



219 Paterson Street

Almonte, Ontario. K0A 1A0

613-963-5000

www.orchardviewmississippi.ca –



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Resident of the Month: Pat Kennedy

Written by: Sophia Reimer

Pat was born in Detroit, Michigan on January 15, 1934. She was the youngest of 12 children, eight boys and four girls. Her father and three of her brothers went off to fight in the war so her mother raised the rest of her children on her own. Pat's parents had moved from England and got married in Lachine, Quebec. They had their first four children in Canada and then moved to Detroit for his work. Pat lived in Detroit until she was five, when the family all moved back to Lachine.

She was in school there until she began working at Dominion Engineering full time as a receptionist and had to finish high school doing night classes. She worked at the same company, which was later named General Electrics, for 40 years. She had to be bilingual for her job so she went to McGill and took French. She worked for General Electric up till when she retired.

Growing up, she always helped her neighbours, running errands or doing whatever she could to help them out. Her mother brought her up to always help when she could and never ask for anything in return. That's how Pat lived the rest of her life.

She has many interests and has pursued numerous different hobbies over the years. She took a woodworking class for four years. She also did figure skating when she was younger and even skated with international gold medalist Toller Cranston. She played semi-pro softball in her 20s and travelled with the team on the weekends for games. She coached a little league baseball team called the Lakeshore Lions and umpired when needed. She taught a majorette's class, coached cheerleading, and even did time-keeping for minor hockey.

She met her husband, Arthur, when she was doing time-keeping and he was general manager for the A team, the Lachine Maroons. His team would practice before or after the minor hockey games and he saw Pat doing the time-keeping and asked to be introduced to her. He later asked her to be secretary for the A team he managed, a volunteer position which she accepted. Arthur asked her out for coffee and they started dating. He began working for the NHL as a statistician for the Montreal Canadiens. He travelled with the team, and Pat got to watch many of their games.

Pat and Arthur got married in Lachine on October 7, 1967. Arthur worked for the NHL for 50 years and only missed one hockey game. He loved hockey so much that he would even come home from working a game and stay up to watch the west coast games that started late. Pat asked him one day whether his love lay with her or with hockey. In reply, he jokingly said, "Well, you're well ahead of basketball!"

Pat and Arthur were close to many of the players and staff on the Montreal Canadiens team, including the general manager and Pat got to sit with many of the wives of the players at games. They went to the Stanley Cup parties and when Arthur passed away in 2007, many of the players were the pallbearers.

Pat and Arthur moved to Almonte in 1991 when Arthur retired. Pat started volunteering at Fairview Manor and was vice president of the Auxiliary for 21 years. She also volunteered at the Carp Fair with the horse shows, helping the judges and organizing the contestants.

When asked about places she travelled to, Pat said most of their travelling was for different hockey games, like going to Tampa Bay and Vancouver. She also went to the British Isles on a 21-day cruise as well as a river cruise through Germany, Austria and Hungary in retirement with three friends.

Pat has dedicated much of her life and time to volunteer work and helping others. The thing she is most proud of is being awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Volunteering Award for her volunteer work at Fairview Manor and for helping out in the community. She was also awarded volunteer of the year by the mayor of Ottawa, Jim Watson and was nominated as a "Guardian Angel" through the Almonte General Hospital Foundation for her volunteering.

Since she's moved into Orchard View, her volunteering and commitment to helping others out haven't slowed down at all. She has made almost 100 name tag pins for residents and staff, made walker bags, and done countless mending, sewing and fixing jobs for residents and staff. She offers her help whenever and wherever she can. She loves to be busy and use her time to help others. She told me how happy she is at Orchard View and how she loves the staff and other residents and has no complaints. Pat's selfless attitude and commitment to volunteering are an inspiration. We are happy she is part of our OVM family and wish her all the best.





Keep on Smiling



Celebrating summer with watermelons, music, and Orchard View's 6 year anniversary!





Employee of the Month - Kaitland Comerford

Congratulations to Kaitland for being September's employee of the month; it is well earned. Kaitland works in the recreation department but has worked in many different roles at Orchard View and lends a hand to the different departments regularly. She is well loved by residents but specifically by our 4th floor residents. Her quiet and positive approach works wonders and we couldn't imagine the place without her. Reliable, hard working, very capable and a team player.

Testimonial - Lorne & Mimi Edmondson

The day that I was joining my wife, who was already living here, I came in the side door and heard my name being called. It was the first time in the building. I was pleasantly surprised and knew that I was coming into a comfortable place to live. Mimi and I like to walk the different floors and visit with our neighbours. We enjoy the exercise routine we have, as it keeps us healthy. I remember our first Christmas here. We enjoyed it with our family, just like home. For OVM 5th anniversary, they put on a great party, that I was honoured to speak at. We planted trees for our orchard. I can't wait to eat the apples from it! Two other aspects that are important to us, is having a Doctor onsite, who is excellent. The second is the monthly townhalls where information is shared, suggestions are made and it keeps everyone on the same page. We are happy with our decision to move to Orchard View.

Laugh out Loud with Orchard View

What's the best thing about Switzerland?

I don't know but the flag is a big plus.

What do you call a row of rabbits jumping backwards?

A receding hare line.

Yesterday I saw a guy spill all his Scrabble letters on the road.

I asked him, "What's the word on the street?"

Did you hear about the claustrophobic astronaut?

He just needed a little space.

Where are average things manufactured? The satisfactory

Open Activities

- ~ Wellness Centre Bike and Walking Bars
 - ~ Joe on the Piano ~ Adult Colouring
 - ~ Social Distanced Bingo with Joanna and Friends
 - ~ Massage Chairs (Wellness Centre/3rd Floor Lounge)
 - ~ Library ~ Bistro ~ Tuck Shop
 - ~ Church Services / Rosary Prayers
 - ~ Fitness classes on Main, 3rd and 4th Floor with Almonte Physio
 - ~ Door to Door Mind Work Games
 - ~ Bistro Activities ~ Scrabble
 - ~ Puzzle Tables
- LOTS MORE!

AGH WALK FOR WOMENS HEALTH

OVM will be doing our own lap around the building starting at 10:30 am by the Gazebo. Residents are asked to donate \$10

September 10th

Official run is at the Almonte General Hospital, 8:30-10:30 am. 3K, 5K, 10K

COME CHEER!

The official route goes around Orchard View. We encourage you to go outside between 8:30 and 10:30 to cheer on the racers as they go by!

LINK TO JOIN TEAM OR DONATE:
<https://raceroster.com/events/2022/58688/2022-agh-run-for-womens-health/pledge/team/418176>

JoJo's Did You Know

- Did you know that you cannot find happiness in "things"
- Did you know that Finland is considered the world's happiest country.
- Did you know that negative thinking creates negative feelings. We need to understand that positive thinking creates positive feelings.
 - Did you know that one smile sparks another.
- Did you know that laughter is a super-tonic for longevity.



September 18th 2022

1:00-4:00 pm

Vendemmia

*Grape stomping, wine, food,
music, dancing*

We'd love to have you join the
fun!

Orchard View by the Mississippi
219 Paterson Street, Almonte