

## *A View from the Terrace*

### DEAR RESIDENTS OF THE TERRACE

It never fails to amaze me that during the last month of the year, when the days are short and by 5.00 PM it is almost completely dark outside, we celebrate God's greatest gift to mankind, that Jesus is the Light of the world. The familiar Scripture verse John 3:16 describe this gift so well: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life". John the Baptist introduced Jesus in John 1:29 "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world". It is so precious that the Advent season during the month of December is a time of joyful celebration of Christ's birth and his coming to earth 2020 years ago for all who honor him as their Lord and Savior. He was willing to be the sacrificial lamb and he gave his life for the sins of mankind by his death on Calvary's cross. It is always precious to read again how Abraham learned from God himself what he would do 2000 years later, when Christ would come to earth. During the Advent season, it is so fitting to read again that beautiful story in Gen. 18:17: "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?" Then in Gen. 22 Abraham and his son Isaac were to travel to exactly the place which God would show them, where God's Son would give his life as a ransom for many. When they arrived there, Abraham's faith is tested when God ask him to sacrifice his only son Isaac as a burnt offering. Then Isaac ask the question: "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham's answer is that God will provide himself a lamb. Notice how Abraham's depth of faith is impressive when he tells his helpers to wait here while we worship and then we will come back to you. His faith is described so well in Heb.11:8-12. However, the Advent message also includes the joyful anticipation of our Lord's imminent return to earth as the King of kings and Lord of lords. Nothing prophetically needs to happen first, so his return in glory can be at any moment. The message of Christ's Advent therefore encourages us to prepare our hearts in the sure hope of his second coming on the clouds of heaven. During this Advent season let us read again the prophetic return of Christ in 1 Cor.15. We wish you all a blessed Advent season and a joyous Christmas. B.L.

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Peggy Skursky	N. Ireland	219
1	Freddy Van Hoffen	Leeuwarden	312
7	Diane Adams	Niagara Falls	203
8	Clarence Alkema	Harlingen	405
13	Frances Stegne	Slovenia	210
21	Margaret Spoelstra	Zwaagwesteinde	214
25	Olga Dekker	Peize (Dr)	304

### **Happy Birthday**

### FROM THE DESK OF THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Hello fellow ET residents. Our ET picture directory is updated annually in the fall. People who move in throughout the year would not have a picture until then, so we put your picture in the monthly newsletter to be cut out and inserted in the correct space in the directory, to keep it up-to-date.

Bill Lensink, in his Nov. devotional made a reference to the foresight of the Board of Directors. That got me to think how it all began. I checked with, and talked to some of the old timers who are still residents here. Quite a story and it is in this newsletter.

This is my last newsletter. Linda Termorshuizen has been appointed by the Residents Council as the new editor starting with the Jan. 2021 edition. I have done it for 8 years, it's been a pleasure but it is time for a change. God's blessings for the new year. Adrian Dieleman.

### FROM THE WELCOMING COMMITTEE

First of all.....a special big thank you to Tina Ravensbergen for all the visits she has made with me to our new residents!!

I will miss you!! Blessings to you Tina..

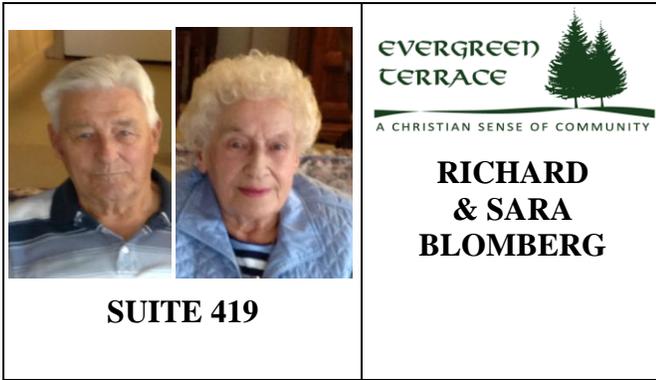
Eve Baartse was willing to take her place and I am thankful for that. We have made a visit already together.

A welcome was made to:

Sarah and Richard Blomberg in suite 419.

Anne De Bruyne.

NEW TO EVERGREEN



Cut me out and put me in your picture directory.

**INTRODUCING RICHARD AND SARA BLOMBERG.**

Richard came to Canada in 1952, Sarah in 1957. They both settled in the Winona area and later moved to Grimsby. Richard did floor coverings. They have 3 married children living in Midland, Timmins and BC.

# “911” Emergency

## To all Residents

When calling “911” for Ambulance or Fire

REMEMBER BOTH THESE SERVICES  
HAVE ACCESS TO A MASTER KEY  
WHICH WILL **OPEN ANY DOOR** IN THE  
BUILDING

**This means that you do not have to meet them  
at the front lobby to let them in!**

LADIES GUILD CRAFTS

We have some very cute baby gifts in our craft cupboard:  
Crochet blankets with or without hat and socks from \$25 -  
\$30.00; Quilted Crib (or playpen) Blanket - \$35.00;  
Receiving Blanket - \$15.00. Call Maria at 289-309-7190.

**As once again we prepare to celebrate the  
birth of Christ our Savior,  
We wish all residents a Blessed Christmas  
and a  
Happy and Healthy  
New Year**

**From the Board of Directors and Staff of Evergreen Terrace**

Rick Batenburg, (Chairman)	Gerrie VandenBerg,
Rob Heersink, (Vice Chairman)	Bonnie Desjardins,
Jennie Antonides, (Secretary)	Murray Zwiep,
Don Drost, (Treasurer)	Susan Smid,
John Koornneef,	Geraldine Kegel ( Retired)
Dick Vermeer, (Property Manager)	John Kralt (Custodian)

## Evergreen Terrace History

The start of building a retirement facility for Christian seniors originated with the deacons of the Mountainview Christian Reformed Church in Grimsby. Already in the mid eighties' a committee was actively exploring possibilities in the Grimsby area. A plan to put up a 60 unit building attached to the church, located on the site where now Evergreen Terrace stands, was presented and voted on by the Mountainview congregation. It was voted down by a narrow margin. The committee went back to the drawing board, investigating a number of other locations before disbanding.

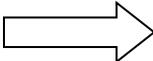
The next attempt for a senior housing project came from the board of Shalom Manor in 1995. Mountainview CRC, whose building was located directly south of Shalom Manor was making plans and were in the process of a major upgrade to their aging facilities. The Shalom board realized that if they were to pursue the idea of a continuum of care, independent senior living, assisted living and long-term care, they needed room to expand, which was only possible by purchasing the Mountainview CRC property. The number of suites proposed was largely determined by the size of the property, the perceived need in the community, and enough apartments to make it a financially viable project. Correspondence was started with the Mountainview CRC council, proposing to purchase the property. A board was formed consisting of the executive members of the Shalom Manor board namely, Dick Vermeer, Chairman, John Koornneef Treasurer, Hank Hultink Secretary, Paul Roorda Vice Chair, and Melis Koomans as ex-officio member. The board incorporated in 1996 under the name of "Shalom Evergreen Terrace Non-Profit Seniors Apartments". After this start the board expanded to nine members and eventually became independent of the Shalom Manor board. Also involved in different capacities were Peter Biesheuvel and Henk Heersink. The criteria for new board members was being a Christian and past involvement in senior care and related issues. The board contracted with Life Lease Associates of Canada, Mr. Gary Zock and his associate, later to be his wife, Christine Thomas, who from there on also provided guidance in all the steps necessary for the proposed project. A price was agreed on for the Mountainview property of 1 million dollars. This was originally financed with the backing of Shalom Manor. The first plans and layout of the proposed 98 suite building were drawn by MMM architects of Brantford, ON. Later, as we got an acceptable quote from Brouwer Construction, our finishing architect was Panici from St. Catharines, with minor modifications to the original plan. On June 18, 2001 an official ground breaking ceremony was held, and Brouwer Construction started its work. Mountainview Church, which meanwhile had built their new facility just a few hundred feet east of here, graciously lent us office space to start selling the project. In the opening sales week some 40 suites were sold. After this, weekly sales were held and monthly purchaser meetings were organized, ably led by the then board chair, John Bergshoeff and consultant Gary Zock.

To sell the next 25 suites took the better part of a year. Bridge financing was arranged with Meridian Credit Union, subject to 70 apartments being sold before they would support us financially. Up to this time Shalom Manor had paid the purchase price of the church property as well as financing all of the incidental start-up costs totalling in excess of a million dollars.

As well, three of our board members and one friend of the project, put in a considerable sum as seed money. During the entire construction period, weekly job-site meetings were held and attended by the Building committee, John Bergshoeff, Dick Vermeer and John Koornneef. As well, members of the building committee toured the entire job site from start to finish on a daily basis.

During the entire building phase we were blessed with great weather, so much so that people were able to move in starting November 1, 2002. Prior to that, as of September 1, 2002 the board hired Dick Vermeer as property manager as well as our first custodian, Abe Vermeer. At this time there were still 20 unsold units. To sell these and future sales, David Van Sickle joined our team as sales co-ordinator. Our final suite was sold on March 31, 2004. This enabled the board to pay off Evergreen Terrace's entire outstanding financial obligation.

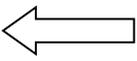
The Board and our consultants, in the first year of living at Evergreen, were very much involved in assisting the residents to be settled in. Upon their suggestion, a Residents Council was organized as well as a number of committees. It helped the residents to get involved in Evergreen Terrace to not just make it a place to live but to make it a vibrant Christian Lifestyle Community, as advertised on our roadside sign at the corner of Bartlett Ave. and Main street E.

Picture to the right: 

Ground breaking, June 18, 2001.

Front row, the breakers, left to right:  
John Koornneef; Aleida Zeyl, Regional  
Council member; John Bergshoeff;  
Tilly Roorda; Regional Council member;  
Janet Janssen.



 Picture to the left:  
Signing of the last Life Lease Agreement,  
March 31, 2004.

Sitting: Chairman John Bergshoeff.  
Standing left to right:  
Theo Meester; Rita Fluit; Janet Janssen;  
Dick Vermeer, Peter Biesheuvel; Bill Beck;  
John Koornneef.