

IN SUPPORT OF **NORMANNA**

Special Edition

NORMANNA
A Caring Home

SPECIAL EDITION

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Resident Mary Hatch was over the moon as she kept her dancing dreams alive. On December 5th our resident Mary Hatch had a dream come true as she was once again thrust into the lime light, a testimonial to her professional dancing days. In her youth Mary was a professional dancer, dancing as a ballerina in classics like the Nutcracker, kicking up her heels as a Can Can dancer and as a back-up dancer for Sammy Davis Junior. Mary performed in a number of dance troupes based out of Vancouver and Victoria. Mary still has that regal presence and glamour and is as gorgeous today as she was 70 years ago.

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On the morning of Dec. 5th Mary waited eagerly for her limousine to take her to the Arthur Murray School of Dance in Coquitlam, where she would dance again with a Private Dance instructor. KJ Wheelchair Limousine Service was excited about this venture, giving Mary a complimentary ride to the studio; Mary felt like a celebrity.

Mary was greeted by the dancers at the Arthur Murray Dance studio. To make this experience even more special was the arrival of Mary's granddaughter Sasha, a surprise to Mary. Mary requested she dance to her favorite song, "Never on a Sunday". There was not a dry eye in the studio as Mary twirled around the dance floor. CBC sent a reporter to cover this fascinating event and the segment now plays on the community TV for all to see. Burnaby Now also featured Mary's story and the framed feature hangs proudly on Mary's bedroom wall. Mary quoted "It was like a dream come true!, who would have thought?" Link to CBC—<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/mary-hatch-dances-again-1.4936128>

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Normanna is thrilled to announce their new affiliation with the Vancouver Canucks Organization and their Community Partnership Team.

In October we reached out to the Vancouver Canucks Organization to request a donation for our Silent Auction that was held at the staff Annual Christmas Party on December 6th at the River Rock Casino in Richmond. The Vancouver Canucks generously donated an autographed photo of one of the team's most popular player **Brock Boeser**. We were able to include this in our Silent auction which raised \$1,398.50 all of which went towards the "Therapeutic Spa Tub" campaign; for which we were very grateful!



Heather and David F

Just as we were getting over the excitement of the autographed photo, we received a call from the Vancouver Canucks asking if we would like 50 tickets to the Vancouver Canucks vs. Edmonton Oilers hockey game on Sunday December 16th, six of which were wheelchair seats. We were absolutely overwhelmed with this generous gesture and resoundingly accepted.

On the evening of the game three of our residents were able to utilize the wheelchair seats. One of the residents David F. was able to share this special occasion with his daughter, Heather who cried when she saw how happy her father was to be going to the game. "I can't remember the last time I saw my father this happy and excited." declared Heather.

We were still left with over 40 extra tickets; all of which located in prime viewing sections, including seats in the lower bowl. As many of the residents were unable to access these seats the Vancouver Canucks permitted us to sell them to staff at a reduced rate. Staff were thrilled to have this opportunity.

Another \$1,060 was raised with all funds going directly to the "Therapeutic Spa Tub" campaign. We wholeheartedly thank the Vancouver Canucks Organization and look forward to continuing this partnership!

Go Canucks Go



“Stocking Stuffers for Seniors”



This Christmas the residents of Normanna had the great good fortune of being partnered with the London Drugs store in Collingwood for their annual “Stocking Stuffers for Seniors” campaign.

London Drugs have recently started this program to ensure seniors in the community receive a gift on Christmas Morning.

The staff of London Drugs asked our residents to fill out a wish list of items they would like as stocking stuffers. These gift tags were then hung on a Christmas Tree in the store with the first names of the residents and their gift wish.

Customers purchase these gifts for the residents and London Drugs wrap them up. Staff pick up the gifts from London Drugs and ensure they are under the Christmas Tree ready to be given out on Christmas morning!

Residents were overwhelmed on Christmas morning with their magnificent stocking stuffer gifts which included, chocolates, toiletries, blankets, slippers, socks, scarves, magazines, jewelry, just about everything they could have asked for.

We are so very thankful to the London Drugs Organization for including us in this lovely annual tradition and we are thrilled to be partnered with the Collingwood London Drugs Store.



SMILES WERE BRIGHT ON HALLOWEEN NIGHT

Residents of Normanna invited the neighbourhood children to include Normanna on their "Trick or Treat" route in real time.

As always the staff outdid themselves decorating both the outside of Normanna and the front lobby, making it that much more appealing to the Trick or Treaters. Flyers were posted throughout the neighborhood, handed out to the neighbourhood homes and given to the local elementary schools.

Residents, excited about the upcoming nights festivities dressed in colorful Halloween Costumes. Staff ordered pizza for the residents to eat in the front lobby as they patiently awaited the Trick or Treaters. The residents were not to be disappointed, over 100 children arrived at Normanna on Halloween Night with their trick or treat bags in tow. Residents were thrilled as were the children, one child was heard exclaiming as he left Normanna, **"That was my favourite house!"** This was the first time Normanna has hosted this event and will make it an annual tradition!

A great way to bring the neighbourhood and Normanna together and provide intergenerational opportunities for our residents!





Under the Big Top at Normanna



On January 24th Normanna, hosted their first Circus Day. Residents and staff created a Circus like environment complete with magical images of Circus Life throughout the Dining Room and front Lobby. “Step Right Up!” is how the residents and visitor felt as they entered the event areas. Brightly colored flags and circus memorabilia did not disappoint.

Staff dressed as ring leaders and escorted participants to the activities of the day. To start, residents, staff and families were treated to a Professional Juggler performance in the Auditorium; lots of thrills abound with daredevil unicycle juggling feats. Thank you to Nader and Penny for their participation in one of the more challenging juggling tricks! Residents enjoyed a Circus Themed lunch featuring Corn Dogs, French Fries, Circus Coleslaw and Ice Cream.

The Circus celebration continued in the afternoon with a visit from our good friend Scruffles the Balloon Artist. Every resident was treated to a special balloon made just for them. A circus is not a circus without cotton candy; residents were thrilled to savour this sweet treat made by the staff with a rented cotton candy machine.

Testimonial from family, "What a lovely day for the residents the smiles were priceless!" Overall consensus Circus Day was a hit!! We will look forward to making this an annual tradition.





Bottle Drive



On Saturday 25th September, Normanna hosted their first ever bottle drive. This was an initiative resulting from the Quality Improvement Committee. Flyers were distributed throughout the community and Board Members, Staff and Families volunteered.

A total of \$340.00 was raised to go towards the new Therapeutic Spa Tubs.

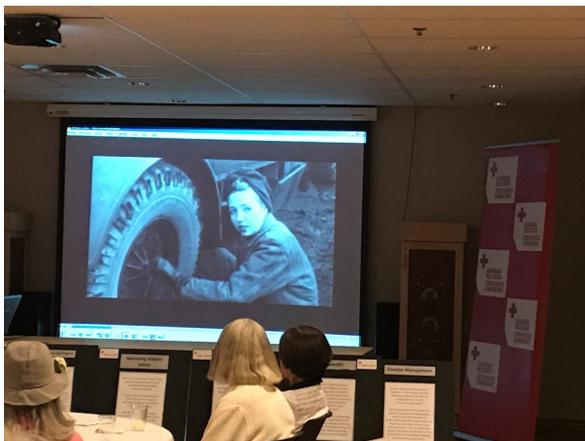


**CANADIAN
RED CROSS**

On 22nd August, 2018, Normanna welcomed the Red Cross Organization on behalf of Manager Firoz Mahmud.

Residents were presented with a unique and poignant perspective of the Second World War through the eyes of the woman of Canadian Red Cross Corp.

It was an honor for Normanna to host the presentation to recognize and give thanks to the women of the Red Cross. Following the presentation, Normanna hosted a barbeque for members of the Red Cross Organization and members of the community including residents from Swedish Assisted Living Residence.



Day Care for a Day

Normanna residents enjoyed a unique day on 24th August, 2018. The grounds were transformed into a Day Care complete with children, pets, face painting, bubbles, bouncy castle and, of course, the residents. Squeals of laughter and joy were heard from all throughout the day. Staff brought their children in to enjoy the events and interact with the residents.



It was a win/win for all and will sure to be included as another yearly tradition at Normanna. At our recent Accreditation evaluation, the surveyors gave special recognition to this unique program and quoted "we have yet to see it in a another home"!

A Message from the Publicity Committee

Hello!

My name is Heleen Sandvik and I am presently the VP on the Normanna Board of Directors. Also, I am the board representative for the 'Publicity Committee', thus my purpose for writing to you.

I am pleased to say that a number of Normanna staff and volunteers are the people who write updates for the Normanna Newsletter, they are the stars of this way of communicating. I have heard about great reviews and requests from residents, families and the community for the latest Newsletter – what a marvelous compliment to those who contribute! My tasks are mostly proofreading the latest draft, a comma here, or a misspelled word, usually not much. The photos are a great addition as they give a sense of the activities at Normanna, and how all the dedicated staff and volunteers create an environment of care and fun.

So, I would like to thank and honor the staff and volunteer writers and designers of Normanna Newsletter - Penny Hill, Executive Director for Normanna; Leslie Torresan, Manager of Recreation and Juby Sprake, Executive Assistant, who is also the designer of the Newsletter's look and feel. The volunteers who also report are Kathy Svendsen for the Auxiliary and Alan Frydenlund, Board President.



*Heleen Sandvik
Committee Lead &
Vice President, Normanna*

Our regular Spring/Summer Newsletter will be published after our Annual General Meeting in June 2019. This edition will include the list of all the generous donors.

THANK YOU all on behalf of the Normanna Board.