continue to do well with her new duties in Scarborough.



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Catholic Charities 
of the Archdiocese of Toronto

If you would like more information about Mary Centre and/or you would like to make a donation, please clip out this section, complete the information and return to our office.

- I would like more information about the agency
- I would like information on becoming a volunteer

I enclose a donation of: \$200.00 \$100.00 \$50.00 Other _____

Cheque enclosed. I wish to use my Visa Card Amex

Card# _____

Expiry Date _____ Signature _____

- I would like to donate a gift in kind. Please specify _____
- I wish to remain an anonymous donor.

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