Disruptions
By Marlene Poland and staff

Every day of the Nightwatch building project, there is some new disruption for our senior tenants. There is extra dust and grit when their old windows are taken out, and the new windows are getting framed. Soon the carpenters will have to build the new wood trim inside the rooms.

We were really worried that the senior tenants would be up in arms about the disruptions. Surprisingly, that’s not the case.

They’re excited.

Already, the advantages of the new windows are evident. They open more fully, allowing cool fresh air to circulate, even with the construction debris. The rooms are brighter, somehow. And the rooms will be cooler in the summer, warmer in the winter, especially after the new heaters are installed. There’s a sense of pride about all this work getting done, despite the disruptions.

After surviving homelessness, this is nothing!

Thank you for your support this month as the project moves along. It’s important that we pay these guys!

Rebuilding
By Rev. Rick Reynolds

Thousands of people have come through our doors over the past 51 years. Every single person coming into Nightwatch received some sort of help – food, shelter, safety, socks, blankets, friendship. Many have used these gifts to rebuild their lives.

One night, about 1995, I was alone at Nightwatch, wondering why there were no volunteers. A single homeless guy “Marcus” stepped up. He served soup and mopped the floors. And he stayed with me until 2:00 a.m. — our closing time back then. Marcus continued to volunteer, long after he got into housing.

All this good rebuilding is a direct result of your support. We don’t get help from the City or County, but rely on private donations.

Here’s a follow up note about Marcus. We had lunch today after 20 years of not seeing each other. He’s doing well. He wanted me to thank you all.

Lord, thank you for your care for the impoverished and broken among us. Grant us the joy of partnering with you in the work of rebuilding.

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Confession
By Ann Sakaguchi

Have you ever disagreed with your boss?

I have a confession to make.
For the past 15 years, Pastor Rick and I have had a fundamental difference of opinion. I’ve changed my mind and my confession is this: I was wrong.

The building that houses our 24 apartments for seniors as well as our shelter Dispatch Center is having some work done. It’s an old, old building with many physical challenges. As long as I’ve been at Nightwatch, my humble opinion has been that we should tear it down and build a new one. Rick has always believed we should preserve and maintain it. I now realize he is right and I was wrong.

I had to think about buildings as being like people. If we begin to look shabby, we might just clean up or put on a fresh set of clothes. If our bodies start to fall apart, we find the cause and correct the problem. If our bones break, we set them and allow them to heal. We do all this to keep going.

Why shouldn’t we treat our building like we do people?

We’re replacing leaking windows, fixing the roof and painting the building. Inside, we’re replacing heaters and carpet. Nightwatch is 51 years old. With this investment of resources, perhaps the building will serve our homeless friends and senior residents for another 50 years.

The project budget is over $200,000. Many generous friends and supporters have already contributed, as an investment in the future of Nightwatch.

Won’t you join them? 

Memorials & Tributes

Memorials
Kay Abe
Ron & Sharon Hirata
Hiro & Irene Matsuda
& family
Andrea Sames
Sue Arbary
Ann & Jon Palmason
Sue Peringer
Bill Branom
Mary Branom
Charley Bush
Ginny Larkins
Chris
Norma Jean Hanson
Robert Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Tony Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Pat Domzalski
Bud & Trudy Forbes
Jim & Jan Sullivan
Dorothy Foreman
Janet Buck
Ozie & Ora Gibson
Hal Gibson
Leong & Syen Hom
Doug Hom
Mary Ellen Ingersoll
Jim & Jan Sullivan
Brian Keating
Pam & Clay Herbst
Hattie Kimble
Alan & Judy Hodson
Dick Lamb
Karen Johnson
Art Liddle
Sheila Liddle
Al & Maxine Lobb
John & Jody Felanson
Norm & Bonnie Riggins
Maureen Wells-Henderson
Edith Root
Leonard Root
Kelly Forbes Senecal
George & Carolyn Rippee
Dick Shipe
Gary & Theresa Shipe
Stephen Shipe
& Marta Pasztor
Paul Snyp
John & Dian Snyp
Mary Speltz
Speltz
Zollie & Sylvia Volchok
Tony Volchok
&Cindy Monsen
Doris Ehnat Walters
Debby Walters
& Dan Patterson
Glenn & Shirley Weed
Andy & Ramona McBeth
Jim & Cynthia Weaver
Gilbert Weiss
John Weiss
& Corry Venema-Weiss
John Wejak
Donna & David Goodlett
Mary Wooldridge
Holly Boone

Tributes
All veterans
Art & Ruby Meyer
Verna Honda
Sharon Burks
Paul Kuo
Alice Lawyer
Jim & Frances Reynolds
Mike Potter
Catharine Fletcher
Judy Sellers
John Byk
Sheltering seniors
Linda Julien
Greg Speltz
Mary Evans
John & Silvana Hale
Nancy Miller
Muru Staple’s 90th birthday
Robert & Dixie Doyle
Tricia Wmittmann-Todd
Kathleen Todd

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