

# Ron Smith Care Centre



@ Elphin Lodge

AUGUST 2019 No.50



## EDEN THOUGHT

*Helping to bring warmth and food to those in need gives us a sense of purpose and brings joy, meaning and gratitude to both the giver and receiver.*

## Busy hands, caring hearts

Throughout the year, residents of Elphin Lodge retirement village knitted up a storm and the result 76 blankets that were handed over to Meal on Wheels on Mandela Day.

Meals on Wheels representatives joined residents and staff from both Elphin Lodge and Ron Smith Care Centre in the village hall on July 18 and after enjoying a lovely tea of sausage rolls, sandwiches and chocolate eclairs, it was time for the programme to begin.

The first order of business was to hand over the 76 blankets and tinned food to Meals on Wheels, who gratefully received the gift on behalf of the vulnerable poor whom they support.

Then it was onto the main challenge of the day: To knit or crochet a square in 67 minutes, so that they can all be joined together to produce blankets for the next worthy charity that needs them.

The stopwatch was activated at 10H30 and at exactly 11H37, time was called! Knitted rows were tallied and winners declared in both the knitting and crocheting categories.

### THE RESULTS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

#### Knitting:

- 1st: Barbara Malan – Elphin Lodge.
- 2nd: Greer James– Elphin Lodge.
- 3rd: Avril Maltman – RSCC, Matron.

#### Crocheting:

- 1st: Denise Stewart – RSCC, Volunteer.
- 2nd (tie): Sarah Richards and Ronelle Gray – RSCC.



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**SUPPORT GROUP:** The next support group for families with a loved one being affected by Dementia/Alzheimer's takes place on Tuesday, 6 August, in the boardroom at 10am and Saturday, 10 August, at 9:30am in the Clubhouse. Please contact Lorna Quinn if you are interested in joining the support group on 082 456 5692 or email lornaq49@gmail.com

**LOTTO:** The next Lotto Concert will be held on Wednesday, 14 August, with entertainment by pianist Lizelle Roberts.

**THE KARDIES GROUP:** Meets on Thursday, 15 August, in the OT/Activity Centre at 2pm.

The next **BOERIE BRAAI AND JOKER JACKPOT** draw takes place on Friday, 16 August, in the Quad area outside the hall. Place your order with Wanda at Elphino's Coffee shop, R25 a Boerie roll.

**SING-A-LONG:** Come sing-a-long to good old favourites every Thursday (except on the 29th) in the OT/Activity Centre from 9:30-10:30am.

**HANDS & NAILS:** Will be held on Tuesday, 20 August, in the OT/Activity Centre, from 9:30-11:45am.

**GARDENING GROUP:** The next group will be held on Wednesday, 21 August, at 10:30am in RL3 Dining Room.

**HYMN SINGING:** Every Tuesday in the chapel from 2pm-2:45pm.

**NEWS GROUP:** Every Thursday, Cedar Park patio, at 9:30am. All welcome.

**BIBLE STUDY** with Trevor Blake, every Wednesday in the Chapel at 2pm.

**HOBBY CLUB:** Every Tuesday at 2pm in the OT/Activity Centre.

**BRIDGE GROUP:** Want to learn how to play Bridge or even play a friendly game. Join us in the cardroom at 2pm every Wednesday afternoon.



## Resident

My name is **Olimpia D'Ascenzo**. My home is on River Lodge 3.

**Things you may not know about me:** I like to be called Oli. I was born on 25 September, 1934 in Montemurro, near Naples, Italy. When I finished school, I went to our village church where the nuns were teaching young people a trade. I was taught knitting and how to sew dresses and this introduced me to my life-long passion for sewing, dress-making and fashion. My family immigrated to South Africa in 1958. Our first home was in Braamfontein and eventually we moved to Troyeville, which is where I lived for 60 years in a beautiful 8-bedroom heritage house on Opburgen Street. I loved my home and it was good to be part of the Italian community who lived in the area. I worked as a supervisor in a jersey factory in Jeppe and we worked with many designer labels such as Pierre Cardin. I enjoyed travelling and have happy memories of holidays in Spain and Italy and visiting my family in Colorado, USA.

**A few of my favourite things:** I love bright colours and brightly coloured flowers, Italian history, classical music, watching Italian soaps and reading stories about love and war. I have always enjoyed creating tapestries, sewing and knitting and used to make all my own clothes. I used to love looking through fashion magazines and planning my next dressmaking project – deciding on the colours, design and fabrics. These days, my simple pleasure is to play Italian solitaire. I am thankful for my family and love getting together for a nice meal, which my wonderful niece, Marisa, cooks and talking about the good old days.

**My advice** to everyone is to: Keep smiling.



## Employee

My name is **Prudence Mokoena**. I am a care worker on River Lodge 3.

**Things you may not know about me:** I was born on 24 October, 1987 in Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga. My father passed away when I was very young, so I was raised by my mother and granny. I had a happy childhood because I was mommy's last born of 5 children and everyone spoilt me! After I matriculated, I did a course in Human Resources and then, because I had always wanted to work in a hospital, I went for care worker training at Empilweni Nursing College in JHB. I have been with Rand Aid since 2014 and have worked on all the wings, but I enjoy River Lodge 3 the most. I love working with our special residents living with dementia. They do know and feel when they are being cared for in a kind and loving way. I live in Alex with my sister and 2 beautiful children: Kgotatso (son, 13) and Bonolo (daughter, 6). My kids are the most important people in my life and they bring me much joy. We like to visit playgrounds and have picnics together where popcorn and sweets are always on the menu!

**A few of my favourite things:** Mostly, I am a very busy lady with not much time for relaxation and hobbies. I am a qualified hairdresser and in my spare time, enjoy doing my clients' hair. My faith is important to me. I know that I cannot do anything without God in my life. I am excited to be taking a trip to Durban soon – it will be my first time at the sea! My dream is to study further to become a sister in charge! Everyday, I make a habit of practising **my belief** that I should 'do unto others, as I would have them do unto me'.



## Volunteer

My name is **Trevor Blake**.

I have enjoyed leading the Bible Study group at Elphin for the last 5 months as a volunteer.

**Things you may not know about me:** I was born in JHB on 19 December, 1989 and grew up and went to school in Rand Park Ridge. After matriculating, I attended Hospitality Training Academy, followed by work as a professional chef at the Hilton in Sandton and the Southern Sun Hotel at Montecasino. I soon realised that the challenges and pressures of working and managing a professional kitchen were too great, and these days cooking is simply a very strong hobby for me! In my youth, I was always involved in church, youth leadership and Holiday Club. These were very happy times for me, where my faith grew to become the foundation of my life that it is now. This is also where my calling to ministry came from. I had a humble upbringing, with parents who taught me to never give up and to keep working until I get to where I want to be. I am currently Youth Pastor at Edenvale Methodist Church and am in my first year at Theological Education by Extension College.

**A few of my favourite things:** Movies, good food, good music, spending time with loved ones and my cute little Pug, Donnie, make my heart happy. I enjoy cooking up a storm, playing the bass guitar, and binging on the latest TV series.

My dream is to marry the love of my life and to travel the world.

The Bible verses from 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 are **my guide** as to how to treat everybody. 'Love is patient, Love is kind, it does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.... It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.....'



## Birthdays

### RESIDENTS

01 August, Helen Barlow-Jones, RL2 (89)  
02 August, Alan Clark, WL (76)  
03 August, Ethelwynne van Eck, WL (83)  
04 August, Gladys Rosenberg, LS (93)  
11 August, Louise Newman, LS (88)  
16 August, Hazel Kalk, LS (64)  
23 August, Edna van Rensburg, RL3 (88)  
25 August, Rivella Calbacho, DC (90)  
26 August, Beulah Leor-Lever, DC (78)  
27 August, Maria Roberts, RL1 (97)

### VOLUNTEERS

4 August, Dugald Paterson  
20 August, Kathy Theron  
20 August, Gloria Jones  
24 August, Shirley Blieden  
27 August, Marina Smith  
31 August, Felicite Horn

### STAFF

5 August, Portia Mantome (WL)  
8 August, Nkhensani Shibiti (Housekeeping)  
8 August, Nthabiseng Sebata (LS)  
9 August, Lisa Mtshali (LS)  
15 August, Jennifer Sigida (RL3)  
15 August, Sandile Ngubane (Elphino's)  
20 August, Alice Molepo (RL2)  
21 August, Thulani Khumalo (Elphino's)  
22 August, Vincent Masilo (Elphino's)  
23 August, Avril Maltman (Matron/ Mentor)  
25 August, Tanya Switala (Admin)  
30 August, Paul Swanepoel (Maintenance)

\*Staff members must remember to pop in at reception to receive a small birthday surprise!

### WELCOME TO

Margaret Archer (River Lodge 2)  
Malcolm Shalekoff (River Lodge 3)  
Kingsley Fuller (River Lodge 3)  
Edna Schley (River Lodge 1)

### STAFF NEWS

A fond farewell to Bianca Richards, our wonderful OT for the past five years. She has returned home to Durban and we wish her well. She will be remembered with love & gratitude for her service to the care centre and missed by all.

### STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM FOR WIMBLEDON

The residents and staff of River Lodge 1 enjoyed watching the Men's Final on Sunday and celebrated with delicious bowls of strawberries and cream, compliments of Sister Leanie. They were

so enthralled with the game, that they ended up having their supper in front of the TV, so as not to miss one single moment of this nail-biting final! **PICTURED** is Josephine Kew enjoying the afternoon.

