Highlights of Recreation Initiatives for April & May 2016

Every Family Has A Story….. Welcome To Our Home….

Please take time to read our monthly highlights to learn about all the exciting programs that have taken place in the months of April & May. Calendars are now out for our June programs so take time to highlight them and be part of the fun!

Loch Lomond Villa believes in the inclusion of entire Households including family, in the engagement of our residents, so your voice is important to us. Feel free to submit an idea in our suggestion boxes or contact the Recreation Manager- Mary Lynn Steele at 643-7111 or email mlsteele@lochlomondvilla.com

MESSAGE FROM LAUNDRY DEPARTMENT

SPRING IS HERE ~ TIME FOR SPRING CLEANING!

We are asking our Residents/Family or Representatives to take some time to go through closets and drawers to make some room. If you could focus on items that are no longer worn, worn out or seasonal it would allow some room to move.

The Laundry Department does find it challenging when trying to put clean laundry away on a daily basis. This would really help to make the limited space functional and organized.

We appreciate your help and should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Laundry Department at 643-6935 or Cindy Leavitt, Environmental Services Manager at 643-7117 or by email at cleavitt@lochlomondvilla.nb.com
New York, New York– Annual Spring Fundraising Dinner & Auction

On Friday May 13th the Foundation hosted its 15th Annual Spring Fundraising Dinner & Auction “New York, New York” bringing together 501 people to the Trade & Convention Centre. Thanks to all our sponsors, community partners and individual supporters we were able to collectively raise $70,000 of funds towards our mission of “improving the quality of life for the residents and families of Loch Lomond Villa.” LLV Foundation is a huge financial contributor to several of our Recreation programs including the purchase of our Van, Music Care Programs, IN2L Computer System, etc.

Memory Project – Vimy Ridge

The Memory Project is a nationwide bilingual project that connects Veterans and Canadian forces personnel with the opportunity to share their stories with Canadians in classrooms and community forums. The Memory Project is an initiative of Historica Canada and is made possible with generous funding from Canadian Heritage and Veteran’s Affairs Canada. Through the Memory Project, Harold Wright a local Historian gave a presentation on Vimy Ridge on April 8th.

Loch Lomond Village is fortunate to house an Origins Afterschool Learning Centre on the first floor of our Home. The children of the afternoon program come up stairs from their Learning Centre to be part of intergenerational activities with our residents. The students interact with our residents and they partake in a monthly art program together.

Uke’s for You

The residents enjoyed a new community entertainment group in April – Uke’s for You! This dynamic group of 25 senior ukulele players performed and interacted with our seniors at the Villa on April 21. They played and the seniors sang along to all their old time favorites. We look forward to their next performance.
Volunteer Appreciation Evening

Loch Lomond Villa celebrated our volunteers on April 26 by hosting a 50-60’s Theme Dinner Party. Tim Maloney was the MC for the evening. He entertained the crowd along performances from The Studio Dance Troupe. It was an evening that was enjoyed by all! Volunteer of the Month Certificates were presented to 12 outstanding volunteers and Volunteer of the Year was presented to Gary Dean. Gary has been a volunteer at the Villa since April 2014. Since his orientation there has rarely been a day that he has not helped out in some capacity. Gary volunteers in the Recreation Dept, Spiritual Care, Café with his wife Ann and special events & outings.

Pie Throwing Fundraiser in Support of Alzheimer’s Society

Special thank you to residents, families, volunteers and staff who participated in the Pie Throwing Contest to raise funds for the Alzheimer’s Society “Walk for Memories”. It was a great time with lots of laughs and generous donations. $680 was raised!
City of Saint John Election Results

Political newcomer Don Darling has been declared Saint John's new mayor in the municipal election on May 9th. He finished with a solid win — 8,139 votes, over Shelley Rinehart's 6,812, according to Elections New Brunswick's results. Darling stated, "We had a vision ... that I had in my campaign, called Grow SJ, Grow Saint John, and that's all we talked about, from the first day of the campaign. Nice to see so many residents participate in the election!"

Community Luncheon

The residents living on Evergreen House were invited to the Open Door Club on Duke Street for a morning of entertainment and a lunch with many of their old friends on May 9th. It was great to see the comradery. Special thank you for inviting us!

Mother’s Day Celebrations/Victoria Day Tea

We celebrated our “Mothers” during the month of May by having a Mother/Daughter Luncheon and Mother’s Day Teas in both Homes with entertainment. Residents also celebrated the Queen’s Birthday by attending high teas with piano music on May 20th.
Villa Van

The nice weather has finally arrived and the Van will be hitting the pavement taking us on many exciting community adventures. We are always looking for suggestions for new destinations so please feel free to share ideas with the Recreation team. Families are welcome and encouraged to come along on these excursions but due to limited space on our van we ask that you follow or meet us in your own car.

Community Connections

The Recreation team work hard at establishing great connections with our community. The community is invited to come to our Home and we go on outings to events happening in the Greater Saint John & surrounding areas. The health Class from Simonds High School visited with our residents to participate in leisure programs for the afternoon on May 12 and students from Kingswood University in Sussex entertained at the Village and spent one on one time with our seniors in the month of May. The students in Mrs. Rebecca Roberts’s music classes at Bayview Elementary also shared their musical talents with the residents at the Villa & Village on May 27 & 30th. They were great recitals that were enjoyed by everyone. A special thank you to the Volunteers of True Life Church who have been visiting our residents on every house one Sunday a month Enjoy your summer and we will see you in the fall! Special thank you to Lynn Hopey, volunteer and family member, who takes time from her busy schedule to plan special themed tea parties for our residents at the Villa. Lynn had a Spring Bonnet Social for them on April 30 where they sported their bonnets and enjoyed her special lunch.

News from Spiritual Care

Martha McGrath has been busy in her new role as Spiritual Care Coordinator and doing a spectacular job. Memorial Celebration services were held in April & June to celebrate the lives of our residents and tenants that passed away. The service in June was the first service to be held at the Village. In the future they will alternate between the Villa Chapel and the Village which will give residents and staff better opportunities to attend.

Candles are being lit now on each of the seven Houses when a resident passes away. This is to honour our residents and show our respect. There will also be a Memorial Site at the Reception area at the Villa, much like the one we have at the Village. A name plate, photograph and guest book will be on the table as well as a Tiffany Lamp will be turned on for 48 hours.

Martha will be at the Villa on Wednesday & Thursdays from 3-5pm and Mondays & Tuesdays at the Village from 3-5pm for spiritual care visits. Martha will be available for visits or to meet with tenants on Friday afternoons. She can be reached throughout the day from 9-3pm at 634-2560.
Connecting Senior’s Dream Program

The Dream Team along with our community connections made another dream come true for one of our residents living on Birch House. Her dream was to go back to her old church in Middlesex, NB to attend a service. She made the trip with the help of portable ramps for our van which were donated by Lawton’s. Her spiritual family met her at the church with open arms. She attended a service and then proceeded to the Silver Fox Irving for lunch with friends & family. Thanks to the Silver Fox Irving for sponsoring the lunch. It was truly a wonderful experience for everyone. Helen’s words were, “I still can’t believe it happened”.

Whisper Glide Swing has arrived....

Thanks to generous donations from the Simonds Lioness Club, McKeans Foundation and Millie Mercuri in memory of her mother Edna Boyle, the LLV Foundation was able to purchase another wheelchair accessible Whisper Glide Swing for the courtyard off the Central Lounge.

The Recreation team would like to thank our two Cooperative Education Students- Hannah Dallon and Kaitlyn Driscoll. We wish them luck in their future endeavors. We have three SEED students joining our team in June- Mariah Michaud (Evergreen & Cedar House), Caitlynn Hanlon (Dogwood, Willow & Maple House) and Vanessa Cunningham (Birch & Elm House).

The Recreation Team appreciates your suggestions and engagement and values the importance of inclusion of residents, families and staff in enhancing Quality Leisure Programs for residents living in our Homes! We are looking forward to summer and all the fun programs & community events.