

Winter 2002

*Rebuilding the lives of women
and families*



Holiday Events

- Phon-A-Thon** December 6
Annual appeal to donors.
- Emma's Place Open House** December 8
A get-acquainted opportunity for neighbors.
- ENS Staff Luncheon** December 11
Annual staff appreciation luncheon served by ENS Board of Directors.
- Emma's Place Christmas Party** December 14
A young man working on his Eagle Scout badge will sponsor a party for residents. Santa will be there and a Spaghetti Dinner will be served by the VFW.
- Holiday Dinner** December 19
Annual holiday dinner prepared by Chef Dan for Emma Norton Residence residents and served by the Board. Entertainment by Emma's Singers and Blue Moon Singers from St. Nicholas Episcopal Church.

Emma's Place Christmas Party December 22
A party for Emma's Place residents at Arlington Hills UMC from 2-4 PM. Santa will distribute gifts and stocking stuffers provided by St. Croix Valley UMC and others. Emma's Place children will perform a pageant. Refreshments will be served.

Christmas Eve at Emma Norton Residence
A shopping bag of Christmas gifts will be given to each resident. Donors include volunteer groups from United Methodist Churches and other denominations, corporations, small businesses, families, and individuals.

Christmas at Emma's Place
Church sponsors for each family will provide gifts and Christmas dinner.

We desperately need help decorating Emma Norton Residence and Emma's Place, and wrapping Christmas gifts. Please call Judy Conn at 651/251-2629 if you can help!

Coming in January and February

Saturday Before Super Bowl Paint & Clean
Terry Sayles will lead a group from White Bear Lake United Methodist Church in repair, cleanup, and painting at Emma Norton Residence.

Valentine's Day Party at Emma's Place
A chance to say "I love you" for both children and moms.

The mission of Emma Norton Services is to foster stability and personal growth for women and families who are homeless—or at risk of becoming homeless—by providing affordable, secure housing and supportive services in a Christian environment.

Dear Friends,

Reading the interview with Roy Buchanan (page 3) we were struck by his comment, "...with ability comes requirement." How true for all of us. Those of us who have the ability must give of ourselves to those who are most in need.

Remembering so many special moments in this past year, we know we have witnessed that "requirement" in action hundreds of times. Staff and volunteers have truly gone the extra mile, making a difference for families at Emma's Place and women at Emma Norton Residence.

We were also gratified by the comments made by Lolly Downey (page 4), one of our residents. Her hopefulness and determination — "I'm going to have a new life..." — is a lesson to us all when confronted with adversity.


Finding that hopefulness is a struggle for many of those we serve. It may also be a struggle for many of us. As we face the challenges of a new year — of so many unknowns for our country, our families, and our future — we must remember to have hope. And, we must remember that in giving what we can of ourselves, we bring hope.

Somehow "thank you" doesn't seem quite enough. We are so grateful to so many people and so many organizations for their gifts of time and their donations of goods and money. We hope that you are getting your needs met, too, as you witness and experience the thankfulness of those you have helped.

We know we speak for all of the Board when we say thank you for all you do.

Best wishes for the holidays,


Sandra Craighead
Board President


Nelda Rhoades Clarke
Executive Director

Emma Norton Services

Emma Norton Residence

42-bed residence, offering support and services for homeless women in transition

Jane Addams Transitional Housing Program

A long-term, structured support program for women whose goals are to become independent and self-sufficient

Dual Disorder Program

Support and services for homeless women with chemical dependency and mental health issues

Scattered Site Family Reunification Program

Resources and support to help homeless mothers find permanent housing and reunite with their children

Emma's Place

Permanent, affordable housing for homeless single parents with four or more children

Wesley Family Program

Rooms for family members who have relatives in Twin Cities hospitals

Board of Directors 2002

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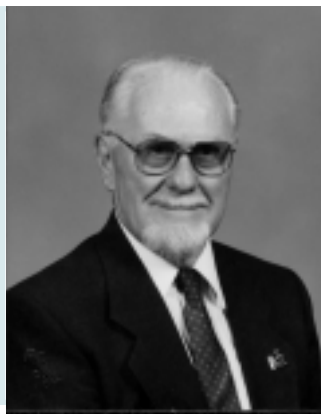
Roy Buchanan, Volunteer

November 18, 2002 "Two years ago, on my 85th birthday, the day was 35 1/2 hours long and I stood on three continents—Asia, Europe, and North America!" This statement epitomizes much about Chester (Roy) Buchanan—his energy, his ability, and his curiosity. When he left Bombay, India, 11 1/2 hours ahead of our time, he had just finished volunteering on a Methodist mission. He has also volunteered on short-term missions to St. Lucia, Mexico, and Louisiana.

Today, at 87, Roy is sharing some of his incredible energy and talent with Emma Norton Services. After his wife's death almost two years ago, Roy was able to become more involved with ENS. A Board member and Chairman of the Property Committee, he is also computer savvy. He has set up two resident computer labs, taught staff the finer points of Access, and is currently teaching a beginning computer class for residents. When he joined the Board, he took on the monumental project of scanning all 37 years of Board minutes into computer text files!

"At my age, I am very blessed with my good health and abilities that allow me to help others. You know, with ability comes requirement."

It is we who are blessed. Thank you, Roy, for all that you do.



Roy graduated from Purdue University in 1939 as an engineer and joined the Navy. After retiring as a Commander, he worked as a civilian at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington D.C. for 30 years. Recently, he was cited as one of 75 innovators for developing underwater search equipment to locate lost submarines and other sunken objects.

Do you know what a Theremin is? Well, Roy's building one. This unique musical instrument is played without being touched and requires precise skill and perfect pitch. To play it, the musician moves his hand toward one of two antennas protruding from the Theremin—one controlling pitch, and the other controlling volume.

Emma Norton Services Financial Campaign Phase II: Emma's Legacy Fund

In 2002, Emma Norton Services entered the second phase of our Financial Campaign, and began raising pledges to Emma's Legacy Fund. This fund is an endowment from which the annual earnings will be used to support the programs of Emma Norton Services. Our goal is to raise \$1.5 million principle over three years.

This first year marked great excitement as we conducted an internal campaign among current and past Board members, staff of Emma Norton Services, and friends of Board members. As we move into 2003, Emma Norton Services will be expanding the campaign to include more of our close friends, congregations, families, and our long time supporters. We look forward to working with you to sustain quality housing, services and opportunities for homeless women and families into the future. Please consider making a pledge to Emma's Legacy Fund. Call Ellen Cleary at 651/251-2632 for information.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF GIFT

A common refrain at the holidays is that the true meaning of the gifts we purchase is lost in commercialism and the rush to buy the "perfect" gift. For some of us, that is also true for birthdays, weddings and other occasions throughout the year.

The perfect gift is often the one that comes from the heart and cannot be purchased. That is why honorariums and memorials are becoming more and more the gift of choice when we want to say "thank you", "I love you", or "you are remembered".

Consider a special gift to Emma Norton Services in honor of a wedding or a birthday, a retirement or years of service, an anniversary or a birth. Remember those who are no longer with us with a gift in their memory. For more information about honorariums or memorials, call Ellen Cleary at 651/251-2632.



Lolly Downey — Holidays at Emma Norton Residence



“I was totally surprised last year,” said Lolly. “I didn’t think there would be any holiday celebration. But on December 19th, there was a special holiday dinner for us — steak! The Board of Directors actually served us and then sat with us to talk. A choir group, led by Judy Conn, sang holiday songs. It was like having carolers inside—I got chills all over listening to them! They gave us gifts, too. Everyone got a blanket and new sheets for their bed. We got pen sets and bath or shower soaps and creams. Everyone got a stuffed animal and candy, too. We all agreed that it made us feel very special and cared for.” Lolly says she’s looking forward to this year’s dinner because Chef Dan is an awesome cook.

Lolly Downey has been living at Emma Norton Residence for just over a year. Talking about what the holidays mean to her as an ENS resident, she tied in all the reasons she loves living here. “Everyone is always happy and smiling—and they greet you by your name. All the staff are very supportive and kind, and they treat you with respect. They encourage me and are always saying how well I’m doing which makes me feel more confident and hopeful.”

What were some of the other things she remembered about the holidays last year? “The contest between second and third floors for the best decorated room doors, organized by Judy [Conn], was lots of fun. We won hands down and the prize—a big platter of Christmas cookies and candy—didn’t last more than a few minutes! This year, everyone’s pitching in to decorate the whole second floor. We also made our own stockings, decorating them with bells, glitter and ribbons. They came back to us filled with goodies at the Holiday Dinner.”

Lolly credits Emma Norton Services with helping her stay healthy and on task. “My case manager, Kristen, is very resourceful and very supportive.” Lolly is in her second year of the Transitional Housing Program and is on a waiting list for housing. “I’m going to have a new life, but I’m sure going to miss living here! We’re all family here, looking out for and respecting one another. I’m going to miss that.”

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