

**Athabasca Area Seniors' Memory Project**  
**Transcription of Rosemary Neaves-001.mp3**

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Narrator: Rosemary Neaves

Interviewer: Thelma Flemmer

September 11, 2018

[Start of Interview]

**Thelma** I'm Thelma Flemmer and I am interviewing Rosemary Neaves in her home in Athabasca, Alberta and the date is September 11, 2018.

**Rosemary** My name is Rosemary Neaves. My maiden name was Rosemary Enid Howe. My father's name was Edward Theodore Howe and my mother's name was Helen Margaret Jones. My birthday is July 6, 1939. My spouse's name was James Ernest Neaves.

I was born in Selkirk, Manitoba, which is probably about forty miles from Winnipeg, and I was born into a family of three girls. I have two younger sisters, Marjorie and Dorothy. My father was the district agriculturist in Selkirk in the early days and that would be going back to the early '40s. My mother was a teacher, although she never taught outside of the home. She taught for five years outside of Lloydminster and that's where she and dad met, in Lloydminster.

Her family had come over from England when her parents were in their 50s and the whole family came and they took over a homestead about five miles out of Lloydminster. My father had left India when he was about 17 and took agriculture in England, a diploma course, and he had come as an immigrant as well in the '20s and was working as a farmhand. Later on, he went to the University of Saskatchewan and got his degree in agriculture. Meantime, he met mother at a school dance and that was the beginning of the story, at least my story.

In 1950, dad was transferred down to Altona, Manitoba, which is a little village, a Mennonite village, about six miles from the American border. That was a big change for us because we'd been used to Selkirk and they had been there for quite a few years, probably more than ten. There had never been a district agriculturist in the Mennonite area, so it was like trailblazing for my father. I was 11 when we moved to Altona and finished up my high school there.

One of the things that I remember, well, I remember quite a few things about Altona, but one of the things that I got sent to from high school was the UN seminar for students about the United Nations. It made such an impact on me. I just thought the United Nations sounded like such a wonderful organization. I thought, wouldn't it be great if you could get involved with the UN and actually work for them? One of the things that I thought would be a good ticket to doing that kind of UN work was nursing, although the whole idea of walking into a hospital just terrified me.

After grade 12, I did go to St. Boniface School of Nursing and it was run by the nuns. It was a three-year diploma course, quite tight on rules and regulations in those days. We had to be in by 10:00 in the evening. We would get, maybe if we were lucky, a pass to go home on weekends. The odd weekend, I think it was once a month. You were not allowed to get married and it was pretty, fairly rigid. We lined up in the morning and the nuns looked us over and told us whether we were dressed adequately. There were four floors in the residence. The first two floors were Roman Catholic students. The last two floors were the Protestants. We were on the fourth floor.

**Thelma** You were segregated, in other words.

**Rosemary** Yes. I mean, I did feel the Protestants got away with a bit. We didn't have to go to mass and things like that. But it was ruled quite strictly.

I remember one of my associates made the mistake of getting married in the last year and she ended up being turfed out. Years later, she came back, but that was tough. And some of the people that were into the second year and were suddenly gone, it was almost a shock to us, because for some of them we couldn't figure out why.

**Thelma** What year was that?

**Rosemary** Well, that would have been '58, '59 when I started that. Anyway, from going through the whole business, just the smell of the hospital kind of terrorized me in the first while. I got used to dealing with it.

**Thelma** They used to have a lot of ether didn't they?

**Rosemary** Just the smell of the antiseptics and stuff like that was quite foreign to me. But you sort of get over it. And I made some good friends, people from the country. I still have friends to this day. When we moved out, there were actually three or four of us that rented a house and we all lived together. So once I got through the nursing, I opted for public health and worked in public health in Winnipeg and the Kildonans, which was sort of the suburbs of Winnipeg in those days and thoroughly enjoyed it. Public health was wonderful.

In the meantime, I had met Jim. He was at a radio station in Altona and I met him actually after I was in training. We ended up getting married in '62 and he took on a new job at the point we got married with Canadian Press, which was a news agency. We moved into Winnipeg and a year later Mitch showed up.

**Thelma** He just showed up.

**Rosemary** Yes. Then we got transferred down to Regina and Mark was born in Regina. Then CP, as we used to call the news agency, transferred us to Edmonton and that's where Valerie was born. Jim said, I don't think we need any more transfers. Every time we transferred, we seem to have a new baby.

In Winnipeg, when I first was married, I did a little bit of casual at the hospital just when they needed somebody. But when we moved to Regina, I did get involved part time with the Victorian Order of Nurses and I quite enjoyed that too. When we got transferred back to Winnipeg (we went to Winnipeg, Regina, back to Winnipeg) I did do some VON work there as well. But it was part time, and in 1969, we were transferred to Edmonton and again, he was with the news agency and he was having a wonderful time. He was traveling. He was a reporter, writer, editor. He just thoroughly enjoyed it. He'd actually been offered the job because out of the radio station in Altona, he had cracked a couple of national stories. So the Canadian Press had noticed this and they were happy to hire him.

In Edmonton, we were there for quite a few years. After Valerie was born, I didn't work for about five years. In the early '70s, I went back and took a refresher course at the university in Edmonton, the University of Alberta. Then I did some work for AADAC. The alcohol, I can't even think of the term right now, but anyway, normally known as AADAC working with addictions, and in Edmonton they had a methadone clinic.

I worked with people who were trying to get off opiates and they would go on methadone on a regular schedule. They would come in and they would drink it with orange juice, and they could often get their lives back together, go back to work and just keep that addiction looked after.

**Thelma** Was there counseling involved?

**Rosemary** Oh, yes, absolutely.

**Thelma** Was that part of your job?

**Rosemary** Yes. And we also worked with alcoholics as well. That was right in Edmonton. Now, around then in the '70s, let me see now, we had been going out and doing a fair bit of camping, and we really wanted to try and find a little piece of land which we could just call our own to do some camping.

**Thelma** I hear you.

**Rosemary** We had heard that friends of ours had come out to Athabasca and they talked a lot about Athabasca. One day in April, we meandered out to Athabasca. First time we'd ever been out here and we decided to go out west and wander around Baptiste Lake. We had a little camper van and we got stuck right up to the gunnels. And, of course, the cabins were closed and people weren't around and there was no way we could get out on our own. Jim and Mitch walked back to try and find somebody and they found Bobby Gray and he was living out there. So he brought his tractor and pulled us out. He said what are you people doing out here, you ice fishing or what?

**Thelma** This was winter?

**Rosemary** Well, it was sort of April. Spring. We said no, we were looking for a little piece of land and he said, well, I've got a farm for sale. We said, well, we're not

interested in a farm. But he told us that his parents had both died within about three months of each other and none of the kids wanted or could take over the farm. So that's what was up for sale. We said, well, thank you. We took his number, went back to Edmonton and thought, well, that's not in our plan.

**Thelma** You weren't planning on farming in other words.

**Rosemary** No. Well, no. And so we went back and two weeks later we phoned him and said, well, we're kind of curious, we'll come out. So we did. And he took us over hill and dale, 23 miles and we thought we were never going to get there.

There was this long path through a field and he took us right to an old homestead site. The old cabin was still standing and was starting to go down, but it was not too far from the creek, evergreens, it was absolutely gorgeous.

**Thelma** A log cabin?

**Rosemary** Yes. We just fell in love with it. He took us back towards the road and showed us a house which had been built in the '50s. It was unfinished upstairs. He took us in and it was very depressing because it was like the people had moved out and just walked out the door. There were dead plants in the windowsills and everything. Everything was just left. And that really was quite upsetting. But we went back home and thought about it and we decided to go back again and have another look. And by the time we got back a second time, the family had cleared out the house. There was no electricity, there was no running water, of course. The well had a great big boulder in it and they couldn't get water out of it.

The heating was just a little diesel heater thing, so the house didn't appeal to us very much at all. There was water in the basement, a mud floor and stuff. But the property was just so gorgeous and so we decided, well, maybe we should make an offer. I mean, we really didn't have the money. We had to go to the credit union and talk to them. A couple of months later, we did make an offer on the land and it was accepted.

So we were very excited. We started coming out here on every possible weekend we could. It took us quite a while to actually move into the house. We would just camp in our little camper outside and explore.

Then as the weather started to turn much like it is today, we ventured into the house and lit a fire. There was a wood stove and we began sort of staying in the house and it became our sort of runaway place to get away from the city, and, as time went on, it seemed like the city began to pall on us.

In 1977, I guess, '76, '77 we made the decision that if one of us could get a job out here, we would make the move. We had this grand idea of going back to the land. Jim was still with Canadian Press, of course, and I was the first one to get a job. And that job was the senior nurse at the health unit here.

On the strength of that, he left the Canadian Press and we moved out permanently and I took on the senior nurse position at the health unit.

It didn't take long to realize that you really needed a lot of money for machinery and stuff to be able to farm. I have forgotten the time, but it wasn't that long before Jim ended up taking on a staff correspondent position with the Western Producer and I stayed on, of course, at the health unit. But that meant that he was having to go into the city a couple of days a week to do stories for the Producer. He actually did do a few stories from around here. But that sort of interrupted our grand plan. It didn't take us long to realize that we just couldn't become farmers just like that.

About a year later, the health unit lost its director. She moved on and the health unit board (health units were run by boards representing the different regions) asked me if I would take on the director's position, and I said, well, I would give it a shot. And so I took on the director of the health unit. As I remember, it covered twenty-five thousand square miles. It had six suboffices. Athabasca was its main office, then Slave Lake. We had taken on Wabasca-Desmarais and the isolated lakes. So that was Trout and Peerless and Chip, plus Kinuso, which was an old nursing station, Smith, Lac La Biche and Calling Lake.

**Thelma** Did you have to go to those places at different times then?

**Rosemary** I used to go on a regular basis. I would make the trek around to the different offices. I mean at the health unit here, we had a really good team and each suboffice had their nurses and their administration secretaries and so on. But it was quite an undertaking.

**Thelma** As a director, you would need to go how often then to each of these?

**Rosemary** Well, I tried to get out about every six weeks or so. I made the rounds. But also we had Colette Nimco as our main senior steno here. And she was very good. She would go around to each of the units as well, to be in touch with the clerical. She was always a grand communicator. She is still to this day and keeps in touch with different people that were part of the health unit.

It was a good time to be in the health units because the government at that time had lots of money. If you had a really good idea, they would often be willing to pilot ideas. We put in a community outreach program to the elderly, which was volunteers visiting the elders at home. We put in a program for children that were having some developmental delays, and had workers not in every one of the sub offices but the main ones going in to work with parents in terms of play therapy and that sort of thing. Community physiotherapy, we did. Then, the province said to the health units, would you like to take on home care? It was up to each health unit to make that decision. We just said, yes, absolutely. So I hired Dorothy Patry. She had been with the hospital and Dorothy coordinated and implemented home care. That was probably in around the early '80s, I would say maybe '82, '83. So it was heady times, it was like really good stuff.

**Thelma** You were doing lots and lots of different things.

**Rosemary** It was a good time to be in health units and then subsequently, of course, they got rid of the local and regional boards and made them big, the areas bigger

and bigger. And, of course, now it's a central health unit operation. So it's very different to what it was in those days.

In terms of the isolated lakes – Trout, Peerless and Chip – Fred Gingerich used to fly us in. We had community health representatives that we would train at Lac La Biche in terms of community health and put them into areas where they lived, and they would work and be our liaison. So it was very interesting.

**Thelma** Are they part of the health unit system today yet? The isolated lake community?

**Rosemary** Yeah. In more recent years, I believe they [a nurse from Wabasca and a doctor from Slave Lake] would fly in from Slave Lake. So that was the health unit.

In the meantime, I can't remember dates so well right now, but Jim ended up running for county council and he took on the chairman of the school board and thoroughly enjoyed it.

It was just one term, but I think he thoroughly enjoyed it. I think he did some really good stuff. He also got involved with FCSS, Family and Community Support Services, and worked not only locally but provincially with them.

I left the health unit at the end of 1985. I just felt that at that point the board and I were not seeing eye to eye, and it had been a very intense few years. When you have a board that's with you, it makes things so much easier than when you end up feeling like the board just isn't on the same page. So I left the health unit. I was going to say to you earlier that I have what I call divine guidance when I look at my life, and I look back and see certain angles where I've come to a fork in the road and something has nudged me to go a certain way, like the whole business of finding the farm. And that to me, that was divine guidance.

When I left the health unit, I really did wonder whether I would stay on with nursing. Here again, I see this as divine guidance. My father died and I went down to be with my mother in Altona. After, at the end of that same year, I had done a contract with the provincial government after I left the health unit. But that was finished and then dad died.

So I went down there and while I was down there, I was talking to a young nurse in town who told me about the nurse practitioner course at North Dakota University. She wanted to go as her sister had taken that course and thought it was absolutely wonderful and was working in the States. She said she'd like to go but didn't want to go by herself. I looked at the course and I thought if I could find a doctor that would be my preceptor I could apply. So I came back here and I talked to Brian Oldale. Dr. Brian Oldale. He had been our medical officer consultant for the health unit. We knew each other and he said, sure. There was my key to getting into that course. So she and I signed up and started out in January. I guess it was, let me see now, '87.

It was really nice for us because Grand Forks was where the university was and it was about an hour from the border and we were only six miles off the border. We

would tootle down there and put in our six weeks. We could come back to Altona on weekends. I could stay with my mother and then I came back to Athabasca.

**Thelma** How long was the course?

**Rosemary** It was about a year and there were 19 of us nurses from all walks of nursing. And all ages. I think the youngest was about 26 and I was the oldest. I was 49, I think. It was very intense and we'd go down for six weeks, come back out here, go back, and go back. When you finished the course, you could write your nurse practitioner in those days and also a physician assistant exam. It was up to you if you wanted to do both.

**Thelma** And did you?

**Rosemary** I did. Yeah, I did. The American Nursing Association was closing the door on diploma nurses getting into nurse practitioner courses. So they were slowly closing the door. They wanted everybody to have degrees, right. I just sort of got in on the end of that one.

Then it was a question of coming back here and saying, well, now where do I get a job as a nurse practitioner? Now, I knew Health Canada desperately wanted nurse practitioners. The only place you could get a nurse practitioner training in Canada in those days was at Dalhousie University. I put in my application to Health Canada and they hired me. Initially I was doing float relief.

**Thelma** Were you in the hospitals?

**Rosemary** No, no. First Nations communities. I would go up to a variety of places, like Sucker Creek. Some of them were public health and some of them were nursing stations like Atikameg, for instance, north of High Prairie. I went in there quite often. And then there was High Level, Little Buffalo. I went out to Little Buffalo for quite a long time. Fox Lake was a full-blown nursing station. Just a whole variety of them. And so I did float relief with Health Canada with what we called Medical Services Branch for about a little over a year.

Then they asked me if I'd come in and take on nurse educator because their educator was ill. So I ended up in Edmonton and did that and ended up in administration with Health Canada in Edmonton.

It was very interesting. I'd still fly into the communities, but it was more seeing how things were going and meeting with different nurses and stuff like that, more administration than straight hands on. That was a time when I was in the city and just coming home weekends.

I just want to go back a bit in terms of what was happening on the home front after I left the health unit. In the spring of '86, Jim had just finished a contract with the Athabasca University as a liaison officer. He helped people who were moving into the country community and sort of helped them through getting to know more about the community and just making the transition easier for them. That was his job for a year at the university. It was a one-year contract. He just finished that in '86. I

finished with the health unit and we looked at each other in the spring and said neither one of us has a job. Strangely, here's another one about divine guidance. One of our neighbors had phoned for Mark because she'd seen that UFA fuel was looking for an agent and she thought Mark might be interested. Well, we sort of looked at each other and gathered the kids around and said, well, maybe we should apply as a family.

The boys were both in dead end jobs. So we applied and UFA likes families, and we became the agents for the fuel part of UFA. The boys became truckers and Jim looked after the office. I struggled to do the bookkeeping, which I'm not good at. It was a real struggle. I handed it over at the end of a year to an accountant who knew what they were doing. That was how we got involved in a business. I mean, we had never run a business. We had certainly never had anything to do with fuel and all the things that go with that business. And yet it went well.

**Thelma** It did go well. Yes. As a purchaser, I know that it did because everybody was satisfied with the work you did.

**Rosemary** Well, that's nice to hear. Then subsequently, of course, Jim handed it over to the boys in '94, I guess. Mark and Mitch worked together for a while and then Mitch and Sally decided to apply down at Mayerthorpe, and they got the Mayerthorpe agency and then took on Whitecourt. They worked both those places between the two of them and today they're retired and have sort of pulled the plug on the UFA. They did well down there and Mark carried on with the agency here. So it opened up a whole other stage of our lives.

Anyway, where was I at? I was talking about Health Canada. In 1997, I left Health Canada. I had gotten deeply into administration there and I just decided that I needed a change. So Jim and I traveled down to New Zealand. That was our second trip to New Zealand, actually. We'd gone down in '94. I have relatives down there and we got back in '97. I took about three or four months and didn't do anything other than being at home and so on, relaxing.

Then just on a whim, I sent out a resume to the Northwest Territories for a nurse, a nurse practitioner. I sent it out on a Friday night and I got a phone call on the Monday from Inuvik and they said what would you like? Would you like to work in a hospital, in a nursing station or there was a third thing. I said, well, I'd like to work in a nursing station. So that fall I went out to Aklavik and Jim, of course, retired. He followed me out and we were in Aklavik for four months through the dead of winter. So we saw what it's like there. It was a lovely community. Aklavik was Dene and Inuit. And the community got along. There was no infighting or anything. The nurse in charge had been there for seven years and she was so trusted that they had her on their school board. She was from Ontario, I think.

It was a four-nurse station, but it was rare that you had four nurses. You usually ended up with two or three. That meant there was a lot of on call, you never knew what was coming in the door. The community was very welcoming. It was about twelve hundred people.



After four months, I remember, beginning of January, the gal, the maintenance gal, called me to the window and pointed out a little slit of sun. She said do you see the sun? Yeah, that's all there was. I did go back in the summer for two months to see what it was like in summer. And there in summer you would hear the kids out in the playground at two o'clock in the morning and you're trying to sleep, right. Got all the blinds pulled and everything. But it was interesting to see the total switch.

We got to know people and I remember one couple who took quite a shine to Jim. I remember her offering me blubber, whale blubber.

**Thelma** And did you accept?

**Rosemary** I did. Very, very rich and my goodness. But it was a really good experience in that you just had such a sense of what the Arctic was like. Aklavik is just below Tuktoyaktuk. So you sort of get an idea of where it was. You could have Arctic char and the people would bring in wild meat and they would share it with the elders and anybody who couldn't go out and hunt. It was a real sense of community. On Friday nights, everybody tuned in to their radio and they played bingo. You turned on the radio and it was "under the B". It was neat. That Christmas, because we were there for Christmas, they had a community feast and I thought they'd have all the traditional dishes. And we went and here it was turkey.

**Thelma** The kids weren't with you then. It was just you and Jim.

**Rosemary** Yeah. The kids were out on their own. Val was off to university and the boys were doing their UFA stuff, but it was one way to see the Arctic and really get some sort of sense of it. But the on call, I found that grueling. Just trying to get enough rest and so on. But it was just part of the story out there.

I remember we brought back an Arctic char, and when we left, it was a fly in and so you had to fly in. In the winter, they had a winter road which was along the Mackenzie. When we left in a cab to get to Inuvik to catch a plane, we traveled along the Mackenzie on the ice road. So sort of like a Fort Chip situation, a bit, maybe.

Yeah, very interesting experience. I'm glad we did it. So that was '97, '98 and then in '99 I joined the Boyle McCauley Health Centre in Edmonton as one of their team of nurse practitioners and physicians working in the inner city. That was an amazing experience.

I had watched Boyle McCauley when I was with Health Canada and they were trailblazers in terms of nurse practitioners. They had a nurse practitioner before anybody even knew what that person was. It was a community society that put up this center right across from the Mustard Seed right in downtown Edmonton and run by a board.

Now, Jim's health had been failing and he was on dialysis a little bit before 2000. So he moved into the city and at first I was coming home on weekends. I had a four-day week I had negotiated. Then with his health deteriorating he needed dialysis and so he came into the city and we both lived in the city for almost 10 years. Well, I did. After five years of dialysis, he was given a kidney. And nine months later, he died of

cancer. So, it was heartbreaking. He was just so thrilled when that kidney came up. I remember I was at the clinic. One of the administrative people came running downstairs and she said, Rosemary, there's a doctor on the phone who's got a kidney for Jim. So I went tearing home. Anyway, what happened, of course, with the suppression of his immune system through the drugs, was I think cancer just took over and reared its ugly head. He died in 2008, nine months after he had received his kidney.

**Thelma** Yes, so sad.

**Rosemary** Yes, very. So I had retired from Boyle McCauley but then I went back casual and part time. I was still with Boyle McCauley in 2009 and that's when I thought okay, what are you going to do now? Well, my community in Athabasca is calling me. There was no way I was staying in the city. I came back and I feel so strongly that this community is our community and my community. The city is a nice place to go to but it's always nice to go home.

**Thelma** And Mark's here. Mark and his family. So, I mean, that makes a difference, too. And I know you've been very busy since you've come back. Do you want to talk about that a little bit, what you've been doing since you've come back to Athabasca?

**Rosemary** Well, there's been a variety of things that have come about. The United Church has always been a very important part of my life. It all started when I was a kid and the neighbor's teenager who used to babysit with me asked me if I would like to come to Sunday school with her. That was my first dealing with the United Church. And over the years, it's lapsed periodically, but it's always been there and here it's been very much a part of my life. I consider the congregation my church family and we've done quite a lot of interesting things. My colleague Mavis Jacobs and I came up with this concept of the memory project for seniors and it's still going on. More and more people are being interviewed, as you are doing with me now.

**Thelma** And it's a good idea and an important thing to do. Yes.

**Rosemary** Well, I think it gives people a voice about their history. And with the liaison with the Athabasca University, of course, it becomes a source of information online for people that are looking for histories. And you can also put it into the archives and get your own little CD, so nice concept. I don't know, I think we're well into the forties now as far as numbers. I hadn't really thought about myself as doing an interview, but you have been quite persuasive.

**Thelma** Well, I thought it was very important that you to do it and not just because you were instrumental in starting it, but also because I've heard part of your story before in church and I wanted to hear more. And I know other people will want to hear it and enjoy it, too.

Yeah, well, the experience with Boyle McCauley, I should just say was very rich and the people that I worked with were from all walks of life, many of them being through very, very hard times. What always amazed me was the strength of the human spirit. People who had been through God knows what and yet they could still be resilient enough to be able to pick up the threads and carry on. We worked with young

pregnant women and people who were into addiction and people who were down and out without shelter. We ran clinics in the women's shelter and in the men's shelter. And just watching and being a part of some of those stories was really, really something very powerful.

And then the federal, provincial and city government got together and put together some funds for housing for the homeless. And to watch people who had been homeless for a long time who suddenly had a little apartment. The apartments were found not just in one area, they were found all over the city. We had a team of people that worked with them as they got into their apartment and just to see the differences once they had that shelter.

**Thelma** Yeah. Just to be in a safe place. Where it feels safe and it was theirs.

**Rosemary** Yeah. And some of the stories. One night, I was putting equipment back at the women's shelter and I was parked outside, and I heard this tap, tap, tap of a cane coming down the street. Here was one of my patients who walked with a cane. She's been a shelter resident for years. They couldn't get rid of her. They could never move her on at that point.

She just lit into me and she said what are you doing out here? You shouldn't be out here at this time of night. But she was. It didn't matter that she was out there with her cane. She was much more concerned about me.

So lots of funny stories and good people. Yeah, that's what they were. And then we had Kindred House which was a safe place for women who were working the street and transgender.

I would go in there once a week and just pick up on any health issues. I remember one of the transgendered – an HIV test that I had done, had sent her for. I walked into the clinic with the results and she said, Rosemary, you should never, ever... what's the name of that game where you play cards? I can't think of the name now. You should never gamble or something. She says it's written all over your face.

**Thelma** Play poker.

**Rosemary** Poker. Yes, poker. Don't ever play poker. It's written all over your face.

**Thelma** It was negative or positive?

**Rosemary** Positive, yes. Yeah, but you take your meds. Follow the regimen and get back on your life again.

**Thelma** Yes, and I'm sure you heard lots of stories, because a lot of times I think a lot of those people need someone to listen to them.

**Rosemary** Oh, there's lots of stories for sure. So other than that, getting back to the Athabasca area, now we have the little cooking circles which are chugging along. The province has come through with a grant so that we can carry on with that for at least another year, if not more. And we've had our first pilot with seniors that want to

come and put together some meals that they can take home and bring out whenever they want something different.

**Thelma** Yeah, the kitchen in the church is being used well, and that's a good thing because this is a beautiful kitchen that we have now.

**Rosemary** Yes, it's very good.

**Thelma** I know that you do lots of other volunteer things, too, and you've had people staying with you when they are in between places and stuff like that. I know all that, too. So, yes, we're lucky to have people like you.

**Rosemary** Well, thank you, Thelma, but I think you are one of our strengths in the congregation and the community. Anyway, thanks for doing this.

**Thelma** Thank you for doing it. Thank you very much.

[End of Interview]

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