



# The Homes News

A quarterly publication of the Fairport Baptist Homes Caring Ministries

**The Fairport Baptist Home**  
**4646 Nine Mile Point Road**  
**Fairport, NY 14450**  
**www.fairportbaptisthomes.org**

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Fairport Baptist Homes Caring Ministries

Reverend Garth Brokaw, President

*The Homes News* is a newsletter established in 1912, and published quarterly by the Fairport Baptist Homes Caring Ministries, "Continuing a Community of Healing and Hope."

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## Planting the Seeds: FBH Residents Go Green

Recently, Fairport Baptist Homes' residents got down and dirty. Planting flowers, that is. On Monday, May 17, the Multi-purpose room in FBH was transformed into an indoor greenhouse, as the mixed aroma of plants and soil filled the room. Residents selected plants to place in several containers, which will then be placed around the patios of FBH to be seen and enjoyed by residents, staff, and visitors during the upcoming summer season.

Jane Wilson, a long-time resident at FBH claimed, "It feels so good to put my hands in the soil!"

That was the popular consensus for many of the residents who took part in the project as they dug into pots filled with soil and gave roots to many different kinds of plants, assisted by students from McQuaid; the Women's Service Board (WSB); FBH Community Life Specialists; Hilda Thompson, Director of Resident Life Enhancement; and Social Worker Jocelyn Fisher.

The plants were provided by funds from the Women's Service Board

(WSB), a service organization that has dedicated its efforts to providing programs and materials for the residents at FBH for over half a century. The combined efforts of all of these groups and individuals were all part of the FBH Garden Club's desire to make the grounds of Fairport Baptist Homes pleasing to the eye, and nose.

As a social worker, Fisher said, "You wouldn't believe how many social histories I write where the ladies tell me how much gardening meant to them, or how much gardening they used to do. This project helped us tie it (gardening) into an activity for these residents, and it's something they can enjoy for all summer long."

The project also ties with the FBH culture, and the Eden Alternative it promotes. The Eden Alternative adopts the principle of a "human habitat model that makes pets, plants and children the pivots for daily life in a nursing home."

While Fairport Baptist Homes already has seen its share of animals, and the presence of children is very common through its

intergenerational program with Seasons Child Care, this planting project will enhance the flowers and foliage throughout FBH, and gave residents a sense that they did something for their home. It also gave them something else to care for, as residents are encouraged to help water and weed the plant containers, whenever the need arises.

As FBH resident Connie Pataccoli left the Multi-purpose room carrying a planted container, she said, "Plants are like people. You have to take care of them."

Here at FBH, we're happy to do both.~THN/KG



Above (from left to right): Fairport Baptist Homes' residents Helen Sacheli and Jane Wilson took part in a recent FBH Garden Club planting project.



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## *Annual Corporation Meeting Professional Chaplaincy: Its Role and Importance at Fairport Baptist Homes*

On Tuesday, May 4, 2010, the annual Fairport Baptist Homes Caring Ministries Annual Corporation Meeting was held in the McKnight Room at FBH. Guests were served and enjoyed a delicious beef pot-roast dinner, complete with homemade Yukon gold mashed potatoes, Artisan bread and gourmet chocolate turtle cake, after which presentations of the various business reports were read and approved.

The program of the evening, presented by FBH Chaplains Marianne Katz and Jennifer Castle, was "Professional Chaplaincy: Its Role and Importance at the Fairport Baptist Homes. Guests turned their attention to the Chaplains as they discussed the means and practices of spiritual care at FBH.

First, Katz emphasized that spirituality is different for each individual; people subscribe to different and various beliefs, credos, practices and rituals. Even so, most people accept a universal definition of spirituality as "an awareness of and relationship with something greater than oneself." It is this awareness and relationship that often gives individuals the ability to cope with illness, losses, transitions, and traumas. Spirituality also provides a connection between physical and mental health. Yet not all people are that connected.

"Not everyone is on the same journey," Katz said, and explained that part of the chaplaincy role is becoming aware of where other people are in their own spirituality. "We just try to find ways to connect to people and bring a holistic aspect to their care. We have no agenda. We are a listening presence."

It is also a presence that is an integral part of the health care team. Castle evidenced several studies that show Chaplains are very beneficial to both short term and long term care facilities. Chaplains can be a benefit to the resident, family members, staff, and the organization itself. Not only are Chaplains an integral part of the body/mind healing process, but they are also cost-effi-



*Above (left to right): Pastor Jenny Castle and Chaplain Marianne Katz were guest speakers at the presentation on the benefits of Chaplains in long term care facilities.*

cient. A study done in 2004 revealed a Chaplain visits cost \$2.71-\$6.43. Even with inflation, patients/residents still get their money's worth because of the many roles and duties they can – and do – perform.

According to the Health Care Ministries Chaplain Association (HMCA), a non-profit chaplaincy organization that recruits, trains, certifies and encourages Christian Chaplains serving in health care facilities (both acute and long term care) and hospice programs worldwide, Chaplains provide spiritual counsel and emotional support to patients and residents, their family members, and health care staff.

Chaplains function as an integral member of the health care team to meet the spiritual and emotional needs of the sick and suffering, the distressed and dying. Chaplains also encourage compassionate behavior, attend health care team meetings, perform weekly and holiday worship services, interface with staff on a patient/resident's behalf,

give blessings, provide one-on-one prayers, act as a liaison between parishes and residents, conduct bible study groups, and in Castle's case at times, stand in for a fourth player in resident Euchre games. But most of all, Chaplains bring a holistic aspect to care. They help residents to cope and to heal by

spiritual sources during these times. Using their expertise, Chaplains can be that source of strength and hope for residents, family, and staff. Castle says one of the most important – and meaningful – thing that they do is bear witness to what residents are experiencing in their spirituality.

"Residents are still developing their faith," Castle reminds us. And since residents have lived longer and experienced more, she says they tend to ask more probing questions about their faith; often times wanting assurance, or discussing what may lie ahead for them.

It is these times that the Chaplains can hopefully infuse an aura of peace, and provide some comfort with just their presence. While they may not be seen as caregivers in the traditional sense, Katz emphasizes, "We are caregivers, says Katz, "But we are called to care for the spirit." ~THN/KG

working through spiritual issues associated with physical impairments.

"We can match up the medical plan with the spiritual plan," says Katz. This is extremely important during times of illness, especially chronic illness. In fact, 82% of people in America pray to God and turn to

*Spirituality...  
"an awareness of and  
relationship with something  
greater than oneself."*



# The Homes News

## Moments to “Minoaka” About

The 28th Annual Senior Staff Luncheon, sponsored by the FBH Recognition taskforce, was held in the McKnight Room at FBH on Friday, May 21 to honor all its loyal staff members who have dedicated four or more years of service to Fairport Baptist Homes. Currently, that consists of 60% of the employee base at FBH!

In keeping with tradition, a theme was adapted to ensure a fun and festive atmosphere. This year’s luncheon was reminiscent of a Hawaiian luau, or barbeque, and included all the Hawaiian accents.

In pure Hawaiian style, senior staff members were greeted at the McKnight entryway with a traditional lei-giving, which is a Hawaiian tradition to mark special events. Staff could choose the color of their leis, ranging from bright pinks, purples, yellows, and blues.

Place settings and programs were also done in the same festive colors, and large, fresh pineapples—later to be given away as some of the door prizes—adorned the tables with ferns as centerpieces.

The luncheon officially began when Joe Anderson, Vice-Chair of the Fairport Baptist Homes Caring Ministries Board of Directors welcomed staff on behalf of the Board, and congratulated those senior staff members in attendance on their many years of service, and making a difference in the lives of the seniors they serve. Anderson also credited FBH President Reverend Garth E. Brokaw, and Chief Operating Offi-

cer Tom Poelma, for creating a culture and leadership which embraces a home environment and diversity throughout FBH. But mostly, he directed his thanks and appreciation towards senior staff, who together, have a total of 2,780 years of service!

“In terms of all your special ways in which you serve our residents,” said Anderson, “you are the ones who put the ‘Caring’ into the ‘Caring’ of the Fairport Baptist Homes Caring Ministries.”

A poem, entitled, “Smile”—or *Minoaka* in Hawaiian—was read by Debby Tuttle, Director of Human Resources, to remind staff just how important is to share a smile every day at work. After an invocation presented by Reverend Brokaw, staff dined on such palate-pleasing foods as Hawaiian Chicken, Island Pulled Pork, Maui Pasta Salad, and Tropical Torte, all catered by Rene’s Café in Fairport. While dining, staff were treated to a musical montage of memorable moments slide slow depicting past luncheons, as well as various other recognition and celebratory events.

Molly Bolan, Payroll Coordinator

and member of the Recognition Taskforce said, “We always try to do a luncheon that not only will our senior staff enjoy, but will also help them to remember that we truly thank them for all that they do—and have done—during all their years of dedicated service. This is just one way in which we can show our gratitude and appreciation.”

That gratitude and appreciation was also shown with the acknowledgment of milestone staff, and the presentation of the Annual FBH Awards. The *Dr. Marcena Ricker Award* (for promoting a thriving Residential community) was given to Jocelyn Fisher, Social Worker; the *Most Valuable Contributor* (for creating a positive environment for all who work around and with them) was awarded to Chloe LaPlant, HRAC; and the *President’s Award* (for the “behind the scenes” employee who forwards the mission and vision of FBH) was presented

to Molly Bolan, Payroll Coordinator; and Erin Schmidt, Assistant Director of Housing Services.

The final award, “Employee of the Year,” brought on a standing ovation for its recipient, Charlene Gullo, Nursing Scheduler, who after 20 years of service, returned to work just seven weeks after a series of life-threatening heart-attacks.

“I have a feeling it was due to a lot of medical expertise, and a lot of prayers going up from this place,” Reverend Brokaw commented to cheers from the crowd. In his closing prayer of Thanksgiving, Brokaw offered, “God is in this place, because you are all here. You have given your talents, your gifts, and we thank you for that. And we thank God that you’ve brought them here.” ~THN/KG



Above: Employment Specialist Jean Fitch (left) and Director of Resident Life Enhancement Hilda Thompson hand out leis to attendees at the 28th Annual FBH Senior Staff Luncheon.

## Shaping Up Staff at Fairport Baptist Homes

Employees are shaping up at Fairport Baptist Homes. Since April, instructors from *Jazzercise* in East Rochester, owned and operated by Andrea Newcombe, have been holding hour-long sessions on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for the staff of FBH.

It was part of the efforts of the MVP Wellness Taskforce at FBH, chaired by Staff Health Nurse Teresa Brongo to bring opportunities for FBH staff to stay in shape, or get in shape.

Jazzercise is a 60-minute group fitness class that combines cardio, strength, and stretch moves for a

total body workout. Moves from hip-hop, yoga, Pilates, jazz dance, kickboxing, and resistance training are bundled together and incorporated into a one hour routine.

Over the past couple of years, the MVP Wellness Taskforce at FBH has been implementing and offering programs to help staff maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Such programs as Eat Well, Live Well (Preferred Care) literally encouraged staff members to take steps towards a healthy lifestyle by wearing a pedometer and counting the steps they took everyday to bring awareness to how important it

is to do some type of exercise daily. The Maintain Don’t Gain program promoted the idea of being able to at least maintain your weight over a six-week period. The same premise continued with The FBH Biggest Loser Contest, which promoted a healthy weight-loss competition between staff through eating right and exercising. Every week, those individuals who gained weight contributed \$5 to “the pot.”

At the end of the six-week program, the individual who lost the most weight won all the money in the pot. Depending upon the amount of participants and their weight maintenance, winners

gained an extra \$170-230, and lost up to an average of 23.9 pounds!

To continue providing options for employees to live healthier lifestyles, and/or be successful in their weight-loss goals, the taskforce offered the Jazzercise exercise program.

“It really helps when you know you have the support of others, whether your intent is to just stay fit, lose weight, or tone up. It makes it much easier to reach that goal, and we were happy to provide staff with these opportunities,” said Brongo.

The Jazzercise class ran for six weeks. Depending upon staff interest, other sessions may be held in the near future. ~THN/KG

## FBH Calendar at a Glance

There are several activities, programs, and events going on daily at Fairport Baptist Homes: Bingo, Bowling, Card games, Exercise, Household picnics, Luncheon Outings, Rosary, and more! These are just a few of the highlights:

### June

**2nd:** Music of Paul Killian, 2 p.m., Chapel

**8th:** Birthday Dinners

**9th and 23rd:** Sing Alongs in the FBH Chapel

**26th:** Strawberry Social

### July

**4th:** Fairport July 4th Parade

**21st:** Whole house picnic on FBH grounds

**23rd:** Fingerlakes Casino Trip

### August

**11th:** August Picnic

## Help Support the Women's Service Board of Fairport Baptist Homes!

Purchase a Tops Gift Card for \$25, \$50, or \$100 and the Women's Service Board (WSB) will earn a percentage of the cash value to help offset costs of programs, services and events for the Residents of the Fairport Baptist Homes.

This Tops Gift Card has no expiration date, and may be used at any Tops Friendly Market location.

Cards can be purchased by calling  
Jan Teitge,  
(585) 388-0283

Thank you for supporting the Women's Service Board at FBH!

## Flipping Over Flapjacks

In March of this year, many FBH staff members came to work hungry. They came to work hungry so that they would be able to enjoy the pancake breakfast that would be served up to them by Fairport Baptist Homes' President/CEO Reverend Garth Brokaw.

In his traditional role as pancake prep extraordinaire, Brokaw made (from scratch) dozens of pancakes to feed the dozens of staff members who came to the feast on his flapjacks as part of the Fairport Baptist Homes' United Way Campaign kick-off.

"It's a way to get people in one place to pass out the necessary forms for donating," said Laurie Pincus, Development Associate for FBH and the chairperson for the annual event. Staff members are not obligated to donate to the United Way, nor do they have to donate in order to attend the breakfast. "It's just a nice perk whether you give to the United Way or not," said Pincus.

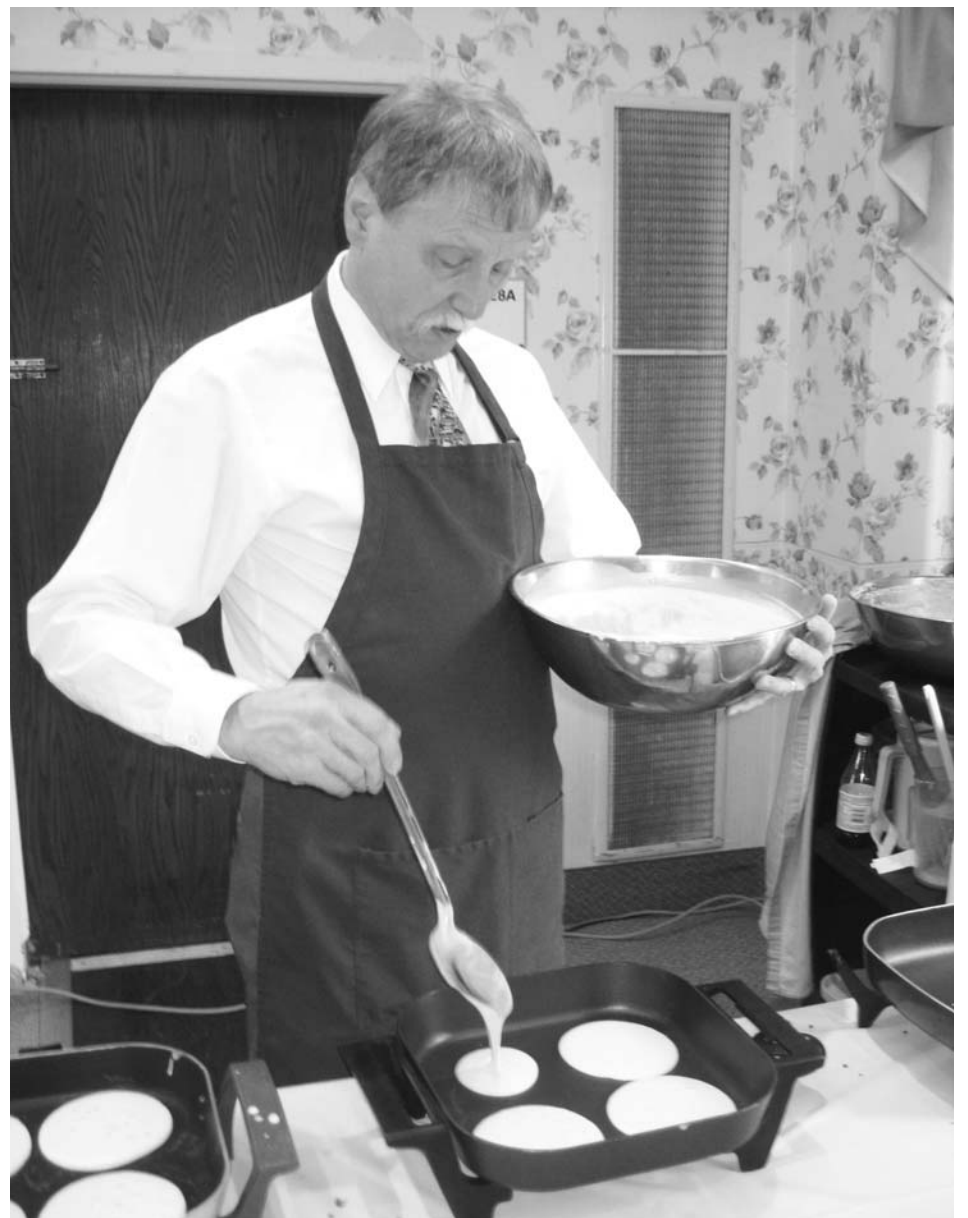
Brokaw began his pancake breakfasts in the spring of 1981 with the men's club. "That lasted about three months," laughs Brokaw, "and then the women wanted in on it." His

pancake prowess blossomed from there, and Brokaw was soon serving up his great-grandmother's recipe to both male and female Residents, tenants, and ultimately for staff and the United Way Campaign kick-off.

As Brokaw poured the batter on several heated skillets, staff lined up for the free flapjacks, juice, sausage, eggs, muffins, and fruit. Many filled out the United Way donation forms before filling their stomachs. Staff members are able to designate where they would like their monies donated.

"Most staff members who give to United Way designate the monies back to us," said Pincus. "That makes a big difference in our annual fund and what we can do for our organization. We are very appreciative for all the donations given through United Way."

Donations for FBH and other nonprofits in the Rochester community raised through the campaign this year totaled \$5,539!~THN/KG



Above: FBH President Reverend Garth Brokaw prepares pancakes for the annual United Way Kick-off Breakfast for staff.



# The Homes News

## BOCES

There are many jobs that need to be done in order to make Fairport Baptist Homes work like a fine-oiled machine. Some of these jobs are getting done by students at Monroe BOCES #1 through a partnership with FBH and BOCES' Community Based Vocational Instruction (CBVI) program.

Debbie Haefner Associate Teacher and Supervisor, says the CBVI program is just one of the many special education programs that Monroe #1 BOCES offers students in our area who may have cognitive, physical or learning disabilities, speech-language impairment, autism, emotional disabilities, attention deficit disorder, other health impairments, or a combination of these.

The CBVI program focuses on developing a student's vocational and personal management skills, while helping students with disabilities function as independently as possible to enable them to work as a volunteer or as a paid employee in the community after graduation. For the past three years, Haefner has been training approximately 15 students with disabilities to do just that. Yet there are many guidelines for the program.

In order to be part of the ten-month program, students begin in a training program at the BOCES work training center. To enter into the CBVI program, students are expected to exhibit self care, do functional reading, and have basic writing skills (write their name, numbers and the date); as well as basic math skills, such as counting to 50, recognizing numbers, calendar skills, and time concept.

From there, students go through a "hiring process" where Haefner interviews them and gives them a tour of FBH and their workplace area. Students are then placed in jobs matched to their abilities and interests. The jobs are carefully selected based on the job skills required, accessibility, social atmosphere, safety factors, and opportunities for social interaction.

Each job task is then broken up into smaller steps for training purposes.

"When a student is placed in a job, they are directly supervised by me and/or a paraprofessional to provide instruction," says Haefner. The trainer may physically guide the student through each step, model each step, or simply give verbal di-

rections until the student is able to perform the job independently. Students are also rotated to other jobs as appropriate for further experience.

"I like working on the salad bar," said one current student in the CBVI program (names and identification of students are withheld due to BOCES' policy) whose job it was to refill the salad bar and keep things like the salad dressings stocked and in order. "It's my favorite part because it's a job I can do."

For most of these students, that job is their first "real job," complete with specific job duties, a boss, and a paycheck. Students also receive an hourly wage through a New York State formula based on a time study and according to the Fair Labor Standards Act.

While Haefner claims that the paychecks the students receive are their biggest motivator, she also claims that the students acquire self-confidence, social skills, and a good work ethic.

"There's no room for excuses," says Haefner. "If a student makes a mistake, we acknowledge it right away. But what we want them to know that while it's okay to make a mistake, you have to learn how to fix it so you don't make them again." That comes in the form of round

table discussions that Haefner has with students during their ten minute breaks. "We touch base to see how their day is going, review different scenarios, and what adjustments need to be made, if any. As with anyone in a new job, it's a learning process. For the kids in this program, repetition and encouragement is how they learn. It can be a challenge, but it's one which Haefner welcomes.

"This program provides an opportunity for these kids to be involved

*"This program provides an opportunity for these kids to be involved in the community in which they live, and to be a part of it."*

in the community in which they live, and to be part of it. We are so thankful to the Fairport Baptist Homes for allowing this program to be a part of their community, and for embracing the kids in this program. It's wonderful to see the students interact with staff and get to know the Residents. It makes the students feel a part of things."

"I love to talk to the Residents," said a senior student who says his job as a "soap deliverer" keeps him motivated. "I bring the soap to the households and that's important to the Residents, so I want to do a

good job." He says that some of the Residents know him by name, and that makes him feel good; like he is "somebody." He says some people may look at him and think he can't do his work, but he can.

It's a common thread with the elderly, too. Often times we just see the outside of people, and think that if they seem old or disabled, they are not capable of being a contributing member of the community. That couldn't be further from the truth for the students of the CBVI program.

For one to two and a half hours, five days a week, the students arrive at the Fairport Baptist Homes ready and willing to go to work, doing their work with pleasure and a sense of pride for accomplishing their assigned job roles and tasks. And their contributions do not go unnoticed.

"We are thrilled to be able to provide a work setting for our BOCES members of the FBH family. This relationship has been in place for more than thirty years," said Reverend Garth E. Brokaw, President of Fairport Baptist Homes.

"Every day each of them contributes in their own way to making the Baptist Homes a living and flourishing community."~THN/KG



Above: Debbie Haefner and her students from the Monroe #1 BOCES Community Based Vocational Instruction (CBVI) program pose for a picture in the staff cafeteria at FBH where the students assist with many jobs.

## A Purposeful Plant Exchange

Something has been growing at Fairport Baptist Homes. It's the number of participants in the new FBH Garden Club sponsored by the MVP Wellness Taskforce at FBH. Since the Garden Club held its first meeting back in April of this year, more than two dozen members have attended meetings and signed up for the various gardening activities the Club has planned.

The Garden Club was formed to provide an opportunity to enhance the internal and external environment of FBH through a variety of events. During the month of May, the Garden Club held a plethora of planting programs at FBH.

On Friday, May 7, the FBH lobby "went green" during a Plant Exchange which offered individuals who brought in a plant from home to exchange it for a different one to take home. Individuals also had the option of making a small donation to the Fairport Baptist Homes Caring Connections fund on behalf of the MVP Wellness Taskforce at FBH if they did not have a plant to exchange but wished to take one home. And there were plenty of plants from which to choose!

Staff, Residents and Housing tenants walked away with Irises, Hostas, Lilacs, Lilac bushes, Bachelor Buttons, Lily of the Valley, Pansies, and more. "This is a good way to bring the people who live and work here together," said Jocelyn Fisher, Social Worker at FBH and co-chair of the event. Fisher joined forces with



Above: Marion Carpenter, left, discusses her choice of plants to take back to her apartment at the Assisted Living Community at FBH with Social Worker and Garden Club Chairperson Jocelyn Fisher.

Hilda Thompson, who has worked at FBH for 38 years. "Hilda knows the FBH grounds like the back of her hand, so we combined our efforts to make this happen," said Fisher.

"It gives people something to do outside of their normal day."

Marion Carpenter, a Resident of the Assisted Living Community at FBH interrupted her daily routine to come and survey the plants. She then went back to her apartment to gather up an African violet in ex-

change for a Hens and Chick cactus.

"I wanted something small, and something that my cat, Lady, wouldn't get into." She held up her cactus with its colorful thorns, "I don't think she'll mess with this!"

By late morning, the selection of plants was limited. Plants had been picked over with the exchanges made by staff, Residents, and FBH housing tenants, and were taken away to find new homes on window

sills and in gardens. In addition, over \$120 was raised for the Fairport Baptist Homes Caring Connections fund. Fisher was extremely satisfied with the event. "Overall, I think people were really excited about this," said Fisher. "It was fun for them to come into FBH and see the lobby full and alive with plants, and that they had the opportunity to be a part of the exchange."

FBH was definitely successful in their "going green" efforts for the day!~THN/KG

## Log On!

Fairport Baptist Homes Caring Ministries has launched its new Web site. The Web site, initiated by the FBH Foundation Marketing Committee and designed by Patty Cornelius of frugistudio.com, was unveiled at the FBHCM Corporate Meeting and Dinner held in the McKnight Room at Fairport Baptist Homes on Tuesday, May 04, 2010.

In keeping with the strategic marketing initiatives of FBHCM, the Web site will continue to keep FBH a visible commodity in the community, as well as allow those individuals who are looking for and/or are in need of the many diverse programs, services, and events that the FBHCM organization and its affiliates offers, to find

out more information about them. Along with a wealth of information, the Web site is user-friendly as well as easy to navigate.

Ellen Bevan, Director of Advancement said, "The impetus behind the creation of FBH's new web site is the Foundation's Marketing Committee, which took the initiative to research web designers and to develop a strategic plan for the new design. A year in construction, the new comprehensive Web site is expected to be an important tool in promoting FBH's visibility in the community and enhancing awareness of FBH's distinctive culture and important role as a community resource."

To view the Web site log on to [www.fairportbaptisthomes.org](http://www.fairportbaptisthomes.org).~THN/KG



Above: The Home Page of the new Fairport Baptist Homes Caring Ministries' Web site ([www.fairportbaptisthomes.org](http://www.fairportbaptisthomes.org)) boasts a rolling pictorial of the Homes and its campus.

## Warming Up in Winter: A project to warm your heart and hands

In addition to graduating from Finger Lakes Community College in December with an Associates Degree in Human Services, Melissa Enter has another goal: Warming Up School 17.

Warming Up School 17 is an internship program Enter has taken on as a student. The project is sponsored by Senior Option for Independence (SOFI) at Fairport Baptist Homes (FBH) in conjunction with the Single Adoptive Parents of Rochester to provide hats, gloves, and scarves for the students in Rochester City School 17 who do not have these items to help keep them warm during the winter season.

“The premise behind the project is to involve senior citizens in an activity or program that allows them to socialize as well as use their creative knitting and crocheting talents,” said Enter. For the project, which began in January of this year, Enter began recruiting seniors from the community, Residents in the Alvin C. Foster Residential Health Care Facility, the Assisted Living Community at FBH, and FBH hous-

ing tenants, organizing groups and gathering yarn donated by Crafts Bits and Pieces for the seniors to use. Since February, Enter has been meeting with one of three knitting circles every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to knit one, pearl two.

“At first I didn’t know what I was getting into,” admits Enter. “There was more paperwork than I thought,” she laughs. While she admits she didn’t see “the bigger picture” in the beginning, Enter can see it clearly now.

“It’s enlightening—the experience you get. It’s so interesting to hear what they (the seniors) have been through. They’re a lost generation, and they sometimes just want someone to listen to them. I enjoy being able to do that.”

As for the seniors, they seem to enjoy it too. Margaret Ruth (people call her “Peg”), a Resident in the Assisted Living Community at FBH is one of the program participants. “I feel as if I’m doing something to help others. We have a very nice group of people, and it’s nice to get together, out of the apartment and do something for someone else,” she said.



Above: Peg Ruth, a Resident at the Assisted Living Community at FBH takes time out to knit a few items for the students of Rochester City School 17.



Above: Some of the hats, gloves, and scarves that have been handmade by FBH Residents and housing tenants for the Warming Up School 17 project.

There are about five women from the Assisted Living Community who meet for about an hour every Friday, but Enter says the number of participants varies week to week as more seniors—all women—come to crochet away. Ruth, who learned how to knit 60 years ago, says, “I think it’s important for people to do something with their hands, especially if they live long.”

At 93, Ruth is still an active knitter, having just completed a crib cover for her great niece—who found out she is having twins. “Looks like I need to knit another one!” She laughed.

In addition to completing another crib cover, Ruth hopes to complete a lot more items for the project. She’s knitted four hats so far, but claims she is falling short on the scarves. Yet these seniors do anything but fall short.

“These ladies are so serious about doing a good job. Many go above and beyond to make their hat, gloves, or scarves unique. I think it truly is a creative talent that is a lost art amongst the younger generation,” Enter says. Then she adds, “They want to teach me, too, but I can be all thumbs!”

Therefore, Enter is relying on the participants of the program—which is due to end in November—to warm up the pre-K through sixth grade students in School 17 this winter. Their efforts will hopefully yield the 100 items Enter is looking for. So far, the seniors in her program have knitted and crocheted 29 hats and five scarves. Two pairs of knitted gloves have been donated by Enter’s own daughter’s bible school. Enter hopes to go to School

17 herself to bring the kids the items this coming winter.

“I hope to see the faces of the kids receiving the hats, scarves, and gloves. These kids deserve these items. They’re not able to purchase them for whatever reason, and doing something like this makes me feel good about the career I’m pursuing.”

Enter is extremely grateful to all the seniors who are participating in the project. She feels it is a win-win situation for everyone involved. The seniors have been given another opportunity to socialize and become involved in their community at large. The students at Rochester School 17 will be a little warmer this coming winter, and Enter will have completed her internship and a successful project as well. All will have made connections from which they can draw upon.

“I just really hope we reach our goal,” Enter says. She picks up a pair of knitting needles and smiles. “If I have to make one myself, I will!” ~THN/KG

**Are you a senior who can crochet or knit and would like to share those talents by participating in this project?**

**If so, please contact the Senior Options For Independence (SOFI) office at 585-377-7830**



# The Homes News

## Memorial Bench

Recently, a stone carved bench was created as a lasting memorial to honor Dorothy Lickers, who served as Director of Nursing at FBH for nineteen years.

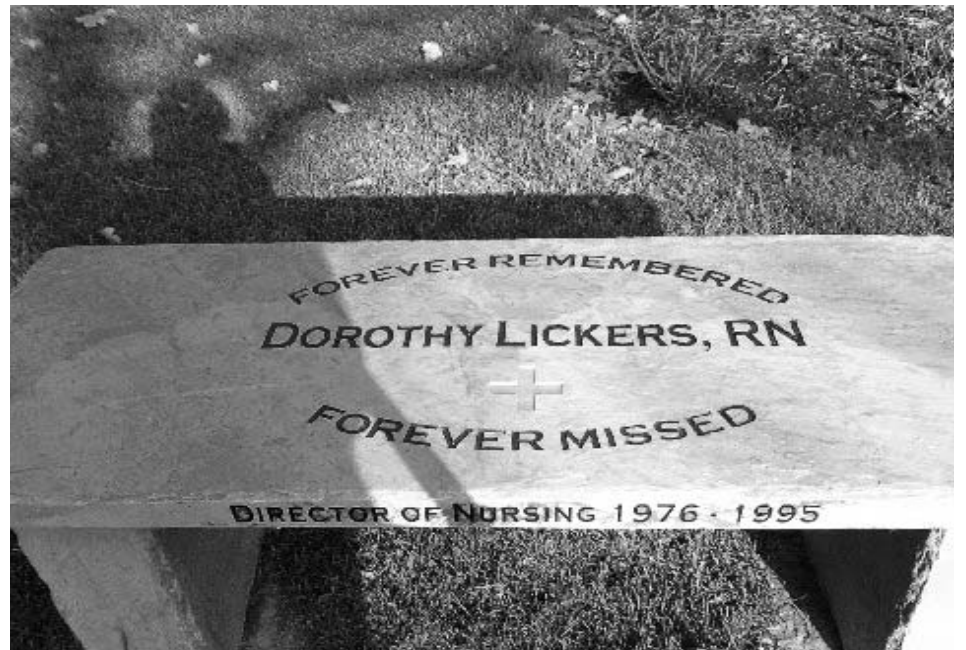
After her retirement, Lickers became a resident of Deland Acres, and became a member of the FBHCM Board of Directors in May 2003, serving for six years.

Lickers also served on the nursing home board, was instrumental in the development of a nursing scholarship program at FBH, where RN's and CNA's can complete their de-

grees, and give charitably—both in time and money—to the Fairport Baptist Homes.

In honor of her memory, donations were raised by nurses who worked with Lickers to create a lasting memorial to her in the form of a concrete bench which was added to the campus of FBH for others to enjoy.

The bench was placed near the Nurse's Garden at a dedication service and allows for those strolling the grounds to enjoy some moments of rest and tranquility. ~THN/KG



Above: The Dorothy Lickers bench, which sits on the grounds of FBH; a place where she was beloved and respected.

## Bible Study to Book Club?

Oprah Winfrey isn't the only person who can pick a good book. Jenny Castle, Pastor at Fairport Baptist Homes and facilitator of several Bible Study groups throughout the facility, has chosen a very interesting book for Residents and staff to read/discuss during the weekly sessions. The book is entitled, "Bad Girls of the Bible...And What We Can Learn from Them," by Liza Curtis Higgs. As its title suggests, this book discovers—and uncovers—the "badness" of seven women in the bible—familiar and unfamiliar—who, for some reason or another, made less than good choices.

By blending contemporary stories with Biblical commentary, the book delves into why these women made

the choices they did—good, bad, or indifferent. Discussions as to why women such as Eve, Delilah, The Woman at the Well, and Lot's Wife did what they did are at the root of the Bible Study group.

Members of the group considered the actions of these women, who are categorized as The First Bad Girl; Bad to the Bone; Bad for a Moment; and Bad for a Season, but Not Forever.

Ironically, some of the women discussed in the book—e.g. Potiphar's wife—are not named in the bible, yet their actions have landed them a place in Biblical history and subsequently this book because of their bad behavior. This, too,

has brought up poignant and interesting discussion in the group.

More than a couple dozen Residents and housing tenants are currently attending Bible study. Laurie Priest, a volunteer and member of the Woman's Service Board also attends. After helping to bring Residents down to the chapel for Bible study, Priest remained for the book discussion, too.

"I love interacting with the Residents," says Priest, "So many of them have a lot to say."

Indeed, they were speaking their minds during the Bible study book review. After reading about Lot's wife, a woman who disobeyed angels of the Lord by looking back at her opulent house as it was being destroyed and was turned to a

pillar of salt, participants in the group discussed the book's chapter, which evoked a lot of questions. Had Lot's wife been disobedient? Or was she just curious?

FBH resident Elizabeth Pennington said, "I think she was going to miss living in that big house. She hasn't gotten to the point in life where you realize that 'things' are not that important."

What is important, is that the residents (and staff) of Fairport Baptist Homes are being given the opportunity to read some contemporary literature. *The Bad Girls of the Bible* has allowed the Bible study group participants to ponder. Through an open discussion forum, they can share their thoughts and opinions. And that's not bad.~THN/KG

## Something's Fishy at FBH

In a precursor to what he hopes will be a successful business venture for Fairport Baptist Homes, Food Service Director Pete Walsh prepared and filled over 50 fish fry orders for FBH staff on Friday, May 21.

For \$5, employees could pre-order a fish fry dinner consisting of beer battered haddock, homemade tartar sauce, coleslaw and fries, and pick it up any time between 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

It was a trial run for Walsh's idea to offer a regular fish fry Friday for staff and a pick-up/delivering fish fry for housing tenants in the Fairport Apartments, Deland Acres, and the Northfield.

"The majority of feedback was

positive," said Walsh. Although he admits he received some concerns that the fish looked burned, Walsh, who holds a Bachelor's Degree in Hospitality Management from and a Masters in Service Management, said it was because of the beer he chose for the batter.

"We tested many breadings and batters," Walsh said, "and decided to go with a dark Guinness because of the flavor and because it sets us apart from all the other fish fries out there."

Walsh, who has been at FBH for five years said that if all goes well, Fish Fry Fridays should begin with the next couple of weeks. However, prices will increase to \$8.99 to be in

line with others around the area, and to make this a successful social en-

terprise for Fairport Baptist Homes Caring Ministries.~THN/KG



Above: Employee Rojeswori Shrestha (right), Food Service Aide, was the first to pick up her fish fry orders from Food Service Director Pete Walsh (left). Cook Aaron Canty is in the background.