

February 2019

# Fiddick's Forum

Fiddick's Nursing & Retirement Home 437 First Ave Petrolia ON PH (519) 882-0370 FAX (519)882-0370



## Celebrating February

**Haiku Writing Month**

**Mend a Broken Heart Month**

**Library Lovers Month**

**Bubble Gum Day**

*February 1*

**Groundhog Day**

*February 2*

**Celebration of Love Week**

*February 10–16*

**Valentine's Day**

*February 14*

**Love Your Pet Day**

*February 20*

**Tooth Fairy Day**

*February 28*

## Once Upon a Time

Once upon a time, it was decreed that February 26 would forevermore be Fairy Tale Day. Whether you fancy woodland sprites, fire-breathing dragons, princesses locked in high towers, or talking animals, fairy tales and the lessons they impart are integral parts of every culture.

Scientists have traced the first fairy tales back to an era before the written word. An old folktale entitled "The Smith and the Devil," which is about a blacksmith selling his soul to the devil in order to gain magical abilities, dates back to the Bronze Age—6,000 years ago. Researchers from the New University of Lisbon in Portugal believe that this ancient tale was shared orally in a language that does not exist today. It is no surprise that fairy tales are so old. The purpose of these stories, after all, is to teach children clear distinctions between good and evil and right and wrong. Fairy tales are, in essence, morality tales filled with magic and wonder as a means to attract the attention of a young audience. Yet, adults are no less in need of morality tales.

The brothers Wilhelm and Jakob Grimm, famous for their collection of fairy tales, also believed that many of the stories they found had existed for centuries before they wrote them down. They listened to old-timers tell the beloved tales "Little Red Riding Hood," "Cinderella," "Hansel and Gretel," and "Snow White" and then transcribed their versions of the tales into print. The Brothers Grimm were the first scientists of folklore. They even took positions as librarians and historians at the University of Göttingen in Germany.

It would be wise on Fairy Tale Day to choose a story collected by Wilhelm Grimm, for this brother's birthday falls on February 24. If you've grown tired of the same old tales, then perhaps you can read a new tale, such as "The King of the Golden Mountain," "Hans My Hedgehog," or "Cat and Mouse in Partnership."

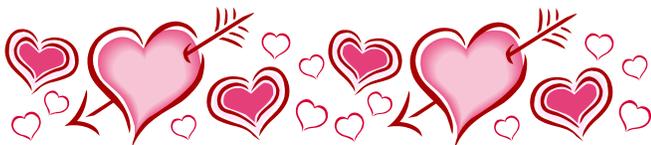
## Message from Mike

I do think it is time for “Old Man Winter” to begin to leave...we have had enough of the frigid cold days. I hope that everyone will enjoy our special events in February, the Sweetheart Luncheon, the Valentine’s Day Party and much more that our Activity Department has planned for this month.

Take care everyone, I hope everyone is doing well and if there are any issues or concerns my office door is always open and feel free to come and see me at anytime.

*Just a thought for Valentine’s Day:*

*A bell is no bell 'til you ring it,  
A song is no song 'til you sing it,  
And love in your heart  
Wasn't put there to stay - Love isn't love'  
Til you give it away.*



*~Oscar Hammerstein, Sound of Music*

Kindly yours,

Michael Fiddick, Administrator

## Fiddick’s Family Council

Our next Family Council meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm** in the Victoria Way Conference Room.

The family council members encourage you to attend and become involved so we can work together to enhance the lives of our loved ones. For those of you who are new to Fiddick’s, these meetings are held once a month on the last Wednesday of the month usually at 4:00pm and are done by 5:00pm.

There is no commitment required, though we would love to have more members who attend regularly.

*We hope to see you there!!*



## Underwater Weddings

With Valentine’s Day falling in the middle of February, it is no wonder this month is known as Wedding Month. The city of Trang in Thailand has capitalized on lovers yearning to tie the knot on Valentine’s Day by offering a unique setting for a wedding—under water! Every year from February 13 to 15, couples flock to this tropical seaside destination to take part in an underwater group wedding ceremony. On the 13th, couples are greeted at the airport by Thai dancers in traditional dress and then paraded through the streets of Trang to the cheers of spectators. On Valentine’s Day, couples are boated to the island of Koh Kradan, where they take part in a traditional Thai wedding ceremony and are blessed with the pouring of water over their heads from a conch shell. Then—for qualified divers only—comes the big event. Tuxedoed grooms and brides dressed in white don their scuba kits for the underwater ceremony in the protected, pristine waters of Thailand’s Andaman Coast.

## The Original Castaway

On February 1, 1709, Alexander Selkirk was rescued from an island after being stranded there for four years. Upon his return to England, journalists portrayed his last four years in extraordinary detail, making Selkirk a celebrity and inspiring the novelist Daniel Defoe to write his masterpiece *Robinson Crusoe*.



Selkirk was a hot-tempered navigator of a privateering ship called the *Cinque Ports*—a legalized pirate ship plundering for the British Crown. When conditions on board got bad, Selkirk tried to raise a mutiny against the ship's young captain by begging to

be left alone on an island with the crew. Unfortunately for Selkirk, none of the other crew members wanted to stay behind with him, so he was abandoned on Más a Tierra island off the coast of Chile. Selkirk expected another friendly ship to arrive, perhaps within days, but again he miscalculated, and another ship did not arrive for four years and four months. Amazingly, Selkirk survived. He ate fish, crayfish, and the many goats that inhabited the island. He grew so fleet of foot that he could catch them with his bare hands. Food and shelter came relatively easy. Keeping his sanity was his most difficult task. When a ship arrived on the horizon to save him, it was navigated by none other than William Dampier, a buccaneer under whom Selkirk had sailed on the *Cinque Ports*. Selkirk attempted to tell his story to Dampier, but he could barely remember the English language. Selkirk found it difficult to reintegrate into society, often thinking that he was happiest when he had nothing on the island.

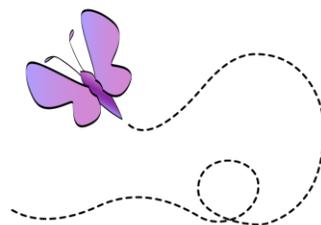
Daniel Defoe was intrigued with Selkirk's story and so wrote a romanticized version of it in *Robinson Crusoe*. Perhaps, however, this story should not be celebrated, for it has often been criticized as a tale of one colonialist's suppression and enslavement of an indigenous culture. Crusoe may have been a hero in 18th-century England, but today his accomplishments seem rather brutish. Perhaps instead, we should celebrate February 1 as Alexander Selkirk Day and forget Robinson Crusoe.

## Fiddick's Nursing & Retirement Home Welcomes...

*Maxine Ainsworth*  
*Glen Graham*  
*Ed Kellestine*

## And mourns the loss of...

*Estelle Patry*  
*Leda Webster*  
*Floyd Campbell*



## Lost and Found

Just a reminder for any of the residents who are missing clothing items we have an ongoing lost and found in Retirement Home activity room that families are able to access at any time. The Lost and Found is being cleaned out at the end of February so please come have a look before we go through everything.

Also, when you are bringing in new clothing items for your loved one please drop them off to the MAA desk not the nursing desk on the unit to ensure proper labelling and clothing recording procedure.

Thank you!



## Resident Birthdays

### Retirement Home

Lois O'Hara – Feb 13<sup>th</sup>  
Evelyn Edgar – Feb 17<sup>th</sup>  
Marjorie Alderman- Feb 19<sup>th</sup>

### Ruby Hall

Benedetta Muscedere- Feb 28<sup>th</sup>

### Victoria Way

Sylvia Vulakovic – Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>

### Barclay Lane

Stan Racher- Feb 14<sup>th</sup>  
Shirley Colledge- Feb 17<sup>th</sup>

### Fairbanks Court

Marcy Elliot- Feb 15<sup>th</sup>  
Angela Fracalanza- Feb 18<sup>th</sup>



Our February Birthday Party will be on Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm in Victoria Way with musical entertainment by Marc and Kim Reid. Cake and beverages will be served ☺

## February Birthdays

In astrology, those born between February 1–19 are Water Bearers of Aquarius. Water Bearers are deep-thinking intellectuals, unafraid of exploring outlandish ideas. Their strong sense of community makes them good friends and valuable team members. Those born from February 19–28 are the slippery Fish of Pisces. Selfless Pisces are very wise and empathetic, making them always willing to help others. These deep emotions also make Pisces talented artists and good friends.

Clark Gable (actor) – February 1, 1901  
Red Buttons (comedian) – February 5, 1919  
Babe Ruth (ballplayer) – February 6, 1895  
Jules Verne (author) – February 8, 1828  
Jimmy Durante (actor) – February 10, 1893  
Galileo Galilei (astronomer) – February 15, 1564  
Cybill Shepherd (actress) – February 18, 1950  
Patty Hearst (kidnapee) – February 20, 1954  
Olave Baden-Powell (guide) – February 22, 1889  
Steve Jobs (innovator) – February 24, 1955  
Fats Domino (musician) – February 26, 1928

## Happy Valentine's Day!

Happy Valentine's Day to all of our sweethearts! We are hosting a Sweetheart Luncheon for all of the residents who have a significant other. We did send out invitations but if we missed anybody please contact Brooke (Activity Director). It will be on February 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm. The next day (February 14<sup>th</sup>) we will have a Valentine's Day party for all of the residents at 2:30pm!

