



a commitment to CARE ♡

**We shall continuously provide excellent care in a secure environment, with family and community support**

## PADDLES UP!

On August 25th, the Geri-Antics will hit the water of Kempenfelt Bay as we launch our 5th consecutive year of participation in the Barrie Dragon Boat Festival. This community festival will draw thousands of people and more than 50 teams to the Heritage Park area for a day of competition and camaraderie.

While we have not historically won a lot of races, our claim to fame is the award for "Best Fundraised Team"! Our team is powered by staff, volunteers, friends, family members, board members and business partners. Sponsorship comes from business partners, family members and friends.

A unique family paddle displayed at the event comes with a \$1000 donation, but there are more options; one paddle will be called the Families of Grove Park Home and all family donations of less than \$1000 will be applied to this paddle. Proceeds from the Dragon Boat Festival support the purchase of resident care items including transfer equipment, beds and surfaces, program supplies, kitchen needs, and more.

Contact Linda Muszynski at [lindam@groveparkhome.on.ca](mailto:lindam@groveparkhome.on.ca) or pick up a donation form at the front office

## Neema Choir Presentation

The Neema Children's Choir from Uganda, Africa will be performing in the auditorium on Thursday August 2nd at 1:30pm. You are welcome to join us to learn more about their project to raise awareness and funds to send orphaned children to school in Uganda. Their performance is uplifting and inspiring.



**DementiAbility** focuses on supporting a person with dementia in a prepared environment that adds meaning and purpose, and often inspires memories. We are blessed to have so many outdoor gardens throughout the Home that each unit can access. Even the balconies on Spruce and Willow have planters and raised garden boxes with flowers and tomatoes! Our gardening program provides everyone the opportunity to participate to the best of their "**Ability**". Gardening tools and beds can be adapted to accommodate the physical needs of all participants.

Gardening provides many health and therapeutic benefits for residents throughout the spring and summer months as well as during the remaining year with indoor plants. The outdoor garden spaces provide opportunities for residents to plant, water, and harvest flowers and crops, and to reminisce and enjoy passive interaction with nature. Gardening is something that can be enjoyed by all, providing physical, spiritual and emotional benefits. Come and enjoy our gardens when you visit.

# Resident Leadership Team News

Robert Dykeman, the talented photographer at Grove Park Home, has now taken the role of Chairman of the Resident Leadership Team and Ila Ellison has stepped down to fill the position of Vice Chair. The Team sends its' congratulations to Robert.

The sale of our Honey Grove honey, that first went on sale last November at the Twilight Sale, is going very well. To date, 350 jars of our honey have been sold; leaving us in the black with this project. Anyone wishing to purchase more can do so at our cafe for the great price of \$8.00 per jar. Our bees have wintered on site successfully. I was informed that we have one of the healthiest colonies in the region. When our hive was opened, there were so many bees there was not enough room in our colony for all of them. Therefore, the beekeeper had to split the number of bees. After doing this, there were still enough bees to take away and make two more colonies.

There has been a lot of activity going on in our Link Garden as well. By May 10, 2018, eight planters in our Link Garden had been planted with leafy greens, assorted herbs and strawberries. Some warmer weather settled in and by May 28th, twenty three planters had been completed. Along with the first planting, there is now a variety of tomatoes and peppers, some beets, snow peas, corn, zucchini, purple beans and basil. To care for the plants, small groups of eager residents are watering and harvesting. A unique watering system makes this task very easy and lots of fun, A summer student will supervise and check that nothing is overgrowing and residents will enjoy picking at harvest time. Our student will help by weighing any harvest taken to be used by our residents. It is important to know how much food will be used for the residents' consumption. Our residents will really reap the benefits of this great project; fresh, healthy food will fill their plates this summer! Thank you to all the staff who make this program possible.

By Ila Ellison, for our residents

*Note: if you have not done so, please LIKE and visit our Facebook and Twitter pages. We share lots on stories about our Honey Project plus other good news stories about the Home.*



## Help Garden Gallery "grow" our gardens



Did you know that Bradford Greenhouse Garden Gallery has a community charity program that includes our Home? The program is very simple: when you go into Garden Gallery on Hwy 90, just mention "this purchase supports Grove Park Home" to the cashier before they ring up your order.

In the fall, we receive gift cards representing a percentage of our sales. In turn, we use these gift cards for gardening supplies, outdoor urns, and even Christmas decorations.

**The program runs until October 15th and there is no limit to our rebate.**

**Please tell your friends, family, neighbours.**

## Special note:

Last month we had the RBC Volunteers donate over 30 hours of time working in our gardens. We are grateful for this time and the \$3,000 donation that came with their hard work.