

Tollendale Tales



Publication of the tenants of Tollendale Village

A Christian Retirement Community

274 Hurst Drive, Barrie ON. L4N 0Z3

Tel. 705-722-0469

Email: info@tollendavillage.ca



05062008

The first class of computer students in the programme “Connecting Seniors to the Digital World,” graduated on May 6, 2008. Here they are proudly showing their diplomas. In the second row from the top, on the right, is Debbie Foll, the computer teacher.

THE GARDEN PARTY

By Rev. Don French (G10)

Now, I would like to tell you about my dream. Right at the outset I want to affirm that I’m weak at dream interpretation. But this little one prompted a few interesting afterthoughts. My dream focussed on the tiny garden plots that I, along with other stalwart residents of Tollendale Village tend affectionately from spring to fall, casting backaches and fatigue aside. This plot which I call “the farm” provides a great deal of joy as those small seeds grow to maturity and there is produce to enjoy and to share. My enjoyment is not related to knowledge and skill. I can recognize the

difference between rhubarb and spinach, but I have a high level of dependence on “Mother Nature.”

My dream focussed on a glorious proliferation of plants nearing maturity and the possibility of harvest. Then the imagery changed to uncomfortable reality. At the far side of my farm there is a fence which separates the gardens from a forest area. On the outside of the fence was a conglomerate of animals, including rabbits, groundhogs, deer, and even a skunk, you guessed it: they were planning a GARDEN PARTY.

Could it have been that they read a sign placed on the path by some “fun-loving” neighbour that said in big, bold letters “EAT AT DON’S”?

It may have been the unconscious prompting of breakfast that awakened me to thoughts of food and

how important food is to human and animal life alike. After a substantial breakfast I again reflected on my dream. The thought of animal encroachment faded as I considered the world situation. I thought of the 352 million of my brothers and sisters who are chronically hungry due to extreme poverty and suffer conditions that will not sustain active, healthy life. Food shortage can be blamed on a variety of causes such as climate changes, water shortage, crop diseases and government mismanagement. Some maintain that food security is a right and that the world can produce enough food for all its population to have enough food and thus be free of hunger and fear of starvation. Sadly, we learn that about 800 million of our world population of approximately 6 billion exist without enough daily food. Even in our “land of plenty” there are families living on a subsistence level lacking healthy nutrition.



What can we do to alleviate this situation? Would a substantial increase in our nation’s contribution help? Could our governments dispense with playing political games and address this issue? Should we advise our elected representatives that we are concerned and want to share more of our resources?

Meanwhile, back to my dream and possibly another garden party? Now I am confronted with unresolved issues. Am I right to deprive these creatures of the forest from dining on the succulent fare produced on “my farm?” Some of the remedies suggested would place my produce far above the price I would pay at a local market or store.

The problems related to my farm are miniscule when compared to our world situation. Perhaps we can arrange a compromise. Could we establish a food bank for these beautiful creatures down in the forest? Guess I’ll just pick up my tools and go to work at the farm. Adds some meaning to our prayer “Give us this day our daily bread,” doesn’t it?



Executive director’s report, April 29, 2008, 2008

Final report

This will be my last report in *Tollendale Tales* as your Executive Director. It was more than 12 years ago that I began my involvement with Tollendale Village, and it has been a wonderful journey. To see the project go from owning no property to the campus we have today

has been incredibly rewarding. To get to know so many wonderful people along the way has been a real joy. However it is time to hand the reins over to someone else who will bring some renewed vigour to the project.

We now interrupt Sid’s report ...



The future of Tollendale Village

Smile ...

This was the scene last February when our future executive director and the editor were in the Dominican Republic as members of a 13-person HANDS (Help Another Nation Develop Schools) work team that helped build an addition to a school in Los Guandules.

Are Tollendale residents from now on going to do the heavy work while their director is napping ...? To be fair, workers needed their siesta and Leo Smit’s system (as well as that of several other participants, including your editor) did not take kindly to the food and the fumes in the *barrio*.

We invite Leo to try the food in Tollendale’s dining room. It’s good, and safe.

Executive Director

The Board interviewed several applicants and has offered the position to Mr. Leo Smit. Leo will be

assuming the position at the end of this month. There will be an opportunity for staff and residents to meet Leo when he is formally introduced by the Board to the organization on May 16 at 3:30 p. m. in the Gathering Place. This will be preceded by the sod-turning ceremony that will take place outside. You are all welcome to attend this event. (See also next column).

Nursing Home Project manager

The Board has requested that I stay on as Project Manager for the nursing home and I have agreed to do so. Therefore my involvement with Tollendale will continue in some capacity for the next 18 -24 months.

Personal note

This past month and a half has also been a very emotionally difficult time for me and my family as we experienced the passing away of my wife Rose. However the outpouring of support from so many of you during this time has been very comforting. I want to thank all of you who attended the memorial service, sent cards, made visits and provided food. No doubt, life will be different; however with your continued encouragement, I know my family and I will be sustained through the months ahead.

As many of you know, Rose's passion in the last several years of her life was raising funds for the Leprosy Mission. She did this partially through the design and sale of a variety of greeting cards which can be purchased in the Village Square at the Tollendale Treasures and Gift Store. You will still be able to purchase her cards there as our daughter Erica promised her mother that she would continue to make the cards available. We thank all who support this cause through your purchases.

Resolution of disagreement with City of Barrie

Many of you are aware of the fact that we had challenged the City of Barrie on the amount of various fees it was intending to charge us for the nursing home. We have now agreed to a settlement whereby the city withdrew its request for the extra park levy and they also reduced the amount of development charges by 50%. This saved the organization in the order of \$500,000.00. I want to thank everyone, including many of the residents who took the time to attend the meetings at city hall, and who wrote letters to the council and the editors of the local newspapers.

Final hurdle passed

This past week we received news that our funding for the nursing home has finally been approved. This was the last issue that needed to be resolved so we are now

in a position to formally award the contract to the contractor Melloul-Blamey. This should take place in the next few days.

Sod-turning ceremony

An official sod-turning ceremony will take place on Friday, May 16 at 3:30 p.m. in front of Sunrise Place. Again, everyone is invited to attend this historic event. Note: The new executive director will be introduced then as well.

Computer courses successful

In March we began offering computer lessons to our residents in the new computer lab, which is funded through a grant from the federal government. This is turning out to be a great success. At last count over 140 residents have signed up for lessons, and the feedback we are receiving on the program has been excellent. Residents speak highly of the program and especially of our instructor Debbie Foll, her resident volunteer assistant Sylvia Small and staff member Nancy Bigelow.

Elevator/lift installation

The installation of the elevator/lift in the Village Square is progressing nicely. It should be up and running in the next several weeks. It is intended only for the use of residents who have mobility difficulties and not for the general population. I also want to express my thanks to those who operate the Tollendale Village Boutique for their donation towards the cost of a power door operator from Trinity Woods to the Village Square. This will make access to this elevator even easier.

Fee adjustments

The Board has recently approved the budget for the next fiscal year and all residents will be receiving a notice of the maintenance and nursing fee adjustment applicable to their unit by the end of May

I thank you again for your support over the years that it has been my privilege to serve you as your executive director. May God bless you all!
Sid Tjeerdsma



A look
back at
the long,
long
winter

Tollendale Tenant Committee

Meeting of March 19, 2008

Members present: Albert Brouwer, Adriana Frouws, Bob Hamilton, Joanne Hammers, Jim Pratt, Clarence VanderLei, Sid Tjeerdsma, Carol Visser

Members absent: Helen Matthews, Harry VanderKooij, Sid VanDyke

Business notes

1. Sid Tjeerdsma reports: a) Work on the elevator has begun and the lift should be ready for use by April 10; b) There is no news regarding the development fees. City Hall discussions are taking place behind closed doors. c) A new Tollendale Village flag will be hoisted when the weather improves.
2. The welcome committee visited Reg and Rita Bettam (B108).
3. The committee will send a written response to a letter writer about the use of the lower level bulletin boards.
4. The Bibles for Missions thrift store is to use the lower bulletin boards only.
5. The matter of the many requests regarding posters on bulletin boards will be reviewed and dealt with.
6. A cover was bought for one of the pool tables.

Meeting of April 16, 2008

Members present: Albert Brouwer; Adriana Frouws; Bob Hamilton; Jim Pratt; Sid Tjeerdsma; Clarence VanderLei; Harry VanderKooij; Sid VanDyke; Carol Visser

Members absent: Joanne Hammers; Helen Matthews

Business notes

1. The following people were welcomed to the village by the welcoming committee: Norman and Mary Williams (B121); Peggie Telford (A205); Ed and Adeline Yuzdepski (A206)
2. Sid Tjeerdsma reported that Leo Smit has been hired as executive director. He will begin his duties at the end of May.
3. The lift parts have arrived and the lift should be running shortly.
4. The dispute with the City about development fees has been settled. Approval from the ministry of Health and Long Term Care is in place to go ahead with the building.
5. Several pieces of correspondence were read and dealt with.

6. A draft of the nomination form for new tenant committee members was read and approved.
7. The Josties concert was discussed at length. The committee agreed to serve refreshments after the concert.
8. We agreed that we should have a better understanding and communication with the organizers of events when the serving of refreshments is required.
9. The next meeting is to take place on May 21.

TTC Treasurer's report

Balance on hand

January 31, 2008 \$4,050.81

Income

Coffee social \$195.00
Busy Needles \$60.00
Collection \$247.00
Collection \$37.45
Total income: \$539.00
Balance \$4,590.26

Expenses

Supplies \$72.95
Sundries \$339.96
Coffee pot \$192.10
Classical music \$100.00
Tea towels \$11.28
Gift certificate \$27.00
Total expenses \$443.29
Balance \$4,146.97

Savings account balance \$6,411.96

Deposit from store \$10,000.00

Balance on hand

February 29, 2008 \$4,146.97

Income

Zehrs vouchers \$209.73
Barbershop Vocal Group \$141.25
Irish Night \$138.95
A&M vouchers \$80.00
Transfer in from Tollendale (cups) \$239.85
Total income \$809.58
Balance \$4,956.55

Expenses

Irish Night \$100.00
Barbershop Vocal Group \$50.00
Supplies \$74.59
Tollendale Village \$271.03
Pool table cover \$86.40
Total expenses \$582.02
Balance \$4,373.53

Savings account \$16,411.96

Here at Tollendale



We remember:

Aline Holloway (D109), March 5, 2008
Russell Power (A219), May 4, 2008

We welcome:

Ed and Grace Barker (A116), from

Barrie

Norm & Marie Williams (B121), from Washago

Peggy Telford (A205), from Barrie

Ed & Adeline Yuzdepski (A206), from Toronto

We say goodbye to

John Kapteyn (A311), to a nursing home in Barrie

Dennis McDevitte (C217) to RVH

Helen Thompson (A313), to Victoria Village Manor

Chaplain's Corner

By Rev. Siebert VanHouten

Grief Support Group

Members of a grief support group meet weekly for about six to eight weeks in order to discuss topics of grief and loss. Residents find support as they mourn the loss of loved ones. If you might be interested in such a group or would like to know more, please call the chaplain at 722-0469 Ext. 61 or drop by the chaplain's office.

Spiritual Care Resource Room/Quiet Room

If you need some quiet time, or a space to talk to someone privately, the room across from the gift shop is available for resident use. There are also some materials available for all residents. No reservation is needed. To ensure privacy please use the "Do Not Disturb" sign.

Ladies' Day Apart

The Ladies' Day Apart event was a huge success. Almost a 150 women attended, with many coming from outside of Tollendale. The singing and speeches were inspiring and the entertainment set a new height in fashion statement.

I thank the organizing committee for doing such a wonderful job. We have CDs and DVDs of the event available. If you are interested in purchasing a CD, please call Evelyn Raison at 726-1434.

Alpha Course

Some years ago we ran a ten-week course using the well known material of the Alpha Series. It was appreciated as it gave an opportunity to review and discuss some of the major teachings of the Christian faith.

I am willing to organize another course if there is enough interest. Please call the chaplain, or drop by the office if you are interested in attending.

Ladies' Day Apart



At the age of ninety, Helen Wheelan (left) was one of the oldest attendees at the morning session of the Ladies' Day Apart. She received a door prize from Adriana Frouws.

The second Ladies' Day Apart was held on April 19. About 150 women attended the event organized by the spiritual carte committee. It had a morning and an afternoon segment with a speaker and special music, and also included a lunch and a fun fashion show.

Speaker Ruth Bauman-Wight said that we all are on a journey, a figurative path of time, experience, of body, soul and spirit. "God imagined you," she said. "He is consistently involved in your life for which he has a plan and purpose." Through her own suffering her perspective on life changed. "Suffering can have redeeming qualities, when it helps us relate better to others who suffer," she said. She urged us to have spiritual disciplines. "Draw a line of your life," she said, "Put symbols that line, memorial markers, truths and Bible verses that sustain you."



Carolyn Merritt wore a 'spring' dress in the fun fashion show.



Dirk and Stephanie Dearham

Stephanie Dearham's story

By Julie Christiaanse

Stephanie Dearham (D006) was prepared for the interview when I visited her, with three pages of factual information about her life and that of her late husband Dirk who passed away in November 2007. They had been married for almost sixty years.

Over a cup of *rooibos* (red bush) tea, Stephanie filled me in further on their lives that began in South Africa. Stephanie Buckton was born in 1927 in Observatory, a suburb of Cape Town. Her parents had another daughter nine months later. Because her mother now had two babies to care for, the paternal grandparents offered to take Stephanie, a practice not as unusual at that time as it may seem now. The home where she grew up – and where an aunt became her primary caregiver – was about seven miles from her parents' place. Only the school holidays were spent with her parents. Stephanie has mixed feelings about that situation. She sometimes felt left out of things that happened in the family, but she also got things her two sisters and two brothers did not have when they were growing up – the nice clothes her aunt made, for one.

Stephanie attended a Dutch Reformed Church school that had many British teachers. She went on to teacher training college, a college her future husband Dirk Dearham had also attended several years earlier. Her first teaching assignment was at Ashley Street Primary School in Cape Town and she remembers a visit from American film and stage actor Tyrone Power to the school. Stephanie loved a variety of sports, especially

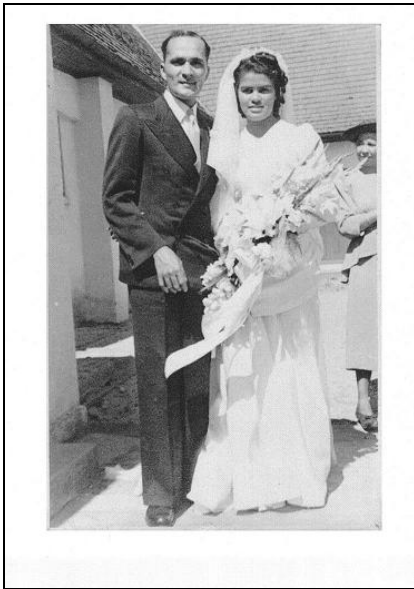
field hockey and net ball, and the social aspect of team play. While continuing to play she became the younger players' den-mother after her marriage.

Stephanie met her husband-to-be in 1947. Dirk Dearham grew up on the Marsh Memorial Homes, an orphanage on a huge acreage near Athlone, set up by the Reverend William Marsh, a wealthy Cape Town business man. "He must have been exceedingly rich," says Stephanie, "because the homes were self sufficient." Dirk's father was one of the many workers there, living on the periphery of the orphanage grounds. His job, being "in charge of the carriages," provided the family – Dirk was the youngest of seven children – with barely enough to live on. Dirk also became a teacher – a good education could raise a diligent young person out of hopelessness. They were married in Cape Town in 1949.



Stephanie was keen on several sports

Dirk and Stephanie belonged to those of mixed descent, the "Coloureds." Even before apartheid became the official policy, South Africa had a long history of official racial segregation and white supremacy. This policy affected every aspect of society. "Coloureds were to be equipped to be good servants in the white households," says Stephanie. Restrictions on the level of education the non-whites could receive contributed to the frustration they felt and to their later decision to leave the country. Interestingly, Dirk had worked as a white carpenter-journey man in Johannesburg for a while before they married. "He crossed the line," says Stephanie.



Dirk Dearham and Stephanie Buckton on their wedding day 1949

Dirk had grown up in a musically talented family – his mother played the church organ – and Dirk received a harmonica (mouth organ), the only present his parents could afford, as a gift every Christmas. So when the Dearham's four children, Colleen, Wesley, Andrew and Trevor were old enough, they were enrolled in the Royal Schools of Music run by the South African College of Music. However, under rules connected with the racial segregation they “could not do anything with their music” beyond Grade Six.

Flowers also played an important part in the family's life. Dirk became a skilled dahlia grower, and showed his flowers at shows, a task which involved the whole family. (Years later, he was delighted to find that dahlias also thrive in the Ontario summer.)

In the sixties, unrest increased in South Africa with people fighting against segregation and oppression by the whites. Stephanie says that on Dirk's principal's suggestion the family made preparations to emigrate to Canada. Canada was a young country and appealing to South Africa for teachers. Although Dirk was needed as a teacher in his school, the principal advised the family to go to a safe country where the children could pursue their music studies and the parents could better their education.

Writes Stephanie: “In 1966 there were uprisings just smouldering so we took his advice. We sold our house and belongings, packed up and with the money paid our fare by ship first to Southampton, then to Liverpool by train where we boarded the Empress of Canada.” After ten days the family disembarked in Montreal. Their financial situation was so tight that there was no money at all left for food, not for the

many hours spent in Montreal waiting for the train to Toronto or to take with them on the long train ride. “But the children were so good,” says Stephanie. Their only comfort was that, with the help of Stephanie's brother-in-law who worked for the YMCA in Cape Town, contact had been made with the YMCA in Toronto and they were assured someone would meet them at Union Station. Arriving in Toronto in the middle of the night, they ended up in one-room rooming house on Dundonald Street. Immediately the next day Dick found a temporary job as a carpenter at the YMCA and Stephanie looked for a house to rent. It was cold in Toronto in November and the weather was a great adjustment for the South African family. They received some help from the Immigration Department which put them up in a hotel for a few weeks. It became imperative for Dirk to find good permanent employment as soon as possible. Through a connection, Dirk heard of and applied for a teaching position in Alliston at Alliston Union School. Before the winter really set in, the family found itself in a rented house in that town.

Neither Dirk nor Stephanie knew anything about heating a house, so they spent the first night in their clothes on the floor in a cold house, not being familiar with a thermostat. “But people were really good,” says Stephanie. Colleagues and neighbours rallied around them, providing the family with some furniture and other necessities. It was also not unusual for the Dearhams to find a sack of potatoes or a bag of beans on their doorstep.



The Dearhams with their children, Colleen, Wesley, Andrew and Trevor

They became members of the Alliston United Church, although Dirk had been raised in the Methodist Church and Stephanie was Anglican. Dirk and Colleen soon joined the choir. Dirk thrived in his new school and when the new music teacher at Banting Memorial High School thought it important that his students

learned to play a band instrument before they entered high school, Dirk was off to the races. He got the local Lion's Club to pay for the instruments for grades 4-8. He also started the Alliston Cowhand Band, so named because with that image they could get away with less-expensive outfits, just jeans and regular shirts. The Lion's Club, again, provided the vests on the condition that the band would march in every parade in which the Lions took part. The band became well known in Alliston. "Dirk worked day and night with the children," says Stephanie. "He was driven to teach, and the children were very fond of him."

When their children were in high school, Stephanie, at the age of 42, went back to school to upgrade herself. She joined her daughter Colleen in grade 13 in Banting Memorial High School and got her Canadian credits. With the teaching certificate she already had she got a teaching position at Baxter Central School which she held from 1974-1978. Before beginning to teach there she took the first of several summer school courses – teaching methods – at Jesse Ketchum Public School in Toronto. In subsequent years, she took art courses and became an art supervisor for grades K-11. When she also taught evening classes at the high school or after-school art classes her life became even busier. "Dirk was a great assistant," says Stephanie.

That busy life changed when Stephanie suffered a stroke at the age of 54, a year after she had begun teaching at Tecumseth North Elementary School. Although making a full recovery after intensive rehabilitative therapy, Stephanie did not return to teaching.

They had taken up dahlia growing again, became members of the Dahlia and Chrysanthemum Society at Edwards Gardens and participated in big shows in Canada and the United States. "Dahlia people travelled great distance to attend shows," says Stephanie.

Dirk retired from teaching in 1983. In 2003, he developed the first signs of Alzheimer's disease which, when he lost his ability to function, resulted in a stay in a nursing home for the last seven months of his life. They had moved to Tollendale Village in 2004, when the large property in Alliston became too work-intensive. Stephanie's daughter Colleen lives with her mother. They take part in Tollendale's musical and social life. "All the people on this floor celebrate each others' birthdays," says Stephanie, "and we organize potluck suppers." The (well known in Tollendale) Izzy dolls Stephanie knits are sure to warm the hearts of children in Third World countries. All Dirk and Stephanie's children pursued further music studies. Trevor is head of the music department in a New Market high school. □

Trends in volunteering



Rev. Rick Horst, speaker at the Volunteer Appreciation event, with (left) Reta Tanner and Ruth Short

Rev. Dr. Rick Horst of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Barrie, was invited to speak to Tollendale residents about volunteering in today's society. He was so kind to give *Tollendale Tales* with an overview of his remarks.

"In a world of changing paradigms and practices, what are some of the impacts of these changes for volunteering in our day? Let's look briefly at three "shifts" from earlier ways of doing volunteering.

1. From Institution to Movement

There is a time for institutions and a time for movements. We are living in a time of movements. In our time, people are drawn to movements, not institutions. The movement for international debt relief brought us the "Live 8" concerts around the world of which Barrie was a strategic part. Movements focus on people. Institutions focus on policies. Movements develop people. Institutions develop structures. Today, people "join up" to something when it provides three things: help, hope and home. If instead they get policies, programs and procedures, they will leave. Today, people don't join the Canadian Cancer Society; instead they participate in the Annual Terry Fox Run. When people consider the values of an *institution* (obligation, correction, duty and loyalty), they turn away to find the values of a *movement* (love, encouragement, forgiveness and sharing).

In our time, volunteers are looking to be a part of a movement, not an institution.



Staff member Dale Rutherford serves Tom McBryan, Jim Pratt and Tony Verkaik at the volunteer luncheon

2. From Commitment to Compassion

In an earlier time, people and organizations could focus primarily on the motivations of challenge, reasonability and commitment. This is no longer so. Today, compassion, community and hope are more encouraging. People are seldom willing to continue with a venture on the basis of being committed to it. They might actually be *very* committed to it, be it a service club, a religious organization or a charity, but the distinction here is significant. Their motivation to work and participate is not one of commitment but rather compassion, community and hope. In our day, we would rather be engaged in sharing and caring than in duty and obligation. Don't get me wrong. Commitment is a good thing, but it's no longer the motivating force that it was in your earlier years. As volunteer organizations in the community, we appeal to people with our "mission and vision" and not on the basis that they "ought" to join in the effort. People who are helpful are people who want to make a difference for good. They're not so interested in organizing as they are in contributing genuine human help.

3. From "Solid Marathon Runner" to "Excellent Sprinter"

We used to live in a culture of "solid marathon running." People were taught to appreciate the person who took on a job and kept it for life! But in our time, excellent sprinter behaviour is more effective and timely. Marathon behaviour can be helpful, but sprinter behaviour is now more effective. Marathoners do what they do routinely, regularly, weekly, monthly, year-in - year-out. Sprinters do what they do in short-term, highly intensive ways, now here, now there, near

the time at hand. In a world of rapid change where flexibility has become a major personal asset, sprinters are better able to make a helpful contribution of time and talent and move on to the next significant need. People will volunteer their gifts and abilities for one-time requirements in helpful ways. Almost no one will volunteer to serve in a capacity with a long-term timeline built in. They may over time remain in the position if it's something they love doing, but it will be for them something that they do with a one-year or one-event focus, and then they will re-commit themselves for another one-event, short time-horizon opportunity. "Sprinting" helps to keep a person's energy level high, while "marathoning" will likely deaden a person's resolve to see a project through to completion. There will always be a need for some solid marathon runners in our culture. They do good work. But in our day, many more people will be willing to offer good work on an excellent sprinter basis.

So these are just three paradigms that have shifted since the days of your youth. There are others, but these three are decisive and strategic for how we view volunteering in our day. They are signs of our rapidly changing world. Some things, however, have not changed, and we are glad for that.

What hasn't changed is the Jude-Christian value of "loving our neighbour as ourselves." We volunteer because we believe that it is our spiritual calling to care for others in our world. Another thing that has not changed is that in spite of the fragmented nature of our world, we still believe and know that we are part of a society. We are not islands unto ourselves, and so we have a moral obligation to look around to see the many ways that we can create a better world and community through our efforts on behalf of the people with whom we share this planet. And finally, we consent to be volunteers in our day because, in spite of what we may see in images provided by the media around us, we actually care about people. To be human is to care in meaningful, life-enhancing ways. You do what you do, you volunteer where you volunteer, because you care. And that is why we are here today, appreciating your efforts to make a difference in people's lives. On behalf of all who benefit from your gifts of time, skill and effort, thank you!"

Rick Horst

Are you new to Tollendale Village?

You will now be able to read past issues of *Tollendale Tales* in the library in the Village Square. Do not take the binder out of the library.



Margaret Kwasny is wearing the 'Save Our Seniors' t-shirt Tollendale intended to use to press our case with City Hall

TOMORROW'S SENIOR

At the annual general meeting of Simcoe County Senior Christian Home Inc (SCCSH Inc) on November 19, 2007, executive director Sid Tjeerdsma reported on the results of a survey that had taken place earlier last year. The questionnaire, titled "Tomorrow's Senior," part of the strategic planning process, was sent to (then) current residents and to those on the waiting list. In addition, similar organizations were asked to survey their waiting lists. According to Sid, the response was "beyond expectations." Residents' response rate was 75% and 1,500 responses were received from those on various waiting lists. All information remains anonymous and was entered into a data base. The information will be used to assess the needs of current residents and is important in the strategic planning process as the results have consequences for future plans.

Sid gave an analysis of the information gleaned (shown on slides) and the implication for future plans.

Listed below are most of the categories in the survey, with factual information shown.

Marital status: Of the residents in Tollendale Village, more than 60% were female and less than 40% male. Less than 60% are still married.

Age: The most prevalent age group is in the 70 - 80 age bracket.

Family size: Among current residents most families have 3 children, whereas among those on the waiting list it is split evenly between 2 and 3 children.

Income: Those on the waiting list, on average, have a higher level of income than current residents (part of the reason may be that some on the waiting lists are still employed). Those on our waiting lists also have a significantly higher net worth than current residents

Unit (dwelling type): Most units are the two-bedroom type. Nearly 20% of the units are rented and an additional 10% are partially life-leased/partially rented.

Retired/ employed: More than 95% are not employed at all.

(Previous) Occupations: A significant number were involved in management of some kind and many women were involved in the clerical field (making Tollendale a true community with individuals having a wide range of skill and experience).

Ability to drive: More than 30% of residents do not have a driver's license as compared to just over 10% of those on the waiting lists.

Personality type: Nearly 40% of residents consider themselves to have a leadership type personality.

Computer literacy: About 40% of residents have at least some computer literacy. Of those on the waiting list nearly 60% are computer literate with more than 10% very computer literate.

Last will and testament: Although 30 % intend to leave as much as possible to their children, the remainder intend to leave none or only some.

Level of education: The number of those who have post-secondary education will continue to increase in the future.

Pensions: What percentage of residents live on only a government pension and how many also have a private pension? There is still a significant percentage that only has the one pension as income.

Accommodation Tollendale provides: At least 90% want Tollendale to be a location where there is a continuum of care. In other words, they want Tollendale to have the whole range of accommodation, from independent living, through assisted living to full nursing home care. This confirms that the original vision the founders of this organization had, to provide a complete range of accommodation and services, was the correct one.

BIRTHDAYS

Age when moving to Tollendale: More than 50% of residents moved before they were 75 years old and 10% before they were 65 years old.

Where we came from: Nearly 50% came from within about 25 km of the Village. The other 50% came from outside the immediate Barrie area. Nearly 80% do not receive any kind of assistance from family.

Volunteering: According to the survey replies nearly 40% do some kind of volunteering at least once a week.

Physical activity: Nearly 90% of residents engage in some kind of physical activity (mostly walking).
Programs and amenities: The dining room is the most popular service followed by spiritual care and nursing services. Those on our waiting list also listed dining services as their most preferred, with spiritual care and recreational activities coming a close second.

Why Tollendale?

- Why do individuals want to move to a facility such as ours, regardless of where it is? Most of the respondents (60%) indicated it was because they no longer wanted to look after a home.
- Why did residents choose Tollendale over some other facility? Most said they wanted to be close to family, and because it was a faith-based facility.



On March 28, Alva Crawford and Betty Virgoe bring some of their purchases to Mrs. F. Kiers from Country Boutique. It was Kiers' last sale day at Tollendale Village.



The photo directory still 'under construction'
 "We hope to be getting back to the photo registry later this month when Diane is once again available after her classes have finished." (Nancy Bigelow).

May 01	Kooi	Jan
May 01	Wesson	Donald
May 05	Charles	Frank
May 06	Mast	Eliza
May 07	Ruddick	Alvin
May 07	Snieder	Elisabeth
May 08	Harmston	Kenneth
May 08	VanderByl	Bill
May 11	VanderKlugt	Mary
May 12	Mohlmann	Ina
May 13	Kwasny	Margaret
May 14	DeWinter	Bill
May 16	Kamstra	Frank
May 17	Short	Ruth
May 18	Kleinsteiber	Marianne
May 18	Nijenhuis	Mieke
May 20	Huculak	Kathleen
May 23	Eigenhuis	Jake
May 23	Patterson	Lorraine
May 24	Chapla	Michael
May 24	Jagt	Jerry
May 24	Portengen	Frank
May 25	Bowman	Margaret
May 25	Helleman	Corrie
May 25	Hill	Fernande
May 28	McBryan	Tom
May 29	Zaluski	Rejeanne
May 30	Cameron	Mildred
May 30	Dekker	Minnie
May 30	Waalwyk	Toos
June 04	Bishop	June
June 04	Vogel	Karel
June 06	Vegter	Anne
June 07	Casey	Arthur
June 09	Benum	Irene
June 10	Foster	Lois
June 10	McMillan	Doreen
June 12	Leblanc	Bernice
June 14	Bouius	John
June 14	Wheelan	Helen
June 15	Cornelisse	Herb
June 16	Henstra	Margaret
June 17	Ball	Esther
June 17	Scheepstra	Ellen
June 18	Langlois	Jeannette
June 20	Gillis	Myrna
June 20	Langenhuizen	Tilly
June 21	Averell	Jack
June 21	French	Don
June 24	Groen	Jelle
June 24	Langenhuizen	Jack
June 24	Stassen	Henk
June 25	Stassen	Janny
June 27	Rupke	Rebecca
June 29	DeWinter	Madeleine

June 29	Frankland	Elva
June 30	Hoving	June
June 30	Leeman	Susan
July 02	Brooks	Jean
July 02	Mast	Audrey
July 04	Zondervan	Betty
July 05	Arends	Hans
July 04	Pifher	Marie
July 10	Dennis	Joline E.
July 10	Campbell	Anne
July 11	Connacher	Doreen
July 11	Hardstone	Elaine
July 12	Borgdorff	Henk
July 12	Brouwer	Albert
July 13	van der Toorn	Attie
July 14	Bos	Trudy
July 15	Heemskerk	Sara
July 16	St. Peter	Anita
July 17	Charters	Don
July 17	Cook	Alma
July 17	DeGorter	Eva
July 17	Gehrels	Lenie
July 19	Poppler	Inge
July 20	VandenBerg	Martje
July 21	McBryan	Audry
July 21	McSpadden	Jack
July 21	Smilde	Hiltje
July 22	Pilwin	Elizabeth
July 23	Johnston	Betty
July 23	Sturtridge	Janet
July 24	Tripp	Anne
July 24	Winkle	Barbara
July 25	Reid	Ruth
July 26	Hekkenberg	Mary
July 26	Robertson	Olive
July 26	Wells	Doug
July 30	Meinema	Anna
July 31	Luymes	Fenny
July 31	Scott	Elisabeth

If you would like to see your name on the birthday list, or if you detect an error, please get in touch with Tena Kamstra (725-9298).

***Tollendale Tales* publication dates**

For practical reasons the next three issues of the newsletter will be dated as follows:

No. 46 August-September 2008

No. 47 October-November 2008

No. 48 December 2008 – January 2009

Deadlines for contributions will be published in issues as they appear.

Note: This No. 45 issue is dated May-July, instead of May-August 2008.

Editor

Bridge and Euchre Scores

March

Euchre (TW)

1st Ken Harmston – 226 points

2nd Marie Miedema – 198 points

3rd Alva Crawford – 196 points

L. H.s: Ken H. (8); Ninka H. (7); Olive Robertson. (7)

Euchre (BG)

1st Myrna Gillis – 227 points

2nd Sonya Mulder – 224 points

3rd Gretha Botham – 223 points

L. H.s: Myrna G.(15); Sony M. (12)

Bid-Euchre (TW)

1st Marie Miedema – 560 points

2nd Marjorie Todd – 537 points

3rd Alva Crawford – 528 points

Moons: Inge P. (2); Bob H.; Ruth H. Arthur L. (1 each)

Bid-Euchre (BG)

1st Aly Brandsma – 584 points

2nd Marguerite Vellinga – 464 points

3rd Myrna Gilles – 447 points

Moons: Carol L; Jerry N. (1)

Bridge

1st Anne DeGroot – 10,010 points

2nd Jerry Nyenhuis – 9,200 points

3rd Gladys Stephenson – 9,130 points

April

Euchre (TW)

1st Alva Crawford – 176 points

2nd Ken Harmston – 161 points

3rd Ken Tye – 159 points

LHs: Ken H. (6); Ken T. (5); Art L. (8)

Euchre ((BG)

1st Julie Brytak – 189 points

2nd Soyna Mulder – 184 points

3rd Margaret Llewellyn – 171 points

LHs: Sonya M. (9); Anne C.; Aly B. (7each)

Bid- Euchre (TW)

1st Marie Miedema – 677 points

2nd Bob Hovius – 653 points

3rd Betty Zondervan – 609 points

Moons: Ken H.; Marie M.; Betty Z. (1)

Bid- Euchre (BG)

1st Gretta Botham – 641 points

2nd Eleanor Haines – 581 points

3rd Julie Brytak – 579 points

Moons: Gretha B. (3); Myrna G.; Jerry N. (1 each)

Bridge

1st Frank Benum – 13,280 points

2nd Jerry Nyenhuis – 11,630 points

3rd John Connacher – 10,310 points

4th Gladys Stephenson – 10,140 points

Important Ontario Highway Traffic Act information



Approaching a stopped emergency vehicle

Enforcing the law and providing emergency assistance often require emergency vehicles to park in a lane or on the

shoulder of a road or highway. To increase safety, Ontario's Highway Traffic Act requires motorists when approaching a police, fire or ambulance vehicle stopped with its red lights* flashing in the same direction of travel, either in a lane or on the shoulder of the road to slow down and pass with caution. If the road has two or more lanes, the motorist must move over into another lane, if it can be done safely.

* Fire vehicles and ambulances use flashing red lights. Police vehicles may use flashing red lights or a combination of flashing blue and red lights.

First offence - \$400 to \$2,000, plus 3 demerit points upon conviction.

Subsequent offence (within 5 years) - \$1,000 to \$4,000, possible jail time up to 6 months and possible suspension of driver's licence for up to 2 years.

Izzy Dolls

The Tollendale Knitting Club women have been busy this past winter. They met on March 17 and packed up 350 Izzy dolls and 100 pneumonia vests that are being sent to the Dominican Republic. A group of volunteer student nurses from Georgian College. Children in clinics and hospitals will give these to children in clinics and hospitals.

At the same time from Pauline Kroon's quilting club we sent two knitted and seven quilted baby blankets and 36 baby toques to Royal Victoria Hospital for the special care babies' nursery.

If there are new residents to Tollendale who would like to help, please call Reta Tanner (722-3607) or Pauline Kroon (728-0708). We have patterns, yarn and materials.

Reta Tanner

Nurse's Corner



ON SITE PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICES

Did you know that your body has more moving parts than any human-made machine? Your body is a complex system of muscles, joints, bones and so on, and sometimes they need a little extra care.

Physiotherapy is an effective way of treating many of the potential problems that can affect our bodies at any stage in life.

Physiotherapists are trained practitioners in the art of helping you feel better. They use a variety of special techniques that help your muscles and joints work their best. In particular, physiotherapy plays an important role in the rehabilitation for those who have experienced an accident or a serious illness.

The nursing department is investigating the possibility of introducing on site OHIP-funded physiotherapy services for the residents of Tollendale Village. A physician's referral along with a completed on-site physical assessment by a registered physiotherapist will allow the physiotherapist to construct a treatment plan that is tailored exclusively to participating residents. Treatment plans may include a walking program, range of motion exercises, strengthening exercises or gentle modalities which help to control pain. Assessment for the Assistive Device Program (i.e., walkers, wheelchairs) will be available (fee for service). In addition, a group exercise program will be developed.

The physiotherapy staff will work in harmony with the nursing department moving toward the same goal...independent quality of life.

More information will be provided when available as the nursing department works toward making this important on site service a reality.

Dale Rutherford, RN

Note of thanks

I thank my many friends and neighbours in Tollendale for their cards, letters, calls and prayer during the winter months when I was in hospital and after I returned home.

Thelma Wright

Thank you

Contributors to community

Recently the Tollendale staff expressed its appreciation to the many volunteers who in different ways make the Village what it is – a caring and alive community. We asked for a list of the different categories of volunteers. Elaine Averell hopes that the list (in alphabetical order) that follows covers everyone who contributes his or her talents and time in this manner.

Administration; Bible Studies; Board; Cards; Chapel; Choir; Communion Service; Computer Club; Drivers; Fitness; Gardens; Gift Shop; Grief Support; Hymn Sing; Ladies Day Apart; Library; Life Enrichment; Meal Deliveries; Monday Coffee Hour; Music Group Bookings; Pastoral Care; Plants; Samaritans Purse; Sound Committee; Spiritual Care; Tenant Committee *Tollendale Tales* (newsletter); Workshop

Tollendale Treasures and Gift Store



Hilda Kloosterman tries out the comfortable chair and ottoman that were part of a recent silent auction at the gift store.

The last two months were fairly slow, but we still did well by selling some larger items. The silent auction, held in April, also helped as it raised about \$800.00. We thank you for participating.

The cards by Rose for the Leprosy Mission are still available. Daughter Erica Tjeerdsma will bring them in for us. We sold \$195.00 worth of Leprosy Mission cards in March and \$210.00 in April.

As you know, if you spend \$3.00 or more, your name is entered in the monthly draw for a \$15.00 gift certificate. Winner in March was Ruth Short, and in April, Lola Robb.

This summer we will have another art and picture show and sale. We also hope to be able to organize an

antiques show and sale for one day only, where you can get a table and show and sell your own things. This will not be a fund raiser and is for villagers only. If you are interested in this, please call me at 722-8444 for more information and so I can determine whether there is enough interest.


Come and check us out for gifts, or whatever you need, or just come to visit with other villagers. If you have something to donate, we would love hearing from you. We need different things to keep our store interesting.


We thank you all for your participation and support. It is much appreciated by us, and by the tenant committee to whom our income is donated for worthwhile project that benefit all villagers.

Janny Mudde and Muriel Culshaw

Spring has sprung, and with it little foxes and 'excited' dogs ...

After some warm days in April, then colder weather and cold rain, nature is waking up. The tulips and narcissuses bring color to our gardens. The robins, sparrows, crows, ducks and other birds are back in Tollendale.

 Last Sunday I took a walk in the forest. It was beautiful with the trilliums and other flowers in bloom. Then I came upon a man with a huge dog sitting obediently beside him, and two boys a little way into the forest. All of them were quietly looking at something. What was it that they saw? They pointed me to a spot in the forest, where there were six young foxes playing together like young dogs jumping and rolling, enjoying themselves. What a sight! This was a first for me and I will never forget the sight. God's creation is beautiful.

 When I walked on along one of the narrow paths I saw a family coming from the other side with three large dogs. The dogs were bounding in my direction. The owners called them back, but the dogs did not obey. Then the people shouted to me to "watch out!" The dogs raced past me and then back again. When the people met me they apologized and said that they were afraid that the dogs would knock me over because they were so excited.

I must say I was not impressed and told them that they should have their dogs on a leash if they cannot control them.

What a difference between the first family with their dog enjoying nature and the second one.

Lenie Gehrels



Bob Hovius, with from left to right Nancy Bigelow, Sylvia Small and Debbie Foll at the computer course graduation ceremony

'The mouse doesn't run away anymore'



Ninka Hovius was surprised when her husband Bob said that he wanted to enrol in the first computer class in March. However, after his first lesson, Bob Hovius was

ready to call it quits. "I couldn't handle the mouse," he said. "I decided I was not interested. I thought the computer 'was not for me'."

Then, according to Bob, the whole class got on his case, and so did Debbie, the teacher. "They wanted me to come back, even teach me separately." The upshot was that Bob returned to the class, and he hasn't looked back since.

"After the third lesson I became interested," he says. "The mouse doesn't run away from him anymore," adds Ninka. Bob even went to the computer lab for in-between practices.

Both say that "the whole world opened up" for them when they learned to surf the internet. "You're never too old, make time for it," says Bob.

Ninka, who had used the computer for several years, also learned many new things, like "bullets and italics."

They, and everyone I talked to, spoke highly of Debbie Foll's manner of teaching and continuous encouragement.

Julie Christiaanse

Excerpts from *Chalk Dust*, by Don Kenwell

In matters controversial
My perceptive's mighty fine.
I always see both points of view,
The one that's wrong – and mine.

Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when
he sticks his neck out.

Don't be too critical. Even a clock that doesn't run is
correct twice a day.

If you can't find solitude, begin telling your friends
all your problems. Solitude will soon arrive.

The only mental exercise some people get is
jumping to conclusions.



Gerry Hlady, Jack McSpadden, and Jan Mout are having their first computer lesson.



Barry and Joyce Girard, Reg and Rita Bettam, Bas and Carol Visser, Gilles and Jeannette Langlois, Bettina Wynia and Anita St. Peter took part in the Barrie Super City Walk for Muscular Dystrophy on April 13. Together, they raised just over \$2,700.

The back page



On May 7, the senior music class from Dr. Denison Secondary School of Newmarket presented a chamber music recital at Tollendale Village as part of their course work, for which they were graded. Trevor Dearham, son of Stephanie Dearham, is head of the music department at the school. Here he leads the full band in a rendition of *Flight of the Thunderbird* by Richard I. Saucedo.

Memories of the Women's Day Apart



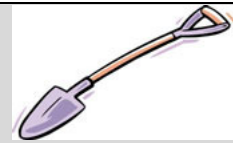
Singing, led by the "The Sellwoods"



Fashion show participants



As they did in previous years, the GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Saviour) of First Christian Reformed Church of Barrie entertained villagers.



May 16, 2008

Sod-turning ceremony

The sod-turning ceremony for the Tollendale Nursing Home will take place on Friday, May 16 at 3:30 p.m. in front of Sunrise Place. Afterwards, new executive director Leo Smit will be introduced to the residents in The Gathering Place.

Deadline *Tollendale Tales*
Submission deadline for the August –
September 2008 issue (No.46) is
Thursday, July 31, 2008

Simcoe County Christian Senior Home Inc.

Tollendale Tales

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– A Christian Retirement Community –
274 Hurst Drive, Barrie ON. L4N 0Z3
Tel.705-722-0469

Website: www.tollendalevillage.ca

Email: info@tollendalevillage.ca

Editing and layout: Julie Christiaanse (G15)

Tel.705-728-4739

Email: j.christiaanse@sympatico.ca