Greetings! Here we are again in the transition time. We have moved from balmy and warm September days to the nice pleasant days of Oct., with the many colours on the trees -- red, orange, crimson, burgundy, yellow and brown. Now we will move on towards chillier nights, and some of dreary days of November and December, alleviated by clear days with blue skies.

But no matter what we face, either weather-related or anything else, we have something to look forward to: namely, progress on the new building. As you can see from the various reports in the current Newsletter, the building is foremost on people’s minds, now more than ever. It’s been a labour of love. But it has also been a labour, a struggle. So this is a good time for me to repeat the words of thanks to everyone involved. And to ask you again to pass on the word: we need donors and donations.

Have a fine Autumn and, when the time comes, an excellent holiday season.

Torsten Kehler
Editor

Groundbreaking Ceremony
On the afternoon of 4th October, 2013 at 2 pm, Provincial and local officials joined together with Dania Home’s Executive Director, Margaret Douglas-Matthews and President of Dania Home, Kjeld Christensen, and their honored guests to officially break ground on the New Dania Home.

Opening remarks by Kjeld Christensen, “I welcome everyone and thank you for taking the time to celebrate and mark this highlight in the history of Dania Home. The ground breaking we are here for today is our proudest moment so far. It is estimated that the facility comprising of 3 wings, 102 suites will open its doors in the Fall of 2014”.

From L to R
Keith McBain, Fraser Health Authority, MLA Richard Lee, MP Kennedy, Stewart, MLA Raj Chouhan, Mayor Derek Corrigan, Kjeld Christensen, President, Dania

The newsletter of Dania
4279 Norland Avenue
Burnaby BC V5G 3Z6

For enquiries, submissions or advertising, please call the Editor at 604-515-3331
A Message from your Board

Greetings! We are finally building the new home. The readers of this space know that we, the Board of Directors and management at Dania Home, like Martin Luther King, had a dream. The dream was, of course, to jump the (many) hoops, secure the funding and commence the building of a new structure to house approximately 100 elders/seniors.

We started dreaming in the early years this century -- so, over a decade ago -- and it was back then we started interviewing Architects to help us design and plan our dream building. NSDA Architects were selected. Many, many meetings, many planning sessions later, drawings were ready to be presented to the Dania Home Society members at an AGM. The original drawings had to be modified and changed many times over the years, as we were told that what we initially had in mind was too costly. We were also required to make changes based on regular changes and updates to the Building codes, and to the desires of the Health authorities. We hope you will all like what became the final drawings and is now being built.

The plans call for 102 suites in 3 different pods/buildings, 34 suites in each pod. The 3 pods will be connected.

A ground breaking Ceremony with invited politicians and other dignitaries was held on Friday the 4th. of October (pictures on Page 1). The weather cooperated as it was a beautiful day: a fitting start to a new chapter at Dania Home.

Those of you who live at or close to Dania Home or visit the site occasionally know that a few months ago a lot of heavy equipment arrived and started excavating for the new home. Lots of machinery, lots of workers and a lot of noise at the moment. The noise will abate somewhat once the heavy equipment has finished battling the many very big rocks discovered in the excavating process. We hope to incorporate some of the rocks into the landscaping. The building process will take approximately 18 months. For the residents living on site the next year and a half will be a time of changing traffic patterns and some inconvenience, but please bear with us you will like the end result.

Plans for landscaping the site after the construction phase is finished are being worked on at the moment, we hope recreate the park like setting we were so proud of.

All the best to all of you.

Kjeld Christensen, President

Board of Directors  2013-2014

PRESIDENT  Mr. Kjeld Christensen
VICE PRESIDENT  Mr. Torben Hansen
TREASURER  Mr. Kim Christensen
SECRETARY  Mrs. Margaret Chester
PAST PRESIDENT  Mr. Dan Olsen

Dania
Mission & Values
Dania’s Campus of Care provides quality services that reflect the Danish Values of Trust, Respect, Caring and Diversity.

Vision
To be leaders in providing comprehensive care through innovation and outreach ensuring we are the first choice for clients in need of service and to expand and enhance our facilities in response to the changing needs of our community.
Events

**Terry Fox Walk**
Date: Monday, 16th September, 2013

The Terry Fox Walk continues to be an annual tradition here at Dania. Every year rain or shine the residents are keen to be a part of this tribute to our own local hero Terry Fox. At Dania this year the weather cooperated and the walk was held outside in the beautiful sunshine. Residents lined up at the start line and set off to the music of “Man in Motion”. Once the walk was completed, the residents gathered to share memories of Terry Fox and watch a documentary of his life. The residents stated afterwards that although there is some sadness surrounding this event, there are even stronger feelings of hope. Perhaps when we get the Dania Bus -- and donations for this would be greatly appreciated by our Fundraising Committee, and by the residents -- we could take a trip to see the Terry Fox statue!

**Annual Dania Community Barbeque**
Date: Wednesday, 17th July, 2013

The Annual Dania Community Barbeque was held on Wednesday July 17th. The weather cooperated and we were able to hold the event outside. Due to the construction we moved the location to the backyard of Dania. It worked out very well and provided spots for shady seating. As always the Servantage Team provided a wide variety of mouth-watering barbeque fare. All managers were there to lend a helping hand. The magnificent John Parsons provided the entertainment much to the delight of all of the guests. Many of the residents and staff could be seen dancing around the lawn. It was wonderful to see the community come together and enjoy a lovely afternoon.

**Country Western Day**
Date: Friday September 13th, 2013

Yee Haw! A Country Western Day was held on Friday September 13th and all of the staff and residents got into the spirit by dressing in true cowboy style: jeans, cowboy boots and cowboy hats. A Country Western Hoe Down Pub Social was held in the afternoon and the residents and staff alike participated in a good ole line dancing challenge. The results were too close to call and a tie was declared. A fun day was had by all!
And More Events!

Cruise Ship Week
Date: July 22nd—26th, 2013

Ships Ahoy,
Residents and staff alike took part in a nautical themed Cruise Ship Week. The residents were encouraged to reminisce about past cruise ship experiences, while the staff was motivated to recreate a cruise ship atmosphere. Some highlights of the week included a wonderful worldwide port to port musical extravaganza by Carmen Miranda aka Colleen Durdon. A Captain’s dinner was designed to mirror the cruise ship style buffet meals. Residents were thrilled to experience this unique meal style. Residents also enjoyed the lido deck activities that included shuffleboard, darts and billiards. Everyone enjoyed themselves!

Picnic at Dan Olsen’s Farm
Date: Thursday, 22nd August, 2013

The residents and tenants of Dania and Dania Manor were so excited to once again go out for a picnic lunch to Dan Olsen’s spectacular farm. Over 25 residents and tenants boarded the bus, along with the Ladies’ Auxiliary and staff, on the sunny morning of Thursday August 22nd. The bus provided by the Ladies’ Auxiliary was very luxurious and extremely comfortable. When we arrived, everyone gathered on the back porch and enjoyed the bagged lunches. Once lunch was over tenants and residents alike took a tour of the farm. All were in awe of the beauty of the scenery and the farm itself. After the tour, people gathered in the orchard and sampled the different fruits growing in the garden and had a nice visit with Dan and his wife. Time passed all too quickly and before we knew it, it was time to go home. Dan and his wife were such generous and gracious hosts they made the day that much more special! The dedicated and hard working Ladies’ Auxiliary once again planned a magical and memorable day for the tenants and residents of Dania and Dania Manor. Thank you to the Olsens!
As I sit in my office and look out my window, I am once again awed by the beauty and significance of the Fall (or Autumn) Season. The changing of the leaves from green to spectacular colors of yellow, vibrant orange and fluorescent red should make us stop and take in the brilliance of Mother Nature. It is also a time where families gather for the traditional Thanksgiving Dinner, and there is a true comfort to know that our staff at Dania continues to embrace these traditions and incorporate them into the daily "routines" of our residents.

This Fall also holds a very special meaning as it will be forever remembered as the highly anticipated, long realized dream of so many dedicated and determined Politicians, Board Members, Health Sector Officials, and last but not least, our loyal Dania Home Society members: namely, the Ground Breaking Ceremony held on October 4th, 2013 on the lawn of Dania property. The actual physical evidence of construction around us has helped to create a feeling of excitement and anticipation which is now moving full steam ahead, and we are all filled with the hope of opening its doors in December 2014 just in time for next Christmas.

The New Dania Home will be built up to “state of the art” health care standards. This has been a long time coming for our beloved residents to have the opportunity to move into a brand new home: what a thrill. And one much deserved!

ScandiaCare is also moving forward This Fall. An exciting component is the implementation of inter facility (Dania/Normanna/Swedish) activities which will consist of monthly bingo tournaments, crib and/or bridge tournaments, possibly even a singles dance. Each site will take turns to host this event, and will allow for opportunities to pursue past leisure interests, instill feelings of anticipation and excitement for an upcoming event, meet new friends and possibly reconnect with old ones, promote feelings of independence and provide opportunities for our seniors to maintain their connection with the community. This goal would be much easier to achieve if we had our own bus -- a central fundraising goal -- but in the mean time we will work with Handi-dart. I would like to thank our members for their donations towards the Bus Campaign. Slowly but surely, we feel confident that with your support, the purchase of the ScandiaCare Bus looks positive.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

Respectfully submitted.

Margaret Douglas-Matthews
Executive Director
REPORT FROM LADIES AUXILIARY

It is definitely fall weather. We (Stan and I) have just returned from a trip to Italy and Denmark with lots of rain to learn that we had missed a month of beautiful weather here. The dry weather has been a plus for the builders of the new Care Home at Dania. They seem to be making great headway and we will soon see the building appearing above ground. This is indeed an exciting time for Dania to finally be getting a new Home. We all look forward to the day of completion.

We had a great Bazaar on September 28th and we want to thank all of you who came and enjoyed our open faced sandwiches and layer cake and who generously purchased our raffle tickets, baking, flowers, old and new trinkets, etc. We had a good day. We also want to thank our donors, SerVantage Services Group who donated the $1,000.00 for the first prize of our lottery and won by Holger Petersen; Scan Design for their $500.00 gift certificate won by Rita Sigvardsen; Hart House for their $150.00 gift certificate won by Shirley Kristensen; Jolly Foods for their wonderful food basket won by Vibeke Lenarducci; and the bracelet I donated also won by Holger Petersen. We also received donations for our raffle and door prizes from BC Dairy Foundation, Vera Iversen, Solvejg Sondergaard, and Bente Gronnemose.

This month we should be planning for Julestue, however, the Committee has had to cancel the event due to poor ticket sales. This has always been such a wonderful evening, especially with all the children attending. As attendance has been down the past few years, the Committee had asked that the event go ahead only if we had sold 70 or more tickets. On November 20th, only 4 tickets had been sold. It is most unfortunate that the distribution of the Dania Newsletter was delayed as I am sure many of you were relying on the Newsletter for date and prices.

We will have our annual Christmas Party for the residents on December 14th in the Dania Home Dining Room. We serve Danish Christmas Cake and other foods and we are honored to have the Lucia girls put on their ceremony for the residents. We appreciate all the work Ebba Siple and her daughters do to put on this wonderful event.

We have twenty-two members in our Ladies Auxiliary and have excellent attendance at our meetings. We have a good time together and of course work well together. We are always looking for new members so if you have some time to spare, give us call (604-921-9880). You will be welcome! We are looking forward to possibly having a bus to be shared by the Norwegian Home, the Swedish Home and Dania Home this next year. We were able to take some of the residents on an outing to Dan Olsen’s Farm in August. The residents really enjoy such an outing.

Have a wonderful fall and Christmas Season. Thank you to all who have supported us so generously this past year. Do try to attend the Julestue on November 30th with your children and grandchildren so this event can go ahead. Many thanks.

Margaret Chester, President

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Italy Week

Date: September 16th—20th, 2013

Viva Italia!! The third week of September was the week to celebrate the wonderful country of Italy. The residents of Dania of Italian heritage were extremely proud!! Events during the week included the wonderful Italian Choir the “Veneto Folkloristic Group”, and a fabulous authentic Italian meal of cannelloni, Caesar salad, garlic bread and tiramisu for desert, all of which the residents enjoyed enormously! The residents watched an Armchair Travel video of Italy and a documentary on Pavarotti, and they took part in making a special dessert cannelloni. The grand finale of the Italian Week was a spectacular showcase of Italian music performed by the brilliant Patrizia. A Bella time was had by all!
Meet the Staff  EDI SUSAK

I was born and raised in a small country of Croatia, former Yugoslavia. Leaving Croatia, I moved to Germany where I spent 8 years, and finally made my way to Canada in 1999. For the first 8 years, I lived in Niagara Falls, Ontario where I met and married my lovely wife. In 2007, we moved to the West Coast and since, are fully enjoying the life in our beautiful province. For past 5 ½ years I am working for Black and McDonald, I joined Dania/Swedish team in 2010. When not working, I spend most of my time enjoying life in the outdoors, skiing in the winter and mountaineering in summer.

Special Events

Ladies Auxiliary Annual Bazaar
Date: Saturday, 28th September, 2013

The Ladies’ Auxiliary Bazaar was once again a huge success. The decision to hold it inside was made as the weather looked a little menacing. As it turned out, neither weather nor the outside construction deterred people from coming to the Bazaar, much to the relief of the Ladies’ Auxiliary, who put so much hard work into preparing for the event. A steady flow of people came into the Carl Mortensen Auditorium to enjoy the complimentary coffee and to purchase the wonderful open-faced sandwiches prepared by the Ladies’ Auxiliary. There were a number of booths set up, including raffle tickets, books for sale, a vegetable stand, baked goods, jewelry and household odds and ends, just to name a few. We thank the Ladies’ Auxiliary for all of their hard work, dedication and commitment to our residents!

Scenic Drives
Date: Monthly

Scenic drives continue to be a popular program. The residents love to get out and to feel a part of the community again. Destinations for these drives vary and can sometimes depend on the driver. Sometimes we get lucky and get to go out of Burnaby down to Stanley Park or White Rock. It will be wonderful when we get our own bus and have the freedom to come and go as we like! Donations for this would be very welcome!
Coming Events: November—May 2014

Dania Christmas Open House
Wednesday, December 11th, 2013
6 p.m.
Carl Mortensen Manor, 4035 Norland Ave,
Burnaby—Entrance on Kincaid Street

More Pictures on Ground Breaking Ceremony

Wishing you all a very happy Holiday Season!

PBC Committee