



Sun Times photo by Doug Camp

MAKING THINGS GROW — Residents have been enthusiastic about the challenge of taking on a vegetable garden this year. (From left) Hazel McCure, Art West, Alex Dornan and Ola Gardiner prepare their garden at the Versa Care senior citizens' centre.

Versa Care seniors discover satisfaction in their garden

By CINDY WITTEN
Sun Times staff

This is the time of year when people of all ages start spending free hours pottering in the garden and the patients at Versa Care in Owen Sound are no exception.

Two small gardens have been handed over to them to cultivate and plant flowers and vegetables.

Five residents were braving the cold wind Tuesday to shovel, hoe and weed.

"It is a wonderful idea," says Bo (Alex) Dornan. "I used to have a farm at Allenford and I really miss getting out in the dirt."

Gwen West, activity co-ordi-

nator, was the originator of the idea to transform the neglected flowerbeds into a useful project for the patients.

"They started by picking up all the wood chips covering the soil and are now filling the gardens with top soil and fertilizer," she said. "We bought special tools that are lightweight and easy to handle."

Cucumbers, cabbages, carrots, and onions are planned for the circular garden with a fringe of lettuce around the outside. Tomatoes will be grown in large movable pots.

Impatiens will be planted in the flowerbed along the wall.

"I know more about wild flowers. But I'll weed them," Bo says.

Ola Gardiner had a large garden at her home, Chrystal Spring Farm.

"Gardens are a lot of work but its nice to have them," she said.

The vegetables will be saved especially for barbeques and picnics.

Gwen West says that there are already positive results.

One gentleman always talked of going home to plant his garden and since he started working here his spirits are improved, she said.

The patients seem to enjoy the project as participation has been high and, adds Gwen, "every day there is someone different."



COUPLE CELEBRATES 50th ANNIVERSARY — A dance was held recently at the Shallow Lake Community Centre in recognition of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Marshall of Park Head. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall were married Nov. 3, 1930. Mrs. Marshall is the former Nellie Law, daughter of the late Arthur and Catherine Law. Mr. Marshall is the son of the late Thomas and Ettie Marshall. Their family includes 3 sons and 3 daughters, Doug of Park Head; Lorne of Calgary, Alta.; Bill of Whitecourt, Alberta; Shirley (Mrs. Dan Jackson) of Stratford; Bonnie (Mrs. Jim Moore) and Helen (Mrs. Ken Taylor), both of Owen Sound. There are 19 grandchildren. Guests were present from Toronto, Kitchener, Lindsay, Ingersoll and the surrounding area. Messages of congratulations were received from Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, Premier William Davis, E. C. Sargent MPP, Dr. C. G. "Gus" Mitges, MP, Governor-General Ed Schreyer, Joe Clark MP, Gary Gurbin MP. Dancing was enjoyed to the music of Merlin White and Good-Tyme Country. 64-P



Wednesday, June 30

Remember When?

These ladies attended a sewing class in Arran Township some years back. Anyone with information about the picture is asked to call Mrs. Harold Simpson at 934-2238, or Mrs. Earl Busch at 797-5941.