

The SOCIETY Scoop



GREETINGS FROM UNION VILLA ADMINISTRATOR, ROXANNE ADAMS

2018 has been a phenomenal year thus far within the Union Villa community. The year began with Union Villa achieving the highest ratings in years on its annual Resident and Family Satisfaction surveys. These favourable ratings are a result of our leadership team and staff believing that family engagement in resident care and programs is essential to enabling quality of life for our residents. As such, each month our staff makes it a priority to schedule exciting daily activities with vibrant entertainers for residents. The care team provides quality person-centered care and food services staff provides an opportunity for residents to engage in social gathering and sharing as residents age well and live better at Union Villa.

One family member noted that staff dedication to providing quality care and service to residents could be felt from the time you enter Union Villa. In addition to the positive feedback we received from residents and families, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care awarded Union Villa a status of "Good Standing". We are extremely proud to have achieved this status from the Ministry.

As we enter the second half of the year, we look forward to our staff doing great things for our residents as Union Villa becomes the preferred home of choice for families living in our community. It is truly an honour and a privilege to serve the residents and families of Union Villa.



MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING CEO, JULIE HORNE

Progress continues regarding the upcoming on-campus construction. The parties continue to meet regularly in relation to construction planning for the underground infrastructure services (water, sanitary sewers, storm water) and car and pedestrian access to the campus. Agreements for these 'early works' should be finalized and signed this summer allowing work to begin in the Fall and be completed by the new year (barring significant inclement weather or other unforeseen delays).

The project is being carefully planned to facilitate continuous access to the Union Villa building for our

stakeholders, service providers, contracted services and deliveries. Upon completion, we will have an improved entrance off of Highway 7 and better traffic flow in front of and to the east of Union Villa. There will be increased parking spaces for family, visitors and staff and updated infrastructure to service the campus for the future development by York Region and Minto.

We look forward to communicating regularly as we move closer to the day when the first shovel hits the ground. Notices will be posted throughout the campus and on our website (www.uhs.on.ca) regarding changes to traffic flow and parking which may impact how you gain access to the Unionville Home Society campus.

Resident Profile: Helen Beck

A PASSION FOR GOLF THAT CONTINUES

Story shared by Donna, Helen's daughter.

In 2004, my husband and I completed a sponsorship for my mother, aged 87, to move from California to join our family in Canada. There comes a time in one's life when, due to age or medical events, one must move closer to family.

My mother spent her first 12 years living independently at Wyndham Gardens, right behind Union Villa. When she needed more assistance, we were fortunate to be able to move her into Union Villa where she has been a resident now since April 2017.

My mother was born in 1917 and grew up in the logging town of Tupper Lake, NY, located in the beautiful Adirondack Mountains, near Lake Placid and Saranac Lake. Mom lived through the depression, and her family of 8 children, and 2 parents had it better than most families at the time. During the depression, many people were unemployed, but her father was fortunate to have a job and the ability to support his family.

In 1929, when my mother was 12, her father had taken a job as the manager of the newly built Big Wolf Golf course in Tupper Lake. One of the "perks" of managing a golf course was that every day after 5pm, family members could play for free. Between the ages of 12 to 16, my mother practiced regularly, and became a pretty good golfer with a "natural" swing.

When my mother turned 16, her father organized a



local women's golf tournament with the top prize of a sterling silver candy dish. Only 7 ladies competed as there were not many women golfers back then. My mother was one of those ladies; and she won the candy dish! It was engraved with her name and remains one of her prized childhood mementos. She will sheepishly admit that the competition was a bit "rigged", as her father knew that she was the best women's golfer around.

My mother entered St. Lawrence University in Canton NY, at the age of 16 and played on the ladies' golf team. Four years later in 1937, she earned her Bachelor's degree in Chemistry which was an unusual field for a woman. Mom moved to CA in 1950 and enjoyed golfing with friends until the age of 75.

One particular story stands out in my mother's memory during that time...

At the age of 12, to earn money and help her father, my mother worked behind the golf counter, selling candy bars while her brothers were caddies for tournaments. One summer day, a man by the name of George Gershwin came to play golf and my mother sold him a candy bar for 10 cents!! Everyone knew who George Gershwin was, as he had just composed his first big musical hit in 1924, "Rhapsody in Blue".

Back then, it was common practice for the wealthy folks from New York City to own posh "camps", also known as cottages, in the Adirondack area. They came to relax, enjoy the scenery, swim in the lakes, and play golf at their private golf clubs. Sadly, because George Gershwin was Jewish, he was not allowed to play golf at these private clubs so he golfed at public golf courses instead.

My mother is now 101 years old and her love of golf continues.

This past June, my mother was a guest at the 4th Annual Unionville Charity Golf Classic with the proceeds benefiting the residents of Union Villa. I was asked to introduce my mother to all the golfers and share her stories. My mother enjoyed being back at a golf course and surrounded by the beautiful greens.

UNION VILLA: EARLY ADOPTERS IN A PROGRAM TO TRANSFORM LONG-TERM CARE



Over the past year, Union Villa has been an early adopter and champion of a vital program to bring technology, in the form of Clinical Support Tools (CSTs), to long-term care homes across Ontario. This innovative initiative is funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, and is being rolled out across the province by Think Research and two long-term care associations: AdvantAge Ontario and the Ontario Long Term Care Association. Union Villa is a proud member of AdvantAge Ontario.

Based on a strategic decision to improve continence, along with a provincial Quality Indicator related to this area, Union Villa selected the Urinary Continence CST to use at the bedside and as a training tool to inform staff of best practices. Helping to standardize continence assessments, this new tool outperformed all previous continence tools used by Union Villa, allowing clinicians to identify and also fully address the root causes of incontinence – a level of decision support that previous tools did not provide.

In collaboration with Think Research, Union Villa began planning and implementation in late 2017, with staff training completed in February 2018. By March the home had trained 12 nursing champions and had completed 20 assessments. The tools have been in use at Union Villa now for over 5 months, and in this short time, have already helped to strengthen communication amongst our care team members, reduce administrative work, improve assessments, increase efficiency and support informed and structured clinical decision-making. For residents, the result is an increased quality of care in this fundamental area. Regular quarterly assessments and participation in scheduled toileting programs has dramatically reduced the demoralizing accidents that can negatively impact a resident's experience within a long-term care home.

Union Villa's project lead, RAI-MDS/Informatics RPN Mackenzie Ralph, was instrumental in ensuring the uptake and utilization of the tool. She says, "We've fully replaced our previous continence assessment tool with Think Research's Clinical Support Tool. The innovative technology has opened lines of communication amongst our care team and helped to standardize assessment as well as other care practices within Union Villa. It's completely changed how we approach continence management. Now, residents, families and caregivers are all speaking the same language." Building upon this early success, Union Villa also plans to advance to their project's next phase, which involves implementing the Skin and Wound Management CST under the direction of Eli Vega, Director of Care.

Union Villa Administrator Roxanne Adams is also thrilled with progress on this initiative: "Our staff is committed to providing resident-centred care so that residents can age gracefully and live healthier lives. We're pleased to collaborate with our partners on this shared initiative to advance the quality of life for residents living in long-term care homes across Ontario."

Volunteer Spotlight – Annie Liu

INTERGENERATIONAL CONNECTION



Annie Liu, a high school student at the University of Toronto Schools, began volunteering with Unionville Home Society on June 26, 2016 and quickly discovered she had embarked on a mutually rewarding journey. Her contributions have allowed more seniors to participate in recreational programs and during the Saturday afternoon Bingo program in the Buttonville dining room, she offers a pair of keen ears and sharp eyes on the lookout for the coveted card and the “Bingo!” winner.

For several weeks in her first summer at the Villa, Annie continued to volunteer from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, embracing here 1:1 visits with residents at risk of feeling isolated and with those who were more social. These daily

ventures turned into adventures as Annie’s Friendly Visiting role allows her to have a more personal and impactful connection with our seniors

Annie has become very fond of Isabelle who relishes conversation about books, travel, people and adventure. When she realized that Isabelle’s love of books matched her own passion for stories, she took to reading Agatha Christie murder mysteries aloud – a genre they both find intriguing. When Annie asks Isabelle if she remembers what happened in the previous chapter, she responds, “No, but don’t start over!” With a smile, Annie adds that Isabelle’s ideas are, “...eye opening and conscious... sharp! It’s a happy moment when you make a connection with someone you never thought you could.”

Annie also visits another resident, Maria, who is often in the lounge watching TV when she arrives. She quietly asks if she’d like to chat and Maria answers favourably. She finds Maria to be, “...so polite and curious about my life. We often talk by the window in the Buttonville lounge and she tells me about her childhood and her cultural roots.”

Since Annie joined our volunteer team, her genuine interest in the lives of our residents has not wavered. She is looking forward to continuing her volunteer service in the Friendly Visiting Program and implies that her adventures here are just beginning.

ENJOYING THEIR GARDEN’S BOUNTY

Union Villa residents enjoyed their first crop of vegetables from the garden courtyard. On a beautiful summer day, the residents joined the Recreation team to make a fresh salad of mixed greens and fragrant herbs from the garden were used in the tuna salad. Staff engaged residents in a discussion on the many varieties of lettuce.

Special mention goes to the BMO volunteers who chose Union Villa for their Day of Caring. The planter boxes were transformed thanks to funds provided by BMO to buy the plants and vegetables. The volunteers spent an entire morning planting with the residents.

We look forward to the next harvest.





MEMBERSHIP DRIVE & OPEN HOUSE

Enjoy life at your own speed and join the Unionville Community Centre for Seniors.

The Unionville Community Centre for Seniors is part of the New Unionville Home Society campus. This bright, two-storey building is wheelchair accessible and open to residents of York Region who are 55+. The membership based centre offers exercise classes, speaker series, cultural events and social programs that focus on seniors and promote healthy living.

FALL OPEN HOUSE

Friday September 14, 2018

Unionville Community Centre for Seniors
17 Anna Russell Way Unionville, Ontario L3R 3X3

Membership Registration:

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

BBQ Lunch:

12 noon - 1:30 p.m.
(complimentary to members)

Annual Membership Fee:

\$25.00 (September 2018 to September 2019)

For more information, contact the UCCS office at 905.477.2839 ext 4268

Need a great space for your next event, family function or celebration?

Contact us to view our spaces and inquire about rental rates at 905.477.2839 ext 4268

Meeting Room

Perfect space for small gatherings or business meetings, surrounded by windows

Size: 570 sq ft Capacity: 30 guests

Auditorium

Beautiful and rustic with high ceilings and surrounded by windows

Size: 1,840 sq ft Capacity: 80-100 persons

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.

2018 GARDEN BY THE GREENS – Helping our residents' garden grow

On May 2nd, the annual Garden by the Greens Luncheon was held at Angus Glen Golf Club. Over \$8000 was raised with funds directed towards the enhancement of the resident sensory garden and courtyard at Union Villa.

“Canada’s Expert Gardeners” Mark and Ben Cullen filled the room with laughter and trendy gardening advice with their father-son presentation. Guests were given the opportunity to ask their gardening questions and were showered with prizes. Kate Seaver, owner of Kate’s Garden and avid supporter of Union Villa, emceed the event and delivered an inspiring and educational floral demonstration.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our fundraiser that highlights the importance of gardens and its benefits to our residents.

Thank you to our Sponsors: Chapel Ridge Funeral Home, Flato Developments, Stephen Tar Team, The Hogan Group, Rouge Valley Chartwell and Helping you Move Team RE/MAX.



2018 UNIONVILLE COMMUNITY GOLF CLASSIC – BEST YEAR YET!

Over \$85,000 raised for the residents

The 4th Annual Unionville Charity Golf Classic was held on Thursday June 21st at the Angus Glen Golf Club. Co-Chairs Danny Fantini and Larry Mariani along with their tireless committee organized an outstanding tournament raising its largest amount to date. Over \$85,000 was raised and will be directed to resident dining area upgrades and the purchase of adaptive tables to enhance reach and accessibility for residents with limited mobility.

The early morning shotgun started with perfect weather conditions that lasted throughout the day. Golfers indulged in various on course activities and culinary stations hosted by our generous sponsors. The event concluded with a BBQ lunch and an awards and cheque presentation at the clubhouse. 101 year old Union Villa resident, Helen, a former avid golf player attended as a special guest and along with her daughter Donna, graciously thanked all who supported in the event.

Thank you to the 48 sponsors as well as patron donors, golfers and volunteers, who continue to demonstrate their leadership in making long-term care a priority for the seniors in our community. Mark your calendars for the 2019 Tournament on Thursday June 20th.



THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 SPONSORS & PARTICIPANTS

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PRESENTING SPONSORS:





MAJOR SPONSORS:























CONTEST SPONSORS:





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Councillor Don Hamilton • Rob & Wendy Kadlowski • Lennard Commercial Realty
Mariani's Clothiers • Markham Review Old Country Inn Restaurant • The Brandon Group
Unionville Appliance Inc. • Wamco Supplies • XMC Mortgage Corporation

A special thank you

Co-Chairs Larry Mariani & Danny Fantini,
and committee members - Lori Manserra, Jan van Velzen, Paul Cousens, Patrick O'Hanlon,
Glenn Crosby, Councillor Don Hamilton, Jordana Illies & Maria Dimson

Net proceeds to support Union Villa Long Term Care Home.



UPCOMING EVENT – SAVE THE DATE

2018 DINNER PARTY – SWEET HOME UNION VILLA

Since 1968, Unionville Home Society has been fundraising to directly impact the health and wellness, care and comfort of the residents at Union Villa Long Term Care home.

Our Foundation signature fundraiser is the elegant Union Villa Dinner Party & After Lounge at Angus Glen Golf Club. Enjoy a fun and memorable night, with live entertainment, a gourmet meal, cocktails, live and silent auctions, and opportunities to celebrate our residents.

This year's theme "Sweet Home Union Villa", highlights the importance of providing a home like environment that promotes quality of care and quality of life.

Proceeds raised at the 2018 Dinner Party will benefit Project Comfort Excellence, which focuses on enhancing our resident's home-like surroundings and experience.



Unionville Home Society Foundation proudly presents

Sweet Home
UNION VILLA
2018 Union Villa Dinner Party

Friday, November 2, 2018
Angus Glen Golf Club 6:30 p.m.

Dinner Party Tickets	Early Bird (before Sept. 1 st)	\$200
	As of Sept. 1 st	\$225
Corporate Tables (Table of 10)		\$2750

To purchase tickets or inquire about sponsorship, contact the Foundation Office:
Phone: 905.477.2839 ext. 4270
Email: dinnerparty@uhs.on.ca

Celebrating residents and enriching their lives

Charitable Registration #877/2 1940 RR0001

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.