



LODGE AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING NEWS SEPTEMBER, 2017

BUILDING A COMMUNITY

The Lodge modernization project is showing remarkable progress. On pages 3 and 4, we introduce some members of the dynamic team which helps to make all of this possible.

The Living Well Capital Campaign

is committed to raising the funds necessary to make the Lodge modernization a community success.

“It is important to honour our seniors. We do not want them to spend their entire lives helping to build our community, only to have them leave it, in order to find accommodations when they can no longer manage in their own home.

The Lodge is that second home for them.”

*Daryl Watt, Reeve,
County of Vermilion River*



Backfill and trenching are going on. The firewall has been completed, and the scaffolding is coming down.



The structural steel and floor slab will go up in the next couple of weeks.

Framing will go up in September.



SUPPORTIVE HOUSING REPORT by Shaelyn Strang

August was an adventurous month. I am sad to say good bye to summer though; it never seems like it is long enough. We had two really great summer students (Brooke Eyben and Kathleen Dieken). We wish them the best of luck in their schooling this upcoming term, and thank them for all their hard work this summer. September brings an outing to Clandonald for pie. We are going to Walmart and having lunch in Lloyd. Cheers, and Happy Harvest from us in Supportive Housing.



Fabric mosaic

KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER

“It’s a good thing we have a facility focused on keeping families together, because lifelong companions miss each other.” Health Care Aide Brenda Wyness shared her insight on keeping elderly couples together. “It is easier on the families as well—they can visit in one place, and don’t have to run in all directions.” Supportive Housing has had a number of resident couples. We have seen that at times, one half becomes the care giver and gets no rest. If that person’s health deteriorates, it makes things difficult for both.” At the Lodge, the more independent resident may visit and have coffee with friends, go to the farm, take a break. “Knowing that their better half is being looked after helps the more mobile one cope, and get some rest.” Families cope because the less independent half is being cared for by responsible, knowledgeable people. “It is beneficial to keep seniors as close to home as possible. Keep in mind that, adjusting to a new place, a new group, and different food, can be a long process for new residents.” Originally from Clandonald, Brenda Wyness lives in Dewberry. She has worked in Supportive Housing for ten years. “At first I didn’t know how this job would work out. But it grew on me.” Over time, residents become family. “You learn to relate to them as individuals, to learn their likes and dislikes.” The Health Care Aides do a variety of things in Supportive Housing. “We cook and we clean. We decorate, we celebrate, we hug and we laugh, we dance, and we cry.” Just like a family.



*(L)Carrie Gallop with
CAO Sheri Heller*

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Living Well Capital Campaign welcomes new part-time administrative assistant, Carrie Gallop, who will provide support to the committee, as well as promoting the campaign. Originally from Battleford, Saskatchewan, Carrie moved to Clandonald in 2015 with husband Codi and sons Christopher and Cole.

If Carrie can be of assistance, such as facilitating donations, obtaining pledge forms or providing information, visit her at the Lodge, call her at (780) 853-5706. Twitter: @CarrieGallop, email carrie.gallop@telus.net, or via our facebook page Vermilion and District Housing Foundation.



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The Vermilion and District Housing Foundation Capital Campaign is organized by a dedicated group of volunteers who give freely of their time and are committed to a most worthy cause – our area seniors. We would like to introduce you to them.



BRENDA LEE Chair

Brenda's position on the VDHF Board speaks volumes to her commitment to area seniors and this project. She brings a wealth of knowledge, amazing perspective and fantastic spirit to the board of the Vermilion & District Housing Foundation Capital Campaign.

“I came back to the area in 1983, having lived in Marwayne, and attending the College in 1970 before going on to university. I live here with my husband Ed. He relocated to Vermilion to open up Home All Building Supplies in 1982 and we married the following year.

I choose to live in Vermilion because the community supported us and our business. We are very comfortable here. We have lots of good friends, are close to family, and both have been able to stay active and enjoy part-time work opportunities in our semi-retirement.

Likely a throwback to my career days, I usually find myself cleaning house on Saturdays, but would much rather enjoy time with friends, read a book, be baking or cross stitching!

Giving back to the community is important to me. I like to build relationships, meet and work alongside different people, experience new situations and learn new skills, see things from someone else's perspective, and share what talents I may have. The bonus - that collectively we make a difference in ensuring our community is a better place!

RON ROTH Campaign volunteer

Ron is an area businessman and a volunteer with several community groups, including this project. Ron places family and community first and is committed to help provide area seniors with comfortable, safe housing.

“I was born, raised and educated here. I left in 1967 and returned in 1991, sending my kids to school here in Vermilion. My wife Sandy and I choose to live in Vermilion because it is a comfortable, safe community, small enough to know everyone and big enough to get most everything one needs.

On an ideal Saturday, I have an early morning cup of coffee and maybe head out golfing or fishing. I believe it is important to give back to our community to help make it a safe and welcoming town to any newcomers, as well as for those less fortunate than ourselves. People remember Vermilion for its friendly people and the great Fair each year.”





BRUCE MACDUFF Campaign Volunteer

Since 1977, Bruce has worked within the community to make a great town better. Besides being a member of the VDHF Capital Campaign, Bruce is also the chair of the Vermilion & District Housing Foundation. No stranger to volunteering, Bruce feels that his time giving back to the seniors who built our community can only make it stronger for future generations. “I moved to Vermilion in March, 1977. My wife, Marilyn and I choose to live in here because it is a great town to raise a family in; the community is full of great volunteers and there are only three traffic lights (considering we moved from Edmonton)! On an ideal Saturday morning I spend time with my grandkids.

Giving back to my community is important. I learned a long time ago that we have to be involved in the community to make it better, which is why I have been involved with various organizations: I was president of Vermilion Minor Hockey, president of Kinsmen (16-year member), president of Rotary (still active after 21 years), involved with minor soccer and now serve as Mayor of Vermilion.”

DOUG ELLIOTT Campaign Volunteer

Doug is no stranger to Vermilion and area. A life-long resident, Doug has seen the benefits of making the community better first hand by volunteering for various committees, joining the Boards of Lakeland College, Eastalta Co-op and the Vermilion & District Housing Foundation Capital Campaign.

“I have been in the area almost my entire life. Except for 6 years in Edmonton (1964-1970), I grew up in Minburn, farmed in Mannville and lived in Vermilion since 2000. I live in Vermilion with Donna Moon. I enjoy living in this community - the scenery, the pace of life and you know your neighbours. On an ideal Saturday morning, I would be going out for coffee with the boys and a round of golf. Giving back to my community is important to me because this community is our home. It is a great place to live and it will only stay this way if we continue to make it great.”



DAVID EREMKO – Campaign Volunteer

Dave and his team at the Vermilion Credit Union work daily to build a strong community, and have joined forces with the VDHF Capital campaign to help create safe, affordable housing for our seniors and for our future generations.

“I have lived in Vermilion since 1996. I live in this warm, friendly, welcoming community with my wife Kim and son Dylan.

What is an ideal Saturday for me? Fishing!

Giving back to my community is important because we all have a responsibility to be involved, to maintain and build what those before us created, and pass it on to the next generation.”