



Mount St. Mary
FOUNDATION

MEDIA ADVISORY

Medics Bring Christmas Cheer to Seniors

When: Wednesday, December 13
Time: 1400 (2:00 pm)
Where: Mount St. Mary Hospital, 861 Fairfield Road

(December 11, 2006 – Victoria, BC) The Canadian Forces Health Services Centre (Pacific) (CF H Svcs C (P)) from Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt will bring the spirit of Christmas to the 198 residents of Mount St. Mary Hospital a bit early this year.

Led by the Commanding Officer, Commander Heather Karpetz, they will deliver personally chosen gifts to each and every one of the residents, many of whom do not have family or friends nearby.

“The gifts are beautifully wrapped with stockings and gift boxes and delicious Christmas treats,” says Judi Kellow, Coordinator Volunteer Services for Mount St. Mary. And the gifts are most welcome: “A lot of people don’t realize that for many of our residents Christmas isn’t a happy time of year,” says Kellow. “If it wasn’t for CFB Esquimalt, many of these people wouldn’t even get a gift. For some, there can be no lonelier time of year than Christmas.”

The CF H Svcs C (P) has sponsored Christmas gifts for Mount St. Mary Hospital for the past seven years. They have been great supporters of the facility and, when the new hospital opened on Fairfield Road on March 26, 2003 volunteered to wheel over 119 residents five blocks from the old property.

Interview Opportunities

Mount St. Mary residents
Cdr Heather Karpetz, Commanding Officer CF H Svcs C (P)
Judi Kellow, Coordinator Volunteer Services, Mount St. Mary Hospital

Sidebar Opportunity

Christmas Gift Ideas for Seniors. Purchasing a gift for a senior or others confined to hospital can be a challenge. Judi Kellow suggests that small personal items are most appreciated. These include: socks, magazines, lipsticks, hair combs, books, t-shirts, slippers and CD’s. For more gift ideas visit: <http://www.eldercareteam.com/resources/articles/gifts.htm>

About the Mount St. Mary Foundation

The Mount St. Mary Foundation is a not-for profit organization, created to support the many valuable programs of Mount St. Mary Hospital and to enhance the quality of life of our residents. In 2006, the Foundation’s goal is to raise \$265,000 to support Pastoral Care, Music Therapy, the Art Club, Pets, Leisure Activities, Bus Outings, staff education and capital equipment including: special skin care mattresses, musical instruments, hearing-assist devices and oxygen concentrators.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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