



*From my desk, to the families, friends, and communities of our dear elders,*

**Ramblings...** *"We don't see things the way they are, we see them as we are."* - Anais Nin. I hope I can remember that when I am caught up in negativity over a situation or discussion. This would hold true for how we look at our elders and their care needs. I was visiting with one of our residents about another resident that at that time had recently moved in. This new person was struggling with early dementia. "I hope that she gets the love and respect that she deserves. She served others in her life and now deserves to be treated kindly." I thought, what a beautiful spirit. We so easily make light of a confused person. How would the Lord have us to do with another of His needy children, and a struggling one at that. So, taking the above saying to heart, the way I see and treat these struggling ones is not a reflection of them but of myself.

**Peeking in the window ...** We are trying to be creative to make life meaningful for our elders. Our local youth group has resumed their Thursday evening singing. They come and stand out on the lawn in a safely distanced group. The residents sit on the patio or in the lounge to listen. On nice days the golf cart goes gliding off with a couple of seniors to High Seas for a coffee or ice-cream. Other days the Handibus is seen pulling off the yard with several of our folks heading off to find a quiet place by water and trees for a picnic and peaceful getaway. Nothing compares with getting those precious visits with their loved ones though... Having just come through two weeks of outbreak precautions we are thrilled to be open for visitors again. We now have permission to have some of these visits take place indoors. I hope you have read the documents that were sent out explaining how this is to work. When we tell them that you are coming to visit, they light up with a big smile of pleasure and are so anxious to get out to see you. It is bittersweet when we see how much they miss their loved ones. As managers we are challenged everyday by many questions and requests for exceptions to the rule. Please be patient with us as we find our way.

**Thank you...** In the past several months the employees have been treated every few weeks with delicious drinks from High Seas. A sincere thank you from our employees to our board, to Cal's Cycle and also to the thoughtful families who have sent these drinks our way. It is a bright spot in our week to not only get the drinks but to know you appreciate the care your loved ones are receiving.

**Updates:** Our geese have come, hatched a family of 5 goslings and left without a thank you. They didn't seem to know how hard our maintenance guys worked to get the straw bales, haul them up the roof and build a perfect nest, in a safe place, for them. That must be how God feels very often when He provides a "nest" for us and we use it without a thought of where it came from. In Psalms, David says, "So foolish was I, and ignorant: I was as a beast before thee." ... These geese outwitted us too. I had been watching the geese on my phone before leaving home one morning. The little ones had hatched but had not left the nest yet. On my way to work I noticed that, according to my phone video, the nest was empty. When I got to work some of us were standing and looking up at the nest, disappointed that we had just missed seeing the little family topple off the roof. Well, later speaking to some of the residents I learned that while some of us were looking at the empty nest a few of the residents were watching them topple off the back side of that roof. So, we missed it ☹!

*Keeping in Touch" Newsletter July/August 2020*

I realize we have been very silent about the new build idea. As government money seems to be seeping elsewhere we are wondering if it is realistic to hope for their help. Right now we have a sketched idea of adding new bedroom wings onto our main central wing. A very good point to note is that this could possibly be done in four stages. It looks like it would work to continue to operate to full capacity while under construction. We want to get preliminary drawings of this to show to our shareholders for their input. We have assessed our center wing which houses our main infrastructures and so far it looks like its all doable to work with this idea. Anyone is welcome to ask to see what we have at anytime.

There were eight “blue birds” and their instructor here again the past three weeks. That’s the name that one of our residents gave to the student LPNs who wear blue uniforms. It was nice having them here during our quarantine as they helped to give more one on one attention to our residents.

“Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul...” - *Horatio G. Stafford*. I got a lump in my throat as I listened to our activity lady singing out of the Hymnal with one of our residents, whose *lot* it is to have dementia. She was standing beside the staff member singing in beautiful alto, a wistful look on her face... What if that was to be my “lot”? Have any of you experienced your gut tightening with the anxious thought that “I am lost!” That is what these dear folks are experiencing daily...hourly...moment by moment. Oh Lord, please remember these dear folks who are lost in the wilderness of confused thoughts and warped realities. At least let them feel your presence of peace...

Sincerely,



Gideon Berniko  
Managing Director

Comings	Goings	Passings
<b>Long Term Care:</b>		
Hazel Davidson Rita Egli William Toews Gladys Isaac		Cornelius Penner Elizabeth Gorman Susan Toews Beverley Cheesmur
<b>Assisted Living Suites:</b>		
Alvin and Lillian Loewen	Roy Bronson	Ruth Johnson

***Happy summer days to you all...***

***..... and let's keep in touch!***

