

For everything its season,
and for every activity under heaven its time...

Book of Ecclesiastes

Seasons



The Dorothy Ley Hospice

FALL 2001

Start a holiday tradition for your organization

There's nothing like doing something for others to get people into the spirit of the holidays.

During the month of December, The Dorothy Ley Hospice will be sponsoring our sixth annual Tree of Remembrance at Sherway Gardens and Cloverdale Mall. At each location, shoppers may pay tribute to those they have loved by placing a dove with their names in one of our trees.



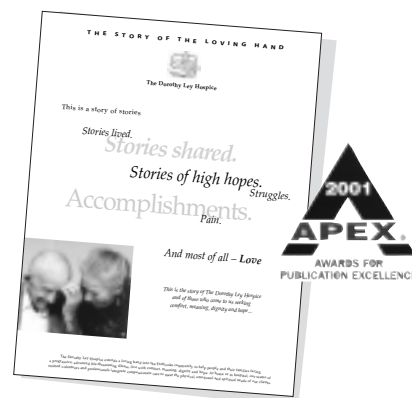
Cloverdale
Mall

SHERWAY GARDENS

Over the years, many businesses, associations and churches have made it a holiday tradition to book a day for their employees or members to manage our booth at a Tree of Remembrance. Will you help us extend a loving hand into the Etobicoke community by joining this tradition? We guarantee that everyone who participates will feel the magic of the season.

To capture the holiday spirit by participating in our Tree of Remembrance, contact Sonia Arana, our coordinator of volunteer services and education, at (416) 626-0116 or volunteers@dlhospice.org.

It's an award winner!



The Story of the Loving Hand is the winner of a 2001 APEX Award for Excellence for one-of-a-kind publications. APEX is a North American awards program recognizing excellence in graphic design, editorial content and the achievement of overall communications excellence.

This booklet chronicles the history of The Dorothy Ley Hospice and presents the stories of those who work with us and of those who come to us seeking comfort, meaning, dignity and hope.

If you or your friends would like to know more about who we are and what we do, contact our manager of operations, Stephanie McCann for a complimentary copy of the *Story* at (416) 626-0116 or smccann@dlhospice.org.

Mr. Wong's Story

He rose from his bed, standing tall and straight, with a big toothless grin. Mr. Wong reached out to shake my hand and that of the alternative medicine doctor beside me. He thanked us for coming to his home. I had driven the doctor from his clinic to this house because Mr. Wong could not walk.

I was amazed and puzzled by his stamina, because Mr. Wong was

diagnosed with end stage cancer, which had spread to most of his body. He should have been in severe pain. He talked with such positive, cheerful enthusiasm, however, that I could not help but wonder about the life behind this person.

We chatted about that life. Mr. Wong told me that he felt like there was no sickness in him while he was lying in bed talking with me. He told me how his employment took him from China, to Hong

Continues on page 2

Seasons is produced in every season of the year and is dedicated to sharing our plans, achievements and challenges with those who make the services of The Dorothy Ley Hospice possible and with those who come to us seeking comfort, meaning, dignity and hope.

Mr Wong... continued from page 1

Kong, to Brazil and then finally to Trinidad where he spent most of his adult life.

We looked through some of his keepsakes. Old photos showed a young man with a gentleman's charisma. Mr. Wong extracted a neatly folded piece of paper from his diary. I unfolded it — a Chinese poem, eloquently written. A poem about his humble home in the country, cicadas, frogs, fishing ...how he enjoyed a drink of tea and food with friends, exchanging rare flowers, watching the birds fly away in the evenings. His life pleasures were probably summed up in these beautiful verses. Impressed, I asked if I could write the poem in my notebook. I felt that it deserved to be shared some day.

On a Sunday afternoon two weeks later, while he was recovering from an infection in the hospital, I visited Mr. Wong again. He said he still felt no pain and told me that we would go for lunch when he got well. Although he was too weak to walk, he still talked with such strength and enthusiastic spirit.

On Tuesday morning, in the company of his daughter, Dorothy, who was there every day with him, he passed away quietly. I felt fortunate to have shared his amazing strength and spirit just two days before he died.

At the funeral, the minister spoke of missing Mr. Wong's enthu-

siastic hymn singing. Just two weeks prior to his death, he told the minister that he would be there next year. That's Mr. Wong.

I framed Mr. Wong's poem and gave it to his family, along with an English translation, so all could read it. The poem is a tribute to Mr. Wong's life — simple yet vibrant, fragile yet strong, trying yet positive. And I am glad this poem will be shared and heard.

Pandora Ho is one of our treasured client support volunteers.

WHAT IS HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE?

Hospice palliative care provides physical, psychological, social, spiritual and practical support to people with life-threatening illness, and their loved ones.

It brings physicians, nurses, other health care professionals, spiritual counsellors, volunteers, friends and family members together as a caregiving team so people can live their remaining days in dignity and comfort, surrounded by people who love them.

Hospice palliative care is a flexible variety of supports delivered within a set of professional standards. It can be provided at home, in hospitals, nursing homes or specialized hospice facilities, and to clients of all ages.

Hospice palliative care helps make a very difficult life passage both manageable and meaningful for people facing death and their loved ones.

The GlaxoWellcome Foundation

ARE YOU AN EMPLOYEE OF A COMPANY THAT SPONSORS A UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN?



Did you know you can designate your United Way gifts to us?



The Dorothy Ley Hospice

Simply complete the section on the reverse side of your United Way pledge card that allows you to designate your gift to any Canadian registered charity. Write our full name, "The Dorothy Ley Hospice," and our charitable business number: 13019 3394 RR0001.

It's so easy! And it's so helpful for people and their families facing a progressive, advanced, life-threatening illness.



Over 300 people joined in the fun of The Dorothy Ley Hospice golf tournament and fashion show held August 13 at Markland Wood Country Club. Even Santa made a special appearance at "Fashions by Tabi International" which previewed fall and Christmas fashions.

The event raised \$38,000, enabling the Hospice to provide comfort, meaning, dignity and hope to more people and their families facing a life-threatening illness.

(l to r) Martha McGray, Brian Horst and Mary Jo Penney

Our volunteers honoured by Ministry of Citizenship



(l to r) Don Scott, Hannah Fisher and Gordon Culbert were presented with an Ontario Volunteer Services Award at a ceremony on June 5. Unable to attend, but there in spirit, were our other award winners, John Grant, Jill Oman and Shirley Williams.

With the objectives of increased recognition, facilitation, networking and promotion of volunteering, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 2001 as the International Year of Volunteers. This provides a unique opportunity to highlight the achievements of the millions of volunteers worldwide and to encourage more people globally to engage in volunteer activity.

The International Year of Volunteers has brought to many of our volunteers deserved awards and honours. Recently, the Ministry of Citizenship presented six of our own with the 2001 Ontario Volunteer Services Award for five or 10 continuous years of service. All were honoured during a special ceremony at the Oasis Convention Centre on June 5.

As a client support volunteer with the Hospice since 1994, **Gordon Culbert** provides compassionate support to individuals and families at the most stressful time of their lives. Gordon is also an active member of our speakers' bureau, educating those who live and work in our community about the benefits of hospice palliative care.

Every Monday and Thursday for the last six years, **Hannah Fisher** has set aside her responsibilities as

great-grandmother, grandmother, mother and wife – to take on the role of multi-talented Hospice volunteer. From 9:00 to 5:00 on these days, she is secretary, statistician, form developer, data entry person, mailing assistant, events helper, computer guru and problem solver for all of our staff.

In June 1996, **John Grant** transferred his experience and leadership skills acquired during a career that included 15 years as president and chief executive officer of Humber Memorial Hospital – to his new role as president of the board of directors of our Hospice. John's vision and energy propelled our growth. While he resigned from the presidency last year, he remains a director of our board, committed to helping shape our future development.

Jill Oman was one of the first volunteers in Etobicoke to complete client support training when the Hospice opened in 1990. Throughout the years, she has contributed her ideas, talents and energies to many of our clients and to many Hospice projects. Jill's contributions are evident in our bereavement program, speakers' bureau and annual Wine Tasting & Art Sale. Jill resigned from the Hospice last month for personal reasons; we will miss her greatly.

Don Scott has been a client support volunteer for the Hospice for 11 years. And, since our day respite program opened three years ago, every Wednesday – despite rain, snow or heat – Don drives two Hospice clients to day respite at St. George's on-the-Hill church. For Don, this is a time of sharing and empathy.

Client support volunteer **Shirley Williams** has been with us since our first day. With a natural gift for human interaction, Shirley is often

the first volunteer who comes to mind when the Hospice has a challenging family situation or a lonely client needing a special approach.

We at The Dorothy Ley Hospice are so very fortunate to have so many talented and dedicated people working with us. Thank you, John, Hannah, Don, Shirley, Gordon and Jill. And thank you to all of our other 260+ volunteers who bring so much to so many!

For more information about volunteering for The Dorothy Ley Hospice, please contact Sonia Arana, our coordinator of volunteer services and education, at (416) 626-0116 or volunteers@dlhospice.org.

Your memorial gifts have a ripple effect

Like a ripple on a pond, when someone offers a gift in memory of another, this symbol of love and respect works to help others, who in turn help others.

Memorial donors are in good company here at the Hospice, since about half of all the donations we receive every year are memorial gifts. We wish to thank all of you who remember the Hospice through such tributes. These meaningful gifts, given to celebrate the memory of family members, friends, co-workers, neighbours, and even public figures, enable us to provide comfort, meaning, dignity and hope to others when they are most in need.

To provide a memorial gift for The Dorothy Ley Hospice, call (416) 626-0116 and we would be pleased to take your Visa or MasterCard number. Or send a cheque to 170 Sherway Drive, Suite 3, Etobicoke, ON M9C 1A6. And thank you!

Send us your e-mails!

We're going electronic here at the Hospice. Increasingly, we will be relying on e-mail to stay in touch with our volunteers. One of our first steps, for example, is to collect volunteer hours through electronic forms distributed via e-mail.

We are asking volunteers with e-mail access to send us your e-mail address so we can get relevant information to you as quickly and efficiently as possible. And, if we already have your e-mail address, please verify that we have your correct current address.

For those of you without access to e-mail, not to worry. We will continue to use snail mail for your time reporting forms and other relevant information.

Please e-mail your address to Sonia Arana, our coordinator of volunteer services and education, at volunteers@dlhospice.org.

The Dorothy Ley Hospice extends a loving hand into the Etobicoke community to help people and their families facing a progressive, advanced, life-threatening illness live with comfort, meaning, dignity and hope. At home or in hospital, our teams of trained volunteers and professionals integrate compassionate care to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of our clients.

*To give your financial support,
contact MARTHA MACGRAY*

*To share your time and skills as a volunteer,
contact SONIA ARANA*

To inquire about using our services, contact:

THE DOROTHY LEY HOSPICE

170 Sherway Drive, Suite 3,
Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 1A6

Tel: (416) 626-0116 Fax: (416) 626-7285
www.dlhospice.org

Seasons design and production:
Glenn Osborne Design
(416) 461-4921

Upcoming events

September 17

FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEER BBQ

Ursaki Auditorium Patio
6:00 – 8:00pm

*Bring a friend who would like
to volunteer with us!*

September 22

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION FAIR

Cloverdale Mall

Sep 26, Oct 24, Nov 28, Jan 23

THERAPEUTIC TOUCH SUPPORT/ PRACTICE GROUP

The Dorothy Ley Hospice office
6:00pm

Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Nov 6, 13, 20

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The Dorothy Ley Hospice office
7:30 – 9:00pm

Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6, Jan 10

BEREAVEMENT VOLUNTEER SUPPORT MEETING

The Dorothy Ley Hospice office
7:00 – 9:00pm

October 8 – 14

HOSPICE AWARENESS WEEK

October 16

CELEBRATION OF LIFE MEMORIAL SERVICE: From Darkness to Light

Montgomery's Inn
7:30pm

October 17-19

HOMETOWN FAIR

Sherway Gardens

Oct 29 – Nov 9

HOSPICE VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Ursaki Auditorium

November 6

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Markland Wood Country Club
5:30 – 8:00pm

November 14

ETOBICOKE CLERGY EDUCATION SESSION

Ursaki Auditorium
9:00am – 12:30pm

November 19

CHILDREN FACING DEATH: THE LOSS OF INNOCENCE

by psychologist Dr. Leslie Balmer

Mississauga Convention Centre
8:30 – 11:30am

RSVP to Ward Funeral Home:

*(416) 241-2416, (905) 451-2124 or
(905) 844-3221*

December

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Date TBA

Nov 19, Jan 21

NURTURING MONDAYS

Nov 19: 7:00 – 9:00pm

Jan 21: 1:00 – 3:00pm

Gallery Room,

Humber Valley United Church

December 7 – 22

TREE OF REMEMBRANCE

Sherway Gardens
and Cloverdale Mall

*For information, or to register for any
of these events, call the Hospice office at
(416) 626-0116.*

If you could do one good thing today...

how about extending a loving hand to people facing a life-threatening illness?

We need in-home visiting volunteers who will listen, assist, comfort and serve as advocates for our clients.

Learn how to enhance your ability to live well until you die while helping others do the same – within our caring, educational, supportive environment.

For more information, contact Sonia Arana, our coordinator of volunteer services and education, at (416) 626-0116, Ext.27.

*Volunteers receive 30 hours of professional training
– next training session starts this fall.*