

Fiddick's Forum

Fiddick's Nursing and Retirement Home 437 First Ave. Petrolia ON (PH) 519-0370 (Fax) 519-882-0375



Celebrating December

Universal Human Rights Month

Bingo's Birthday Month

Cookie Cutter Week
December 1–7

Hanukkah
December 10–18

Gingerbread House Day
December 12

Christmas Bird Count
December 14–January 5

Free Shipping Day
December 17

Christmas
December 25

Kwanzaa
December 26–January 1

New Year's Eve
December 31

A Tough Nut to Crack

December brings many beloved holiday traditions, but one soars above the rest. No, not flying reindeer, but the dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy. Tchaikovsky's classic ballet *The Nutcracker* has become a holiday staple all around the world, despite not mentioning the nativity story or Santa Claus.

It was not Tchaikovsky's idea to write *The Nutcracker*. After enjoying success with his ballet *The Sleeping Beauty* in 1890, Tchaikovsky was asked to compose a ballet for the Imperial Theatre. Tchaikovsky turned to his friend and collaborator Marius Pepita, who suggested they write a ballet based on the fairy tale *The Story of a Nutcracker*, by the French writer Alexandre Dumas. Dumas himself had "borrowed" the story from the German writer E.T.A. Hoffman, who wrote *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King* in 1816. In the 1800s, nutcrackers were common decorations in German households, revered as symbols of good luck. While composing in France, Tchaikovsky discovered a new instrument, the *celesta*. He decided to feature its wonderful sound in his new ballet. Before the ballet premiered, a short concert of the musical suite was played in St. Petersburg. Every number was given an encore. Tchaikovsky knew the music was good, but he worried about the performance.

Tchaikovsky was right to worry. Critics did not like *The Nutcracker* when it premiered at the Mariinsky Theater in St. Petersburg, Russia, on December 18, 1892. One particularly harsh review read, "*The Nutcracker* cannot in any event be called a ballet." For decades, only the first half of the ballet, featuring the battle between the soldiers and the rat king, was performed. But in 1944, the San Francisco Ballet, led by William Christensen, staged the entire ballet, and it became an instant holiday hit. Nutcrackers suddenly became cherished holiday decorations. By the 1960s, dance companies all across America were performing *The Nutcracker* as an

Greeting From the Administrator

Dear Residents, Team Members, Families & Friends,

It has been a disruptive year that has most certainly impacted holiday cheer.

In a year of stress, anxiety, fear & sadness; is Merry the right sentiment? Perhaps it not Merry, but more meaningful. A feeling of HOPE, that never ends. That's what Christmas is; a twinkle, a star, the story of Christs birth. HOPE! No matter the religion, faith or belief, the holiday season brings a time of calm, peace & joy. Limiting our expectations and understanding that most people are truly doing the very best they can. Give acceptance, Give Peace, Give Love, those things we can do.

Our Residents bring great joy to our lives, just as our team members bring joy to our residents lives. The devotion to care of our residnets remains steadfast. I personally feel such gratitude to our families that entrust us to care for their loved ones. I am humbled on a daily basis of your unwavering support during this past year.

We are a family here at Fiddicks Nursing and Retirement Home. From my family to your family, We wish you a peaceful, meaningful and warm Christmas. May we travel through these days with a kind thought and a warm memory

A peaceful Christmas to you,

*Mike Fiddick
Administrator/Owner
Fiddick's Nursing and Retirement Home*

Message from The DOC

Infection Control

We are proud to report statistics for the 2020-2021 immunization for influenza for residents is 97%.

Our home remains the highest compliance in the County for many years running!

Secondly, despite being in a technical covid-19 outbreak, we were able to immunize over 140 essential workers and caregivers at our flu clinic held on November 03 2020.

Staff statistics will be shared next month as well as a breakdown on the events of the covid-19 outbreak from start to finish.

We would also like to let you know that due to the Covid – 19 Restrictions no communal items can be purchased for staff (pizza for example) and no baked good from individual households, no boxes of chocolates, no gift baskets with fruit or treats .

Things that can be purchased: Cans of pop, individual snacks (i.e. granola bars, bags of Chips) We always appreciate the goodies that families bring in for staff during the holiday season however, please follow the protocols if you are wanting to bring something in. Thanks and have a safe and Merry Christmas.
#teamFiddicks (Mandy)

A festive graphic for Christmas. The word "Merry" is in a red, bold, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "Christmas" is written in a larger, multi-colored font where each letter is a different color (red, green, yellow, red, red, red, red, red, red, red). A decorative element of a red and white striped candy cane with a green holly leaf and red berries is positioned over the 'i' in "Christmas".

December Special Events

Resident's Christmas Party: December 9th

Gender Reveal: December 7th

Walt Disney Day: December 5th

December 31st New Year's Eve Party

Family Council Update

The Family Council has been busy with the staff, residents, and family members designing a Cookbook with recipes from our entire Fiddick's Family. Orders for the cookbook can be placed with Recreation Department. We hope that they will arrive before Christmas so everyone can try all the delicious recipes submitted. The cost of the Cookbook is \$15.00 and will make a great stocking stuffer and give those who may need a little help preparing a Christmas dish.

Family Council continues to meet monthly over Zoom. Our meetings are held the last Wednesday of the month at 3:00pm. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday December 23rd at 3:00pm.

For more information regarding Family Council, please contact one of the following members:

Tammi Langstaff: 519-918-0052
ktlangstaff@gmail.com

Marje Crowe: 519-671-2029
Marje13@outlook.com

Susan Carnegie: 519-402-1948
scarnegie@hotmail.ca

Fiddicks welcomes the following:



Doris Stanlick
Elizabeth Kewley
Nancy Stock
John Ridland
Donna Oliver

IN MEMORIAL



It's with great sadness we mourn the lost of:

David Glenn
Allan Ward
Mary Larocque

Christena Jones
Bill McLellan

December Birthdays



Retirement Home

Judy Williamson – December 6th
Agnus Marsh – December 8th
Tillie Grift December 9th
Joyce Fell – December 15th

Ruby Hall

Ruth Brand – December 4th
Cindy Stewart – December 7th
Ray Frydrych – December 16th

Victoria Way

No birthdays

Barclay

Dora MacFarlane – December 10th

Fairbanks

Bud Teeple – December 14th
Margaret Giggy – December 14th
Ethel Boothe – December 18th

December Birthdays

In astrology, those born between December 1–21 are the Archers of Sagittarius. The Archer's open mind, optimism, curiosity, and enthusiasm make them the travelers of the zodiac. They treasure freedom: freedom to roam, freedom of thought, and freedom to express themselves. Those born between December 22–31 are Capricorn's Goats. Goats are responsible masters of self-control. They are practical planners and leaders who value experience and expertise.

Richard Pryor (comedian) – December 1, 1940
Andy Williams (singer) – December 3, 1927
Kirk Douglas (actor) – December 9, 1916
Ada Lovelace (programmer) – December 10, 1815
Rita Moreno (actress) – December 11, 1931
Brad Pitt (actor) – December 18, 1963
Jane Fonda (actress) – December 21, 1937
Humphrey Bogart (actor) – December 25, 1899
Susan Butcher (musher) – December 26, 1954
LeBron James (athlete) – December 30, 1984

WHATS HAPPENING AROUND HERE!

Tacky Tattoo Day



Christmas Basket Making

