

JUNE 2023



**BRING ON
THE SUNSHINE
- IT'S JUNE!**

I N T H I S I S S U E

**70 Year Love Story at
Langley Seniors Village:**
Keith & Marlene

**Celebrating Employee
Milestones!**

#momentsthatmatter:
Community Updates!



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



WEST COAST

SENIORS HOUSING MANAGEMENT

One of the greatest joys of my job is visiting our communities and talking with staff members. During a recent visit to Dufferin Care Center, I was moved and inspired by the stories the team shared about the challenges of COVID; the fear of the unknown, when we all knew very little about the COVID virus, and how they came together to take care of the residents and one another. These were stories of true heroism; of putting the residents first, above their own interests. This reminded me of both why we do what we do and of the burden our responsibility in caring for seniors. We have been entrusted to care for them by their families, loved ones and society at large; we become their second family and primary caregivers. It takes a special type of person to work in our industry.

Shifting focus from individual sites, we have started with a major companywide ADP upgrade that will be completed by Quarter 1 of 2024.

This is a major step forward to integrate Payroll, Time and Attendance, Scheduling, and a new HRIS system. Currently, Payroll and Scheduling are functioning independently and by integrating these systems we will be streamlining shift call outs, access to documents, and making the process easier to follow for everyone involved.

In other news, we have negotiated a new medical supplies contract with Medline. Starting on July 1st we will be transitioning to their medical supplies. Additionally, we have renewed our contract with Tenna and they will continue to supply our incontinence products.

James Liebenberg, President of West Coast Seniors Housing Management



MARLENE AND KEITH: A 70 YEAR LOVE STORY



Marlene and Keith moved in to our community here at Langley Seniors Village in April of 2022. The pair are well known for being kind and friendly with all of the residents and staff, and we feel lucky to be the place they call home. Marlene and Keith recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary right here with us at Langley Seniors Village; we had drinks, food, music, and lots of fun with both the residents and the family and friends of the happy couple. A few weeks later, Marlene and Keith were pleased to receive a formal letter from King Charles and Queen Camilla wishing them a happy anniversary! After receiving this letter, we asked Marlene and Keith a few questions about their love story to share with the community:

How did you meet? What attracted you to each other?

Marlene and Keith met when they were 11 and taking school entry exams, but it wasn't until five years later when Keith saw Marlene walking down the street when she was 16-years old, and that's when their love story began!

How long did you date? What was a typical date like?

They dated for four years before getting married at the age of 20. A typical date was hard to explain as during that time was war time, but Keith mentioned that they liked to go for walks and bike rides together.



▶ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3



What do you do together for fun now?

The couple looks after each other, and Keith shared that that was the most important thing now.

What are your shared values?

Keith responded without hesitation and said that having their children was their shared value.

What is the biggest strength of your relationship?

Their greatest strength is always looking after one another.

What is your favourite thing about living here at Langley Seniors Village?

Keith said that their favourite thing about living at Langley Seniors Village is being together, because that's the main thing.

How did you feel receiving a card from the King and Queen for your 70th anniversary?

“OOF! We couldn't believe it – it was great... and now I am thinking that the press may get ahold of this!”

The team here at Langley Seniors Village wish to again congratulate Marlene and Keith on their 70-years together. Most people dream of a love story like yours, and we are truly happy to have been able to celebrate the milestone with you both.



CELEBRATING MILESTONES!

Jackie Davy is the Assisted Living Clinical Manager at Williams Lake Seniors Village and celebrated 17 years with us on June 1st!

What's your favourite thing about your job?

The residents, for sure. I worked for 12 years in LTC as a nurse on the floor and loved the time spent with the residents, getting to know their quirks and learning all the wisdom they have to offer. The amount of knowledge and insight into the past our seniors hold is truly amazing. In LTC the tenants rarely knew my name, instead they knew me as a feeling or familiarity. I have worked as the AL Clinical Manager for five years now and it was an adjustment getting to know the AL tenants. They all know my name which was a significant change from LTC. They also have a wealth of information to be shared with anyone who will listen. My favorite part is definitely engaging in conversation and listening to the stories they have to share. I have learned more from our local seniors about the history of the Cariboo and Williams Lake than I ever could have from a book. You are guaranteed to learn something new each time you engage in a conversation.

What's your favourite memory from working your job?

I would have to go back quite a few years, approximately 13 or so. I truly found joy in planning our evening shift potlucks with all the staff in the building. We would all bring some dinner items and gather at a buffet style table. We would fill our plates and everyone would engage in some friendly conversations before heading back to our floors



for a feast. Every staff member enjoyed our potlucks and participation was high, a good reason for everyone to get together. This was my favorite way to get everyone together even if only for a few minutes and we would have a quick “hey, how are ya?” and reminisce. Also a great way to introduce new employees to the “regulars”.

What have you learned from your experiences here?

So, so much. Patience is a virtue for sure. As I've aged and developed professionally my patience for pretty much everything (may-



▶ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

be not driving) has grown, and with that I have found much more successes in situations. Listening actively has also been a great skill I have picked up and applied to many professional experiences.

What do you think has kept you wanting to work here for as long as you have?

The ability to grow has been great. I started here as an evening LPN, then swapped to day shift where I was the in charge nurse. This led to an interim position as the Clinical Lead of LTC then to a permanent position as AL Clinical Manager. Great co-workers have definitely contributed to the length of my employment as well. Nothing beats a great team!

Any words of advice?

Remember that all things, good or bad shall pass. My favorite quote is “This too shall pass.” It speaks to anyone that is facing anything in their lives and serves as a reminder that nothing is permanent. No feeling or situation will last forever.

Is there anybody that you look up to or you think deserves a special shoutout?

Alex Froese just moved out of Williams Lake and left her position as CRM, but we were the “Dream Team” here in Williams Lake. We worked together like a well-oiled machine. She will be missed and left big shoes to fill. Tammy Deausy was my biggest advocate when she was our GM/RDO. They have both at some point in my career have been an asset to my success.

SOME MORE JUNE MILESTONES!

Williams Lake Seniors Village: Edith Archer is celebrating 19 years

The Wellesley: Jaswhinder Deenshaw is celebrating 16 years

Langley Seniors Village: Gurbax Cheema is celebrating 15 years

Maple Ridge Seniors Village: Michael Farrow and Sheila Watkins (same hiring date!) are both celebrating 14 years

Comox Valley Seniors Village: Cheryl Silliker is celebrating 13 years

Beacon Hill Villa: Rubylyn Dodwell is celebrating 12 years

Dufferin Care Centre: Sonia Alvarado and Carmen Alvarez (same hiring date!) are both celebrating 11 years

Thank you to all our staff members for your continued dedication to making our communities the best they can possibly be. Be sure to give them a congratulations if you see them around!



#MOMENTSTHATMATTER

Guildford Seniors Village celebrated **Filipino Heritage Month** with an exciting Fiesta!

Fiesta time is a joyous occasion for Filipinos. The GSV team decorated the hallways with colorful banderitas/banners. Staff sung the Philippine National Anthem, served their best dishes, and had some incredible karaoke performances.



A high school student, Montana, had a project to do that had her grow flowers from start to finish. She nurtured them, fed them, and watched them become beautiful! She then surprised our residents at **Maple Ridge Seniors Village** by donating them to our community to brighten the tables in our dining room. Our residents absolutely loved them!

A+ to Montana!





#MOMENTSTHATMATTER



The residents love their Ice Cream Social Events so much here at **Beacon Hill Villa** that the Recreation Team and the HCA students decided to make an ice cream cart to make our program more fun for the residents. The Recreation Team played Ice Cream Truck music and had all the toppings all the residents could possibly want! The Recreation Team has Ice Cream Social events outside on our beautiful patio.

Since this was an event to celebrate **Senior's Week**, we had an Ice Cream social on our patio and it was such a huge success.

Now our Recreation Team will be having Ice Cream Socials every Sunday... "Sunday Sundaes"!

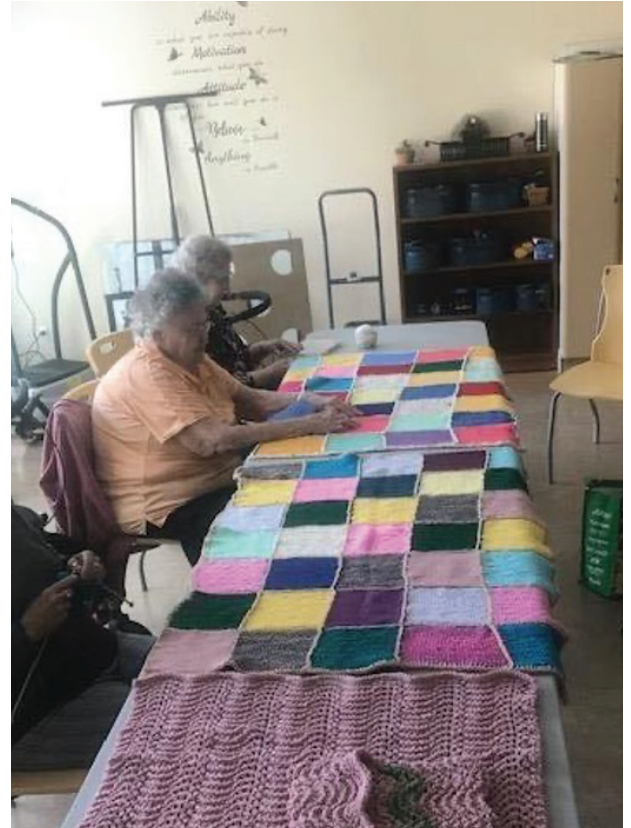


#MOMENTSTHATMATTER

The **Comox Valley Seniors Village** Knitter's Club have sure done a great job and are staying motivated learning to crochet the squares together! They recently decided to raffle off 3 blankets for the White Elephant Sale and are planning to donate another 10 or so twin size/lap blankets for donations to Hospice, Women's Shelter and are inquiring about fundraising for Ukraine!

For the months of July and August we will focus on the assembly of the 6 more blankets and learning to crochet!

Keeping on every 2nd Thursday afternoon at 2:00. Well done, ladies!





#MOMENTSTHATMATTER

Peace Portal Seniors Village Staff Appreciation Day! The PPSV team celebrated together at a Greek-themed party! Everyone dressed for the occasion and got to enjoy some delicious Greek food! Thank you to the Peace Portal team for all that you do!

