



**Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo greets people after Mass Sept. 6 on the grounds of his home in Dili, East Timor. The next day, he fled to Australia after his house was set afire and some of the people on the grounds were killed.**

## Bishop Belo evacuated

DARWIN, Australia (CNS) — Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo, outspoken in his defense of East Timorese, was evacuated to Darwin, Australia, after militias attacked and burned his home.

Nearly 40 people were reported killed when militias attacked his residence in Dili, East Timor, Sept. 6 as the territory continued to spiral into a state of chaos. Militias were apparently targeting the more than 4,000 refugees who were seeking shelter at the bishop's residence.

Bishop Belo, who was unharmed in the attack, was later evacuated to Baukau, to the residence of Bishop Basilio do Nascimento. However, when militias began attacking there, a Royal Australian Air Force Hercules transport plane transported Bishop Belo and other refugees to

Darwin Sept. 7.

Speaking at a press conference upon his arrival, Bishop Belo, apostolic administrator of Dili, said of his fellow East Timorese, "They are very sad and they feel that they are unable to fight against all the ways of violence, and they expect that the international community should act urgently immediately to protect their people."

The attack on Bishop Belo's home was one of several incidents that prompted an international outcry for a peace-keeping force. In Washington, the Clinton administration said it supported an Australian offer of troops, providing Indonesia agreed.

Indonesian President B.J. Habibie de-  
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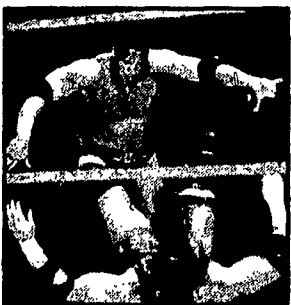
# Catholic Courier

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## Advocates: Focus care on values

How many times have people said: "I'd rather die than go to a nursing home."

Such a sentiment is understandable, nursing home reform advocates say, in light of the traditional view of nursing homes: controlling institutions that schedule your day — when you rise and dress, what and when you eat, who entertains and when, and what time you turn in. Modeled after hospitals, most have long corridors centered on nurses stations, and strict routines, often run by strange, unfamiliar, faces.

A growing "Nursing Home Pioneers" movement is convinced that the typical nursing home has to change.

Pioneers describe themselves as settling new territory in nursing home care. Previously working individually, they recently have come together to promote changes in nursing home culture.

"It's upside down," said Charlene Boyd, administrator of Providence Mount St. Vincent nursing home in Seattle. "This group is trying to turn it right-side up."

And, noted Barry Barkan, a Jewish pioneer who directs Live Oak Living Center in El Sobrante, Calif., "Nursing homes are places people go to at a point of life crisis. They go to heal, to die, to regenerate, and all that is a sacred series of events."

In New York state, the average nursing home resident will spend more than 990 days in the facility, according to local sources. More than 1.5 million people live in some 17,000 nursing homes the United States — one of five people age 85 or older. Despite the increase of assisted living and other programs, 5.7 million nursing home residents are projected for the 2040s.

Sister Pauline Breancier of Albany's Teresian-House has worked 47 years in the field. Her order, the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, was founded to help the aging, and operates 23 nursing homes. She



Fairport Baptist Homes resident Ray Ford plays with Jake Delorme during a visit by day-care children to a senior living "household" on the home's third floor Sept. 1.



noted the advent of Medicare and Medicaid in the 1960s led to the building of hospital-like nursing homes to provide care.

"We got people to live longer," she noted, "but they weren't ready for it." Sadly, many prayed they'd die, she added. They couldn't adjust to new surroundings so unlike home.

Today she is optimistic because more homes are attempting changes similar to hers — providing more homelike, flexible environments that encourage more neighborly lifestyles and "promote the wellness of the whole person."



Fairport Baptist Homes nurse aide Laura Opett, left, talks with resident Jean Maybee in a dining and leisure area of the third floor "household."

### Model home

For years Irene Kosakoski, now 82, was the cook for "her priests" at St. Mary's and St. Vincent de Paul rectories in Corning.

She suffered a stroke five years ago and had to move to a nursing home.

Here the former cook also watches out for her neighbors, encouraging them to eat

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STORY BY KATHLEEN SCHWAR • PHOTOS BY GREG FRANCIS