

# Highbanks

Where hope lives

## Volunteer Profile

A smile - a wink - an upbeat comment - you can count on all three from Highbanks volunteer, Patti Edwards. A recently retired high school math teacher, Patti sits on our Board of Directors as the Treasurer, keeps track of volunteer hours, and adds warmth and wisdom to the discussions and planning at our Tuesday volunteer meetings. A mother of three and grandmother of two, Patti creates an easy rapport with the residents and their children. We are happy to have such a pleasant member of the "Ladies in the Back".



## Gallery Calorie 2008 - a huge success!

**Highbanks Society** was the grateful recipient of the proceeds of the **Artemis Society's** annual *Gallery Calorie Tour* (no total available yet) Guests spent a sunny Saturday afternoon wandering through art galleries, bars and restaurants around 17th Avenue and sampling food and drinks. The day ended with a party in Tomkins Park, featuring live entertainment, a silent auction and a live dance band.

All in all it was a FABULOUS event and everyone who attended from Highbanks was proud to be involved with such a well run, and FUN event. We are very grateful to the Artemis Foundation for choosing Highbanks this year. We are hooked on the Gallery Calorie and will continue to support it in years to come. Great work Artemis!!

## Congratulations to our Graduates!

We are very proud of Kim and Michelle!!

At an inspiring ceremony organized by the staff of Louise Dean School and Catholic Family Services, Kim received her high school diploma. Each graduate was highlighted in a presentation during the celebration. Congratulations, Kim, and good luck in your future endeavours.

Michelle graduated from Discovery Choices High School this spring. We are grateful for the special attention showered on Michelle by Vanity Salon and Lava Hair - both in Marda Loop - to make her graduation day one she will remember! Well done, Michelle!



## Welcome to two new residents

We are delighted to welcome Kylie and her three-month old son, Caden, and Kayla and her three year old son, Loewen to Highbanks. Kylie will be studying Biological Sciences this fall at the University of Calgary. Kayla is attending Bow Valley College in the LPN program. Welcome to our community!

**CHATT Night:** Our most recent CHATT night was a great success! Six volunteers and seven residents and former residents were inspired by Aly Pain of Inner Piece Life and Relationship Coaching Services, and Angelique McPherson, Executive Co-Active Coach. Participants were surprised to discover a deeper understanding of their similarities and challenges, and were encouraged to look for answers within themselves,

## Great Leadership gets even better!

Executive Director, Bette Mitchell, attended a weekend long Rapport Leadership Training course in May. The focus of the weekend was to drive participants to be *enthused, engaged and empowered*. She came away from the meeting with renewed vigour and has inspired the volunteer group at Highbanks to rise to new challenges with enthusiasm.

Bette attended the weekend workshop in order to make this exciting training available to Highbanks Residents.

Highbanks resident Sam attended the program in June with a group of High School students. Sam really appreciated the experience and would definitely recommend it to ALL young people! More of our residents will be attending in the future thanks to the financial support and encouragement of Deanna Werklund at The Werklund Foundation.

The Werklund Foundation was founded by David Werklund in 2006 to fulfill Mr. Werklund's lifelong commitment to support our communities. "*What is our purpose, if not to make the world a better place*" ...we will do this through our youth; supporting them with world class training that will assist them in achieving their highest potential as they grow to become self-sufficient, successful, productive members of our communities.

### Val's next goal: Home Ownership

Highbanks supporters have followed Val's progress with interest - her educational goals and accomplishments, her move towards independent living and, of course, her blossoming as the mother of Shanee.

Val has been accepted into the Owen Hart Home Ownership Program. This program offers people living in low income situations the opportunity to save towards the down payment on a home, and to increase money management skills. Participants may deposit up to \$50 a month in the first year, and \$100 month the second year into the bank. After two years, savings are matched at a 4:1 ratio, for a potential down payment of \$8,400.

Good luck to Val as she works towards her next goal.



### Welcome!

We've had 2 new volunteers join us recently: Cecilia de la Rocha (left) will be helping the residents with budgeting, and Elaine Frame, who is putting together the residents' recipe and resources binder. Margi Woodman (right) has joined our family as a consultant in the areas of parenting and counseling.



Congratulations ... to Bubbles Car Wash and owners Andrew and Tracey Bitcon, long time supporter of Highbanks and frequent employer of our residents. Bubbles received the 2008 Employer of Youth Award of Distinction, sponsored by Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry for their focus on hiring and mentoring young people.

**Thanks! to Jesse, a former waiter at Dairy Lane, who donated his last day's tips to Highbanks**

**If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been in bed with a mosquito.**

~Betty Reese



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