

# THE WEXFORD Communicator

MARCH/APRIL 2015



*Sandy Bassett  
Executive Director  
& CEO, The Wexford  
Residence*

**IT IS GREAT** to be able to finally say that the new dining rooms on the 5th and 6th floors are now open! The two dining rooms were officially opened on January 28th, 2015 with a number of key individuals in attendance. Of note, our major donor, Paul and Margaret O'Connor (O'Connor Funeral Homes) were here to cut the ribbons, along with Sergio Jalfen, (Sunbright Linen Services), our architect Robert Murphy, (who joined the project at the 11th hour after our initial architectural firm declared bankruptcy), Angela Gonsalves, our interior designer who oversaw the project, as well as Board Members Jill Raine, Sam Pollock, Ron Bilyk and Peggy Beaver. Ross Hillis, representing the Foundation Board, was also in attendance, and we were thrilled that he was able to join us, given that the Foundation supported this project in a major way.

A big thank you to the 60+ donors who together raised \$60,000.00! This project would not have been possible without your generous support!

## New Dining Rooms A HIT WITH RESIDENTS

The residents on the 5th and 6th floors are very happy with their new dining space. Zeus Melendrez, Charge Nurse 6th Floor, says that the warm, welcoming environment certainly contributes to a pleasurable dining experience for the residents. The residents are

idents with meals as they are no longer on 'elevator duty'. You will see the Activation Staff assisting in the dining rooms on a daily basis.

So what's the next project for the home? We have three projects planned for 2015. These are replacement of the emergency generator, the installation of more security cameras



*Cutting the ribbon are Major donors, Margaret and Paul O'Connor, far right.*

*Front row: Sam Pollock, Peggy Beaver, Robert Murphy, Margaret O'Connor, Paul O'Connor. Back row: Jill Raine, Sandy Bassett, Ross Hillis, Ron Bilyk, Sergio Jalfen, Angela Gonsalves.*

happy not having to wait for the elevator six times a day and it gives them more time to be on the unit or involved in activities. Victoria Melocoton, Charge Nurse, 5th Floor, says that the residents love the new flat-panel TV and are enjoying watching Netflix!

Staff have also said that the unit-based dining room gives them more time to provide care to the residents and meal times are not so rushed. More staff are now available to assist the res-

and the installation of an elevator lock-out system on each of the three elevators. This means that if a resident who is wearing a Wanderguard bracelet enters the elevator, it will not move until a staff member enters a code. This will improve resident safety as it is another level of protection for those residents who are at risk of wandering off the unit or out of the building. You will be hearing more about these initiatives over the next few months.

## NEW HIRES

**Vera-Jo  
Cruz**



The Wexford would like to welcome **Vera-Jo Cruz** to our team as the Coordinator of Staff Development, Continuous Quality Improvement Facilitator (CQI) and Infection Control Professional (ICP). Vera joins us after working for more than 20 years as a Registered Nurse in Ontario and New York City and brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience in Long-Term Care. She has her BSc.N in Nursing and her BA in Sociology and her resume includes positions as a Clinical Instructor, Operating/Delivery Room Nurse, Chief Nursing Officer and Nurse Manager, all of which will make her a valuable addition to our team at The Wexford.

Vera came to Canada with her husband and children in 1993 from the Philippines. Her passion, dedication and experience in nursing will be wonderful assets to The Wexford and we are thrilled to have her as part of our team.

**Nushe  
Nenada**



The Wexford would like to welcome **Nushe Nenada** to our team as one of two MDS-RAI Coordinators. Nushe migrated to Canada from Albania in 2004. She graduated from George Brown College as a Registered Practical Nurse. She has been working in Long-Term Care for 6 years, and has been a RAI coordinator for 5 of those years. Nushe has advocated for residents' independence as the lead of the Nursing Restorative Program and has enjoyed trending data from quality indicators. Please help us in welcoming Nushe to The Wexford.

*We also wish to congratulate the following staff members who have been promoted:*

**Fida Al-Khatib** – formerly MDS-RAI and Restorative Care Manager moves to her new role as Nurse Manager.

**Paula Rock Cooper** – formerly Skin & Wound Coordinator takes up her new role as one of two MDS-RAI Coordinators.

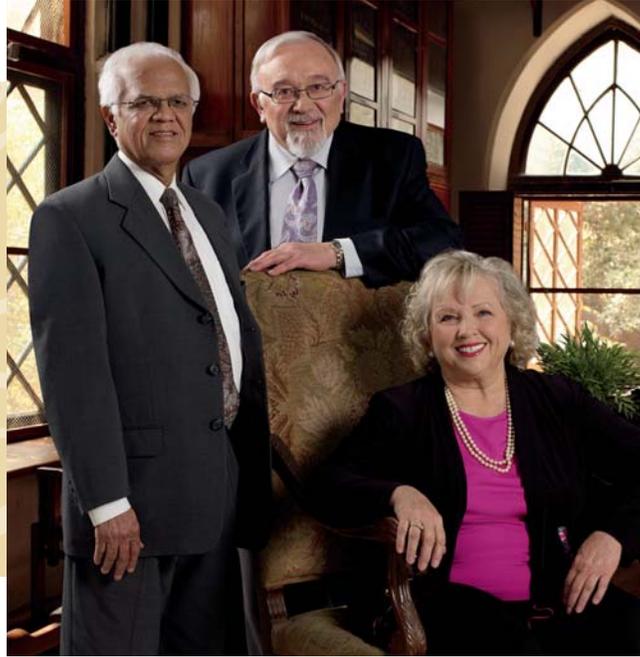


*Christmas*  
**MAILING**

A special thank you to everyone who contributed at Christmas time to our campaign for Lifts and Slings for our 5th and 6th floors. A total of \$8,180 was raised. We will continue with this campaign throughout the year and the proceeds of the upcoming golf tournament on Tuesday, June 23rd, will add significantly to our total. Contributions can be made through the Foundation office and the number to call is: (416) 701-2509.



## Volunteers MAKE THE DIFFERENCE



*These volunteers proudly served their terms as Chairpersons of the board:*

**SEATED:** *Mary Ellen Trimble*  
2003 – 2006

**CENTRE:** *Ron Bilyk*  
2006 – 2009

**LEFT:** *Cecil Persaud*  
2009 – 2013

**I HAVE FOUND** at The Wexford that we are very fortunate to have numerous volunteers that come and give their time to help the many people that call this place home. There are students, family members, and people who have a few hours each week that just want to help. Through the years I have had many friends and acquaintances as well as my own father who have called The Wexford their home. I have gotten to know many residents over that time and they tell me the joy they get from simple gestures from our volunteers – a kind hello in the hallway, or a pat on the hand, or pushing their wheelchair to the dining room for lunch or to the garden on a nice day. We are very fortunate to have them.

The pictures on this page are of the 3 past chairpersons of the board. The board is made up of volunteers who work in the professional world.

They usually have very busy lives but give their time and expertise to help with the many tasks involved in making The Wexford run. These 3 people have taken on the challenge of running this board. As the CEO, Sandy does a fantastic job of overseeing the

**“They usually have very busy lives but give their time and expertise to help with the many tasks involved in making The Wexford run.”**

day to day work of The Wexford, reporting to the Board of Directors. The board decides how much money there is and how to spend it which involves determining issues facing The Wexford and figuring out how to solve them. It is a volunteer position

with no remuneration at all. They do it for the love of trying to help and make a difference.

On May 30th we are planning a small gathering with wine and cheese to thank Mary-ellen, Ron and Cecil, and to put their pictures on the wall outside of Sandy’s office. We are also going to thank the people who have donated finances and are on our Donor Wall in the front hall. There will be information coming out in April regarding this.

On behalf of the Residents, I would like to thank the board members including the 3 former Chairpersons, as well as our current Chairperson, Jared Bettridge for all of your time and effort, and for helping Sandy make this place a comfortable home for all who are here.

*David Barker*

# 2014 Spirit Award

## WINNERS ANNOUNCED



*Barbara White (2nd from left) is congratulated by her daughter Lesley (3rd from left) as Sandy Bassett, CEO and Wayne Connelly, Director, Program Support Services look on.*

– SPIRIT AWARD WINNER –

**Barbara White, Volunteer**

**B**arbara is very involved in the daily life of the residents and tenants as she coordinates the weekly Anglican Service and is a longtime member of our Warblers Choir, a group who entertains our seniors one Wednesday a month and practices each week honing their musical talents.

She has also been the backbone of our Kiosk, both coordinating and working more than her share of days in order to keep this service open to our residents and tenants when it otherwise would have been closed. Her commitment and dedication to this service is outstanding and we are all truly thankful for that.

Barbara has shown the qualities of a deserving recipient of the Spirit Award. She is energetic, reliable and passionate and she is dedicated to improving the quality of life of the individuals who reside in the building and continues to do so today without hesitation.

We wish Barbara a heartfelt congratulations for winning this year's Spirit Award in the Volunteer category. We are very thankful to have her as part of our team.



*Dr. Larry Bacher thanks the Nominating Committee and everyone at The Wexford for this special honour.*

– SPIRIT AWARD WINNER –

**Dr. Larry Bacher, Clinical Care**

**T**his year's winner of the Spirit Award for Clinical Care is Dr. Larry Bacher. We'd like to thank Larry for his outstanding dedication and commitment to our organization for an incredible 31 years!

Dr. Larry is the driving force behind so many of the medical innovations that have taken place here since his arrival. He has the insight and strong leadership to ensure that our residents receive the highest quality medical care. He has brought on new specialists to provide care on site so residents don't have to leave to get to medical appointments, and is spearheading the new diabetes management program that we are currently implementing. In addition, Dr. Larry chairs multiple committees, not to mention his contributions to the daily life at The Wexford which includes his role as Twiddle-Dee in our Alice in Wexfordland play in May of 2010.

It has been an amazing 31 years since he joined The Wexford. Thank you for all you do and congratulations on being this year's Clinical Spirit Award winner.

*The Wexford's Spirit Awards are given annually to those deemed to be excellent role models and champions of the Wexford's mission, vision, spirit, values and goals. The four categories are: Volunteer, Clinical Staff, Non-Clinical Staff and Team.*



*Sandy Bassett, CEO presents Lance Clark with his award.*

– SPIRIT AWARD WINNER –

### Lance Clark, Non-Clinical Staff

Lance first came to The Wexford in 2001 as a contractor helping to build our third elevator. It took over a year to install the elevator and during that time he met so many nice people that he decided that he would like to work here. He saw a job posting for a full-time janitor position, applied for it and the rest is history.

Lance loves to go out of his way to help people. He says that it's the little things that make the biggest impression on the residents and tenants – fixing a broken tap, replacing a light bulb, or helping a tenant who can't do something due to sore hands. Lance takes great pride in his work and takes the time to do it right the first time. He believes in following up to ensure that the request has been completed, if he is not able to do it himself. We are very thankful for all of his hard work.

Congratulations Lance on being this year's Spirit Award winner for Non-Clinical Staff.



– SPIRIT AWARD WINNER –

### The Ethics Committee TEAM

We are thrilled to award the Team Spirit Award this year to our Ethics Committee. This amazing group of individuals has done an outstanding job organizing and setting up The Wexford Ethics Program.

In only 8 years the Ethics Committee program has been able to offer resources to develop the best avenues for dealing with ethical issues in coherence with The Wexford's mission, values and beliefs. The committee has laid the ground work to offer support and information on all ethical matters and their achievements have exceeded all expectations from when the committee was founded.

Sandy Bassett, CEO, congratulates The Ethics Committee in the above photo. We would like to thank all of the members of the Ethics Committee: (L) to (R) Felicia Forbes; Fida Al-Khatib; Sandy Bassett, CEO; Samina Ali; Kathy Frame-Adshead; Alice MacMillan; Wayne Connelly; Daisy Lin; Dr. Larry Bacher (partly hidden) and Anna Kupisz.

Congratulations to each one of you for a job well done and for being the winners of this year's Team Spirit Award.

# SENIORS INFORMATION & Active Living Fair

**THE WEXFORD RESIDENCE** through its Active Seniors Centre organized a Seniors Information and Active Living Fair complete with trade show on Saturday, March 14th. This was a public education initiative, developed in partnership with the Older Adult Centres' Association of Ontario (OACAO) and the Ontario Seniors' Secretariat, to increase seniors' awareness about the programs and services to which they are entitled. Also covered was information on healthy aging, lifestyles and recognition of seniors contributions.

*Roxanne James, MP, Scarborough Centre presents Shantha Joseph, Director of Finance for The Wexford Residence a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of The Hon. Alice Wong, Minister of State for Seniors. The Wexford was congratulated for promoting and encouraging physical and mental wellness by hosting the Seniors Information & Active Living Fair.*



participation took place on Caregiver Stress, Tax Credits and Benefits for Seniors, Falls Prevention Exercise and Tai Chi for Seniors.

The trade show featured 25 exhibitors with very useful information

pedorthic and support shoes, health accessories, funeral planning and services, and vision loss. Rose Harrison, one of the Wexford's tenants joined the exhibitors and sold her handmade greeting cards.

from diverse seniors service providers. There was information on home support, drug benefits, chiropractic, community

Complimentary healthy refreshments were served throughout the day to the approximate 150 people who attended the event, including seniors living at The Wexford Residence and its surrounding neighbourhood. The event wrapped up at 2pm.

*The Wexford Residence extends their thanks to the special guests, exhibitors, volunteers, active seniors centre members, the general public and staff for their help in making this event a great success.*

*Congratulations and a Certificate of Appreciation was received on behalf of The Hon. Alice Wong, Minister of State for Seniors.*



The event got underway at 10:15am with opening remarks from Shantha Joseph (Director of Finance) representing The Wexford Residence, followed by greetings from the Government of Canada delivered by Roxanne James MP, Scarborough Centre, and greetings from the Ontario Seniors' Secretariat delivered by Armen Der Gaspar, Regional Advisor. Written greetings from Michael Thompson, Councillor with the City of Toronto were also read.

Seminars and Demonstrations with

and clinic-based healthcare, groceries on the go, medical alert and personal monitoring, modular and customizable shelving, foot care, hearing aids,



## YOUNG AT HEART

*Margaret Strachan, a tenant at The Wexford Residence was off to Orlando during March Break and had a great time. While visiting Universal Studios she couldn't resist buying a pair of Mickey Mouse ears to bring back as a souvenir to show her friend Betty Gilmour, also a tenant at The Wexford.*

# The New Legend FOR DONOR WALL

**SOMETIME IN APRIL** this colourful new legend will be affixed to the pillar that holds the Tree of Life Donor Wall. The legend explains the various levels of giving and is a tribute to the many donors who support The Wexford Residence Foundation in their fundraising efforts. The location of the Tree of Life Donor Wall and the new legend are close to the elevators on the main floor making it easy for everyone to find.



*Donor Wall Legend*

CATEGORY	DONATION LEVELS	
FRIEND		\$500 - \$2,499
BRONZE		\$2,500 - \$4,999
SILVER		\$5,000 - \$7,499
GOLD		\$7,500 - \$14,999
ROSEWOOD BRONZE		\$15,000 - \$29,999
ROSEWOOD SILVER		\$30,000 - \$49,999
ROSEWOOD GOLD		\$50,000 - \$99,999
ROSEWOOD CRYSTAL		\$100,000 - Plus



ADVENT VALLEYVIEW RESIDENCE | CHESTER VILLAGE | MARIANN HOME | NISBET LODGE | THE WEXFORD RESIDENCE

## 10th Annual Golf Tournament in Support of Seniors

Tuesday, June 23, 2015



WE'VE RAISED \$600,000 SMILES FOR SENIORS TO DATE



WE NEED  
**SILENT AUCTION ITEMS**  
FOR THE  
**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**IF YOU CAN HELP US**  
by donating an item, please  
email the Foundation office at  
[mflood@thewexford.org](mailto:mflood@thewexford.org)  
or call us at (416) 701-2509.

**ITEMS REQUIRED BY JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP**

### The Wexford Residence

1860 Lawrence Avenue East  
Toronto, ON M1R 5B1

- Long-Term Care
- Independent Seniors Apartments
- Active Seniors Centre

Tel. (416) 752-8877 or 1-877-807-0810  
Email: [information@thewexford.org](mailto:information@thewexford.org)  
[www.thewexford.org](http://www.thewexford.org)



The views expressed in this publication are the views of The Wexford Residence and do not necessarily reflect those of the LHIN or the Government of Ontario.



# 10th Annual Golf Tournament In Support of Seniors

**TUESDAY JUNE 23, 2015**

This is our 10th year partnering with Chester Village, Mariann Home, Nisbet Lodge and Valleyview Residence to raise funds through our Annual Charity Golf Tournament at **Remington Parkview Golf and Country Club.**

**THIS YEAR'S SPONSORS ARE:**

- LEAD SPONSOR: Medical Pharmacies
- BANQUET SPONSOR: Achieva Health
- GOLF CART SPONSOR: Medisystems
- PROMOTIONS SPONSOR: Shoppers HomeHealth Care
- HOLE IN-ONE-SPONSORS: Hub International  
The Leslie Group

**TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE:**

- GOLFERS' PRIZE SPONSOR: \$5,000
- LUNCH SPONSOR: \$5,000
- SILENT AUCTION SPONSOR: \$2,000
- ANNIVERSARY SPONSOR: \$1,000



Last year we raised over \$87,000 (net) towards projects for each home. Thanks to the generosity of our corporate partners, family members and friends of the tournament we were able to raise funds toward our

new dining rooms on the 5th and 6th floors. This year's fundraising will help our home with the purchase of ceiling lifts and slings for the residents rooms.



**THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO HELP US CELEBRATE OUR ACHIEVEMENT:** 1) Fill one of the Tournament sponsorships that are available 2) Be a 10th Anniversary Sponsor 3) Register a foursome.

*Join us for a fun day and fundraising for a good cause – the seniors of five homes.*

**YOU CAN SIGN UP RIGHT HERE!**

**GOLF & SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Tournament Sponsorship: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Lunch Sponsor                       Golfers' Prize Sponsor  
 Silent Auction Sponsor               Hole Sponsor. (\$500.00)  
 Special 10th anniversary Sponsor (\$1,000.00)

I would like to register a Foursome:

**NAME 1** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME 2** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME 3** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME 4** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of payment:**

Cheque ( payable to Wexford Residence Foundation )  
 Credit Card     Visa     MC

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_