

# The SOCIETY Scoop

## FALL GREETINGS FROM THE INTERIM CEO, JULIE HORNE

The cooler, breezy weather is not always welcomed but for me it brings calm and comfort, and reminds me to slow down, reflect and be grateful.

“Holiday season” kicks off with Fall as my family and friends gather for Thanksgiving dinner at the cottage and then followed by a season of celebratory gatherings often involving large meals. Thanksgiving is one of my favourite “special days” of the year. Even though there is lots to do to close our cottage for winter and much cooking of sweet and savoury dishes for the large family to enjoy, there is time to connect, reminisce and enjoy one another’s company. I cherish this tradition at the cottage that started over 70 years ago with my great-grandparents. Together, we share what we are thankful for and we remember those that sat at this same table years ago.

At Union Villa there is so much to be grateful for. I’m appreciative of our kind and dedicated team who genuinely care for our residents’ health and wellbeing. Through their daily actions they show us what it means to nurture and treat others as they themselves wish to be treated. When I walk through the home I see staff helping and chatting and laughing and positively impacting the lives of those who live here and filling themselves with warmth and pride for a job well done.

I’m thankful to our families, for choosing Union Villa for their loved ones, and for engaging with our staff to ensure we do our best to provide individualized care for our residents. It’s a delicate balance between managing regulations and rules with individuality and preference. A family’s presence in our home can boost the quality of life for their loved one and those around them.

I’m grateful to our volunteers, donors and our Board members. It is hard to measure their contribution



of time, talent and treasure but their support adds another dimension to our pursuit of a community where people thrive, age well and live better.

Let’s celebrate all the wonderful things that are happening at UHS and thank and recognize those who work hard and make a difference for those entrusted to our care. I encourage you to take a moment each day of October, to thank someone for making a difference in our home, and for being a part of our Union Villa family.



## SUMMER REFLECTION AND FALL ANTICIPATION UNIONVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR SENIORS



After a long and eventful summer, autumn is upon us. At UCCS, this means looking forward to an exciting array of new programs and special events. Still, the past few months merit both reflection and celebration.

Back in June, UCCS celebrated Seniors Month by hosting four special events, two of them in partnership with other organizations. We offer our sincere thanks to the volunteer team at BMO for supporting our Garden and Gateaux event, a delightful morning of planting and patisserie. We are equally grateful to Amica Unionville for bringing their Strawberry Shortcake Experience to UCCS. Horticulturalist Extraordinaire Sean Chubbuck led us all through an interactive and delicious journey, and we had the pleasure of hosting him again for the Apple Cider Experience in September.



Another bright spot in June was our Summer Treasures Bazaar. The event was well-attended and ultimately raised over \$1,000 for UCCS programs and special events. Thank you to the UCCS volunteers and the Members Council for their support in making this fundraiser such a success. We look forward to hosting you all at our forthcoming Holiday Bazaar on December 7, 2019. Look for more details shortly.

In addition to our regular programs, the summer calendar included a BBQ Block Party, and an informative luncheon hosted by our local MPP Billy Pang and his team.

September was Membership month and over 100 renewing and new members joined us at our Membership Drive on September 6. Membership is available all year long so if you are interested in please stop by the centre during our regular hours of operation or call (905) 477-2839 ext 4235 for more information.



### JOIN THE UCCS PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC).

The PAC will serve in an advisory capacity to staff at UCCS on matters related to programming and services. We look forward to working with this committee to ensure that UCCS remains aligned with the evolving wants and needs of the seniors we serve. If you are interested in serving on this committee, **please contact the UCCS Coordinator at [mnaqi@uhs.on.ca](mailto:mnaqi@uhs.on.ca).**

## Resident Profile: Meet Soren Peder Ogaard

Soren Ogaard, who has been a resident since May 2018, has a story of accomplishments.

Born in Esbjerg, Denmark where he received his early education, Soren went on to Niels Brock University in Copenhagen, graduating with a degree in Business Management and Administration. Upon graduation, he apprenticed in retail fabric for a department store in Esbjerg, Denmark. Then in 1955, at the suggestion of a friend, he moved to Oslo, Norway and became an Assistant Buyer in an import and wholesale fabric company, selling wool fabric to tailors across the country.

As happens to all young people in Scandinavia, his career was interrupted in 1957 by a call up to do 3 years of compulsory service in the Danish Army. Fortunately, Denmark was at peace, so he didn't experience combat. Upon discharge, Soren was appointed Trade Commissioner for the Royal Danish Consulate in Bristol, England to oversee trade inquiries between Denmark and businesses throughout the southwestern part of England. It was during this time, that he met and married his first wife. Soren became an instant father to his wife's daughters. He enjoyed fatherhood so much that in a couple of years, three more children joined the family.

In 1962, Soren and his family moved to Canada, where Soren founded Danesco of Canada with a business partner in Montreal, an importing wholesale business dealing in furniture and kitchenware for department stores, institutions and retailers nationwide. As Vice President, Soren travelled extensively throughout Europe and other destinations on buying missions.

Soren negotiated his largest contract valued at 30 million in early 60's to furnish the new student union building in Alberta, the total length of the fabric ran more than 20 kilometers.

When this partnership ended on good terms, he started another company, Gabriel Textiles, which imported high quality furnishing textiles for architects



and furniture manufacturers. In this capacity Soren frequently exhibited products at international design shows, where he was so successful that he won 'best display' two years in a row.

Armed with these experiences and looking for a new challenge, Soren went on to spend the last 25 years of his working career partnering with his sons, Peder and Eric, doing home and commercial renovations; a work he enjoyed so much that he continued until age 80, retiring only when stricken with a stroke and heart attack.

Although Soren's career occupied much of his life, he has been very much a family man. Between his first and second marriage, he became responsible for raising a total of ten children; for many years, as a single parent.

Having come from a country close to the sea, Soren's favorite hobby has been sail boat racing. Soon after arriving in Canada he became a member of the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club in Montreal, where he enjoyed sail boat racing his 35 ft sloop in Montreal and surrounding areas going as far as Quebec City and Murray Bay. Soren was accompanied by his children on his sailing adventures.

At Union Villa, Soren loves to talk with residents and family members, and participates in many activities. He has a great sense of humour, and isn't afraid to speak his mind.

## ADP CLIENTS GETTING READY FOR THE MARKHAM FAIR

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Every day in the Adult Day Program is filled with activities, social opportunities and more, but June to September, the clients are focused on putting their arts and crafts skills to work to create submissions for the 2019 Markham Fair. The ADP clients have been participating for over 10 years and Julie, one of our Activity Programmers has been a Fair volunteer for 26 years.

Currently the ADP has 50 active clients attending the program. For more information on the Adult Day Program, please contact (905) 477-2839 ext 4250.



ADP staff Joanna, Shane and Julie showcase their clients submissions to the Markham Fair

## Volunteer Spotlight: Meet Eleanor Clayton



Where words fail, music speaks. Eleanor Clayton has a musical talent that she was willing to share to enhance the quality of life for residents, clients, and members of The New Unionville Home Society. This volunteer opportunity started more than 17 years ago at Unionville Community Centre for Seniors (formerly known as The Heritage Centre). Eleanor, joined Unionville Presbyterian Church when she moved to Ontario from Alberta several years before. The church held a regular service at UCCS and Eleanor was their pianist for the service. At the time, Eleanor did not know her passion for music would become a volunteer opportunity that included Hymn Sings at Union Villa, Sing-A-Longs at UCCS, and being a special event assistant.

When Eleanor was questioned about her volunteering experience she stated, "that volunteering brings her a sense of accomplishment, pride and happiness." When she sees that playing the piano, a skill she learned from childhood, can bring so much joy and peace to others, she knows her time volunteering is valued.

The staff has commented that Eleanor, "is a person that is friendly, and kind. She is always there when you need extra support. She will switch her schedule around to accommodate what is needed. She is a reliable volunteer who has been with us since the beginning. She has dedicated her talents to the organization for years without fail. We are so delighted to have her here as part of our team. Thank you Eleanor for everything you have done and continued support to the residents of Union Villa."

Volunteering is about normal everyday people dedicating their time to help the community and brighten the lives of others. It does not mean dedicating a huge amount of time; but, as Eleanor has demonstrated volunteering some of your time can help those in need and improve their health and happiness. Through volunteering Eleanor has found friends, connected with the community, and even learned new skills.

On behalf of the residents, we say "thank you" to Eleanor and to all the volunteers who help make a difference for the seniors on our campus.



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# THE HOMEFRONT

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## **INVESTING IN OUR RESIDENTS' CARE**

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*Unionville Home Society Foundation is a registered charity founded in 1991. The foundation is dedicated to a single mission: to fund amenities and initiatives that enhance the lives of our residents. The foundation believes quality seniors care is a priority and endeavours to provide a variety of “giving” opportunities ranging from special events, to personal and corporate giving campaigns.*

## **UHS FOUNDATION BOARD GIVES THANKS** **MESSAGE FROM PATRICK O'HANLON, CHAIR**

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On behalf of the Foundation Board members, I extend our appreciation and gratitude to all our donors whose contributions support our efforts to ensure Union Villa is a safe and enjoyable home. Together, we share UHS's mission and believe in providing an experience that respects our residents' dignity and independence. Donations help us extend the funds received from the government to fulfil our vision to provide a progressive community where older adults thrive; ageing well and living better. Program enhancements, equipment replacements, renovations and investing in innovations are all made possible because of our generous community.

Year to date, the Foundation hosted 2 sold out fundraisers, the Garden by the Greens Luncheon in May and the Unionville Charity Golf Classic in June. The Garden event raised over \$10,000 and earmarked to upgrading the resident Sensory Garden and Courtyard. Over \$80,000 was raised at the golf tournament and the funds will support the Union Villa dining room renovations which we anticipate starting later this year. A special thank you to the Golf Chairs Danny Fantini and Larry Mariani and their committee for another outstanding tournament in support of Union Villa.

I extend an invitation to all to join us on November 1st for the Foundation's signature fundraiser, Union Villa Dinner Party & After Lounge with Audrey Jamieson and Samantha van Velzen back as our dynamic co-chairs and hosts. Join us and help raise funds to support dementia friendly programs and innovative seniors care.



## UNION VILLA DINNER PARTY & AFTER LOUNGE

The Union Villa Dinner Party & After Lounge is the largest fundraising event supporting Union Villa's services and programs. Proceeds from the 2019 event will be invested in programs that support a positive dementia-friendly environment—one that benefits the health, independence and safety of those with dementia.

Since 1991, our fundraising initiatives have directly impacted the care and comfort of Union Villa residents. Past fundraisers have supported an Alzheimer's Wing, a new Union Villa home, replacement of resident beds and mattresses, enhancement to main resident living spaces, and most recently a long term investment to music and art therapy programs.

*Live, Laugh,*  
UNION VILLA

**2019 UNION VILLA DINNER PARTY  
& AFTER LOUNGE**

*Help us bring innovative dementia programs  
to our residents*

**NOVEMBER 1, 2019  
ANGUS GLEN GOLF CLUB  
COCKTAILS AT 6:00PM  
DINNER AT 7:30PM**

**DINNER PARTY TICKETS  
\$225**

**CORPORATE TABLES  
\$2750**

**AFTER LOUNGE TICKETS  
\$50**

For more information, please contact  
905.477.2839 ext 4270 or email  
dinnerparty@uhs.on.ca

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# UNIONVILLE CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC CELEBRATES 5TH ANNIVERSARY



June 20, 2019 - Angus Glen Golf Club

Thank you to our 2019 Sponsors & Participants for helping us raise over \$80,000



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A **special thank you to** Co-Chairs Danny Fantini & Larry Mariani, and committee members - Paul Cousens, Glenn Crosby, Don Hamilton - Deputy Mayor, Regional Councillor, City of Markham, Lori Manserra, Reid McAlpine - Ward 3 Councillor, City of Markham, Patrick O'Hanlon & Jan van Velzen

## Our Mission:

Enhancing the experience of aging, one person at a time.

## Our Vision:

A progressive community where older adults thrive; aging well and living better.

Charitable Registration #87172 1940 RR0001