

The SOCIETY Scoop



Message from President & CEO, Abby Katz Starr

It is hard to believe that we are halfway through the summer, this season seems to fly by. In amongst the BBQs and raffles, challenges and golf tournaments, we are

still very much hard at work, preparing for an exciting year ahead across the campus. We find ourselves contemplating plans for campus development, while anticipating our potential partnership with the Seniors Community Hub in the new affordable housing building that York Region is putting up on our north campus. At the same time, we are working tirelessly to ensure continuous improvement in all that we do and in all that we provide to our campus and community. I continue to be in awe of our staff and volunteers for their ongoing service and efforts to build a community of caring where older adults can – and do – thrive. For this I cannot thank you enough.

We finished the fiscal year with our Annual General Meetings and the release of our 2021-22 Annual Report. The title for this annual report was inspired by YOU!, your dedication and courage, so we entitled this year's report "WHATEVER IT TAKES".

Greetings from our New Board Chair, Phil Gunn

I have had the pleasure of serving as a Board member for over 10 years and during that time, I have seen UHS successfully adapt to various challenges. We have continued to deliver best-in-class care to our residents even when times were tough. I believe our organization has learned a great deal in the past three years, and that we are well-positioned to steer Unionville Home Society into 2023 and beyond.

Over the coming months, I look forward to working with our Board, Senior Leadership Team, council stakeholders, staff and residents to develop strategies to further improve the quality of life on our campus of care.



We are proud of our collective accomplishments this year:

- We are eager to share some of the new faces on our Board, and will arrange a series of town halls to introduce them to you in the fall
- Responses to the CARF interim requests are underway
- Our strategic plan will undergo a refresh in the months ahead
- We continue to enhance the way we do business in our corporate and governance management arenas; rolling out a new electronic financial system; making enhancements to board governance documentation; corporate policy and
- The continued building and strengthening of partnerships with colleges and universities to deliver the highest level of training and education to our staff.

These are only a few of the things we will be working on this summer and into the fall to raise the bar in all that we do. I hope that despite the continued challenges posed by COVID, that the summer brings you much fun and sun with your family and friends. It is all too soon that the cooler weather creeps in so let's enjoy this time of year moving forward together!

Resident Highlights From Seniors' Month

June was a fantastic month for our Recreation Department because we love celebrating Senior's Month!

We started June with a combination of fun and facts, with planting activities in our courtyard gardens and an Ontario Association of Residents' Councils (OARC) information session on new Long-Term Care legislation. Summer in the garden is always something the residents look forward to, and together they planted vegetables, herbs and beautiful annual flowers.

The next day on June 2nd, we kicked off summer cribbage in the garden.

We welcomed back our friends at Hands On Exotics where residents got the opportunity to interact with a variety of animals, from lizards to hedgehogs to bunnies. At the mid-way mark of June, resident summer BBQs started up, followed by the Father's

Day Funfair on June 17th. Our team organized interactive stations with prizes including bowling, nerf gun target shooting, darts and basketball.

On June 21 we celebrated National Indigenous People's Day with different activities on each unit discussing indigenous people's history.

Members of Family Council organized a "Hello Summer" event which had interactive stations for residents and families to enjoy. Highlights were the photo booth, a makeshift beach, yoga station, scavenger hunt, and more.

The Senior's Month finale was the ice cream bar with entertainment by Louise and Andrew putting on the hits and taking requests.





Volunteer Program - Relaunching, Recruiting and Engaging

We are excited to announce the return of our volunteers – Welcome Back!

In the next few weeks, we will conduct reorientations for volunteers who were unable to participate during the pandemic. We are excited to share our future plans with our new volunteer team!

For more information on our Volunteer Program, please contact Lyn Ma, UHS Volunteer Coordinator at (905) 477-2822 ext. 4262 or visit our website at uhs.on.ca to access the Volunteer Applications Form.

While the past few years have been a challenge with restricted access to our campus, we want to acknowledge all the volunteers that kept in touch and supported where possible.

Thank you to the volunteers at Union Villa LTC, Unionville Community Centre for Seniors, Southeast Geriatric Program, and those serving on our various Committees and Boards!



Our youth volunteers Will and Nathan serving up refreshments to our seniors.



Volunteer Joanne playing bridge with Union Villa resident Mary.

Our Valued Resident and Family Councils We Couldn't Do It Without You!

We have many great community partners that assist us every day with the support and care we provide to our residents. Of special note are our Family and Residents' Councils at UHS who work tirelessly to help us keep our fingers on the pulse to deliver the services that residents and families care about and deserve.

According to the Ontario Association of Residents' Councils (OARC), "Residents' Council is an independent, self-determining group made up of only residents of a long-term care home. The Council is intended and designed to form the collective voice of all residents who reside in the LTC home, whether or not they attend meetings". All residents have the right to participate in the Residents' Council and are

invited to attend the monthly meetings on the first Thursday of each month.

The Family Council is an organized, self-led group of family members that provides mutual support, advocacy and feedback to our Home. The Family Council meets monthly on the first Tuesday of each month.

Both of these groups provide suggestions and feedback on our care and services. They ask thoughtful questions to understand our policies and assist us with making improvements. They greet new residents and families and help them to navigate the new world of long-term care. Ultimately, both Councils have the same goal, to improve the long-term care experience and the quality of life in long-term care.

ELECTION RESULTS ARE IN!

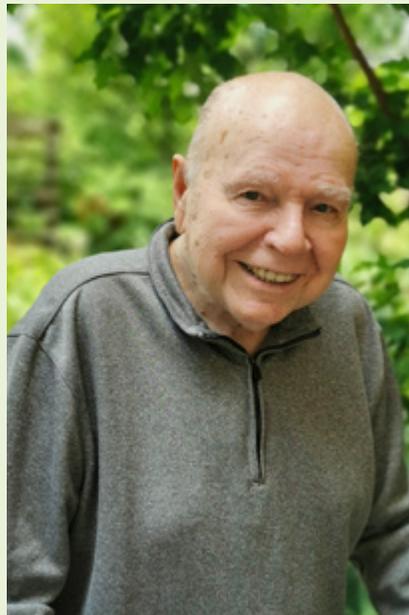
Recently, the Councils at Union Villa held their annual elections.

Congratulations go out to George French who will continue to lead our Residents' Council for another term as President.

Congratulations to Kimberly Chisholm as well who was also re-elected as the Family Council President.

Our best wishes go out to both George and Kimberly as we look forward to working with them in the coming year.

Here's to another year of collaboration and success as we strive to make UHS the long-term care choice in our community!



Developing the Future Leaders in Seniors Care



Unionville Home Society (UHS) is proud to report that our 2022 summer jobs program has been a great success with an increase in the number of young adults applying to the federal and provincial summer placements. The program not only provides young adults with paid work but also an opportunity to receive mentorship and hands-on training on our seniors' campus.

Our nine summer staff share their overwhelmingly positive experiences at UHS:

SELENA HO

“To me the Summer Jobs placement is a way to improve and expand upon my professional skills as well as a great learning experience that gives me insight as to what I might expect in the workforce. I’m extremely grateful and thankful for all the guidance I’ve received during my placement here and would absolutely recommend for others to try it out!”

CYNTHIA HUANG

“The Canada Summer Jobs program has given me the opportunity to expand my skillset and connect with my community. My mentors at UCCS, Maha and Kirsten, have taught me how to plan, develop and execute programs and special events. The most valuable part of my experience at UHS has been the memories and conversations shared with the residents here at the UHS Campus.”

MADISON WALSH

“My experience at UHS through the Canada Summer Jobs placement has been a very rewarding and educational experience. I have had the pleasure to work with exceptional staff who have mentored me during my time here. These individuals along with my experience in the position have allowed myself to build fundamental skills for my school and career goals moving forward.”

NICOLE KWOK

“It was a huge relief for me to be able to find a summer job related to my major, especially since I was looking to gain more hands-on experience prior to starting co-op, which fortunately I was able to obtain through this summer placement. The skills developed and knowledge I gained from working at UHS is invaluable and will definitely be an asset towards upcoming work terms that I have. I am so thankful to have gotten this summer job placement!”

HALEY LAU

“As a nursing student myself, working at UHS has provided me with my first experience in working in a health care setting. Through guidance from the Director of Care Silvia and the Nurse Managers, I have gained insight on a nurse’s responsibilities in a long-term care home, and the hard-work and teamwork that goes into it. Witnessing the compassion and dedication that the staff show to the residents has been truly inspiring as to the kind of nurse I want to be one day!”

COLIN CHUNG

“The Summer Job placement allowed me to apply what I learned in the classroom into real scenarios that companies go through. Everyone at UHS has been nothing but supportive and patient when training me, which will help further my career aspirations in Accounting through transferable theoretical and interpersonal skills.”

JOSHUA MA

“The Canada Summer Jobs program enables students to experience a transition between academic and real-world experience. In my role as an Administrative Assistant supporting many senior leaders, I was provided the opportunity to immerse myself in a workplace that helped me learn and generate a well-rounded view on the functions of a long-term care home, from administration to more healthcare-oriented roles like IPAC.”

TERRY HUANG

“The Canada Summer Jobs program lets new students get real-world experience. This is my first time at UHS, but my second time doing summer placement, and I knew I wanted more experience with interviewing and onboarding. My mentor was the HR Specialist Catherine Xie, who was so supportive. She helped give me the job experience I needed to develop my career in HR.”

NANDINI CHHOWALA

“The Ontario Summer Jobs program has allowed me to obtain an opportunity to work with the seniors’ community. This experience is new to me and I have enjoyed learning about programming, event planning and so much more. My mentors, UCCS Coordinator Maha and Program staff Kirsten, have been so welcoming, kind and supportive. I look forward to apply my new skills to similar positions in the future.”

**"Nothing ever
becomes real till it is
experienced."**

– John Keats

New Preceptor Education Program At Union Villa

The Preceptor Education Program is a new HR initiative designed to provide an engaging and supportive environment for our placement students.

The program gives our preceptors tips on how to plan engaging orientations, develop useful and relevant learning objectives, teach conflict management, and facilitate effective evaluations for our students.

"We really enjoy helping students become independent. When they interact with the residents and hear their stories, and when we see them take on their tasks with confidence we know that they are enjoying their time with us," say Nocketta and Caroline, the first two staff to complete the program. "The Preceptor Education Program taught us a lot about the importance of communication between ourselves and the students."

Thank you to Nocketta and Caroline for paving the way for future preceptors. Your contributions help make UHS a great place for students to start their PSW careers!

"UHS was an excellent place for my placement. All staff were nice, helpful and supportive. I enjoyed my time with them. My preceptor Nikki (Nocketta) Shand gave me patient guidance. She demonstrated a comprehensive care to the residents according to their needs. Let me complete the tasks with confidence. She was a compassionate and empathetic caregiver. I got an engaging and supportive environment at UHS. Thank you."

– Man Yan, Placement Student

"This is my first time in UHS, I felt very welcome and comfortable with everyone. My mentor Caroline was so supportive, and I appreciate her time and patience in answering my questions and finding interesting tasks for me to do. I feel this experience will benefit me throughout my future career."

– Arcel, Placement Student



PSW Nocketta with student Man Yan



PSW Caroline with student Arcel

Unionville Community Centre for Seniors - A Hub of Activity



The Unionville Community Center for Seniors (UCCS) has had an eventful few months. We kicked off Spring with an Easter Dinner on April 21, sponsored by our Members' Council. Over 50 attendees came together to enjoy a traditional Easter meal and live entertainment by Emilio Zarris.

On May 18, UCCS staff and volunteers hosted 30 guests for a Queen V High Tea in honour of Victoria Day. Later in May, UCCS hosted a two-day long Summer Treasures Bazaar, which featured a bake sale and BBQ. Through the efforts of our staff and volunteers, we raised \$1,114.75 to support UCCS programs and special events!

June was Seniors' Month and our busiest in recent memory. On June 2, UCCS served as a polling station for the provincial election. On June 6, we held a Hearing Loss and Aging workshop with audiologist Dr. Akram Keymanesh; a complimentary hearing clinic followed on June 9. To commemorate Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee, UCCS hosted another High Tea on June 15, featuring themed team trivia.

On June 10, UCCS and Chartwell Retirement Residences jointly hosted a Lunch & Learn. Twenty participants enjoyed a light lunch and an informative presentation from Certified Diabetes Educator, Alicia Chin.

On June 17, we headed outdoors for a Plant n' Sip event, where members planted begonias and enjoyed sparkling beverages. UCCS was also the site of the UHS Annual General Meeting on June 22. To conclude the month, we hosted a Senior's Month and Pre-Canada Day Block Party! Over 50 attendees were treated to a BBQ lunch, dessert, a raffle, and live entertainment.

All of our programs and events this month have been supported by our incredible summer staff, Nandini and Cynthia, who will be with us until the end of July.

The UCCS team looks forward to hosting even more programming and events over the summer months, and to our Annual Membership Drive on Thursday, September 15, 2022.

THE HOMEFRONT

INVESTING IN OUR RESIDENTS' CARE

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.

Garden Event Returns to Raise Over \$10,000 for Villa Gardens

On Thursday, April 28th, the Unionville Home Society Foundation hosted the Garden by the Greens Luncheon – LIVE THE GARDEN LIFE, at the beautiful Angus Glen Golf Club. This annual event raises funds to enhance and maintain the resident courtyard and sensory gardens at Union Villa long-term care home. We were humbled by the outstanding response (having cancelled both 2020 and 2021) with over 200 guests registered, 10 vendor stations, and generous sponsor support. Our favorite host, Kate Seaver of Kate's Garden, was back with floral demonstrations and special tips on gardening. This year's guest speaker was Amy Petersen, Registered Horticultural Therapist, whose presentation was focused on the therapeutic benefits of gardening.

A heartfelt thank you to our generous sponsors - Dragonfly, The Tar Team, The Hogan Group, Kate's Garden and Amica Unionville/Amica Swan Lake. Thank you to the vendors that provided a fabulous shopping experience and to all our guests who returned with friends to celebrate 2022 as the Year of the Garden! Finally, this event would not have been possible if not for an incredibly dedicated committee – Jessica Competiello, Paula Hardman, Helene Hayward, Darlene McClelland, Gerlind Milich, Heather Millar, and Kim Schultz.

Save the date for next year – April 27, 2023.



2022 Committee Members



Kate Seaver



Pretty Busy Room



Angus Glen Golf Club



Pepperpot Creations



Urban Nature Store



Francis & Meyer Candle Co.



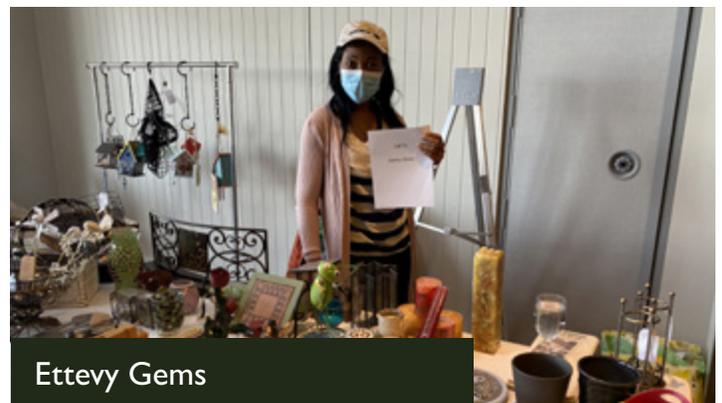
Kate's Garden



Christina Cooks



The Little Sour Dough Baker



Ettevy Gems

Golf Fore Union Villa – Unionville Charity Golf Classic Returns to the Greens

Over 130 golfers braved the heat on June 22 to participate in the day’s festivities. Tee off was at 7:30 am on the South Course at Angus Glen Golf Club and throughout the day all were treated to culinary delights including Espresso and Biscotti, freshly cut French Fries, and Gelato. Although there was no “Hole in One” at the designated hole, there certainly was great effort and attempt as the Trip for Two to the Masters was on the line!

One of the other major highlights of the day was the spectacular Helicopter Ball Drop. This special contest saw not only one, but three balls fall into the hole from a hovering helicopter.

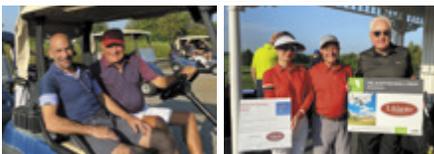
The net proceeds will support initiatives and fund equipment that promote quality of life and quality of care for the residents at Union Villa Long-Term Care home.



A most sincere THANK YOU to everyone who came out to support the Unionville Charity Golf Classic on June 22nd at Angus Glen Golf Club.

We are proud to announce that **over \$65,000** was raised to enhance the experience of aging for the residents of Union Villa long-term care home.

Thank you to the sponsors, golfers, and volunteers, who made the Unionville Home Society Foundation’s fundraising event a success.



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

4300 Highway 7 East, Unionville
www.uhs.on.ca

Charitable Registration No.: 871721940 RR0001



Donations in Action – The Impact of Giving

Our donors continue to create positive change in the lives of those entrusted to our care. During our fiscal year ending March 31, 2022, the UHS Foundation dispersed \$90,646 in funding to support resident and staff initiatives in addition to purchasing vital equipment. Below are highlights of where these funds impacted:

- Resident Gardens
- Kitchen Steamer
- Music Therapy
- Recreation Programs
- Lifts, Slings & Mattresses
- UHS Technology
- Bladder Scanner
- Social Service Worker
- Staff Nourishment & Events
- Crosby Family Education Fund
- Unionville Community Centre for Seniors programs

Upcoming Events

Save the date for the 2022 Union Villa Dinner Party

The Union Villa Annual Signature Fundraiser Dinner Party Event will return in person this **November 4, 2022** to Angus Glen Golf Club. Stay tuned for details.

UNIONVILLE HOME SOCIETY FOUNDATION
PROUDLY PRESENTS:

With love,
UNION VILLA

2022 UNION VILLA DINNER PARTY
& AFTER LOUNGE

Tickets: Early Bird (Before Sept. 1): \$200 | After Sept 1: \$225



For tickets, more information on these events or sponsorship, please contact us at 905.477.2839 ext. 4270 or at mdimson@uhs.on.ca.

**portion of ticket fees may be eligible for a tax receipt, subject to CRA guidelines*

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.