

Restructuring plans discussed

Revenue up in cancer canvas, volunteers told at annual meeting of Chesley Branch

by Mary Golem

Members of the Chesley branch of the Canadian Cancer Society heard about plans to restructure the Bruce and Grey Units of the Society at the Branch's annual meeting Thursday evening in the boardroom of the Chesley Hospital.

Plans to restructure the local units of the Society have been talked about before, Elaine Palmer, Bruce County Unit president told about 20 volunteers at the meeting. However, she added, "the talk is not going to go away . . . at some point we are going to have to amalgamate with another Branch or Unit, so we might as well do it now under our terms."

The Ontario division of the Canadian Cancer Society had 17 regions over a year ago.

That number is down to eight regions province-wide. The Bruce and Grey Units are part of the newly-created Georgian Lakelands Region, Palmer explained, which encompasses Grey and Bruce Counties up the Peninsula, to Barrie, Parry Sound and the Huntsville area.

Palmer told the volunteers the Walkerton office will be closed at the end of October and a new office, designed to service Bruce and Grey, opened in Owen Sound on October 3. The office, located in downtown Owen Sound, will be open five days a week and will be staffed by a new full-time co-ordinator, who has not yet been named.

At one point, Palmer said, Chesley

was considered for the new office, but "demographics determined Owen Sound would be the new location."

While the structure of the Unit or Branches may change somewhat under restructuring, the work of the local Cancer Society will not. They will still maintain the patient services and transportation service they now provide, as well as continue fundraising.

"Volunteers are what make the Cancer Society run," Palmer added. "Because of them, the Cancer Society has low administration costs and all the money raised goes to research to help find a cure for this dreaded disease."

At the Chesley Branch annual meeting, Dianne King was re-elected president. Secretary is Marion Brown and treasurer is Tracey Subject. Doreen Zehr is transportation co-ordinator; Cheryl Beech and Helen Swerdfeger are campaign co-convenors and there are more than 20 members actively involved in the Branch's work.

Those in attendance were delighted to learn Chesley resident Ida Middleton has made and donated a beautiful quilt to the local Branch.

Tickets will be sold on the quilt and the lucky winner drawn at the April Soup 'n Sandwich luncheon. The quilt will soon be put on display in The Enterprise window. Tickets are 50 cents or three for \$1.00.

As well, October is Breast Awareness Month and on October 27th, the Chesley Branch will sponsor a Breast Awareness Night, starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Chesley Hospital.

This will not be a breast self-examination clinic, as in previous years. Instead, the focus will be on breast health awareness, King said.

The 1993-94 year was full of challenges and change for the local Branch, King said in her report, adding the dedication of volunteers, particularly the ten volunteer drivers, is most heartwarming.

This past year's door-to-door canvas was expanded into the townships that had not been canvassed for a few years. A total of \$7,986.34 in the 1994 campaign, up from the 1993 total. The soup 'n sandwich luncheon was also a success, raising over \$570 for the Branch.

In total, the Chesley branch raised \$16,375.37 through the campaign, special events, In Memorium and cookbook sales.

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Long-time hairstylist retires . . . to get married

by Mary Golem

Chesley's long-time hairstylist Fanny Hammond has called it quits . . . to get married!

On Saturday, October 29 in Kitchener, Frances (Fanny) Hammond, age 77, and Tom Ferguson, 78, of Kitchener, were united in marriage.

Becoming a bride meant giving up her hairdressing business in Chesley. For the past 34 years, she's styled hair in the front two rooms of her Main Street home. Even on Thursday, while in the midst of moving and getting ready for her wedding, Fanny styled hair for ten women that morning.

"I've had some beautiful ladies as customers," she said. "I'm sorry I have to leave them . . . they have always been so good to me. If I was getting younger, I'd stay with it," she added. "It has been a lot of fun and I'm going to miss it, but I had to make a change sometime."

Fanny's first husband, Alvin Hammond, died five years ago. "Both Tom and I were alone so

we decided to get married," she said, as she talked about their Saturday afternoon wedding.

Fanny's late daughter, Ollie Bittorf, was a hairdresser and it was she who initially convinced her mother to go into hairdressing. After learning the trade in Toronto, she began working full-time 34 years ago and has been at it ever since.

When not styling hair, Fanny was busy tending to her beautiful flowerbeds at the front of her home. Those flowerbeds often caused people on Main Street to stop and take a look on their way by and she's hoping whoever buys her home "will keep the flowers as nice."

And when not tending to her flowerbeds, Fanny enjoyed ceramics and even carpentry work.

Following a Florida honeymoon, Fanny and Tom plan to enjoy their new life together on Union Blvd in Kitchener. We at The Enterprise join the community in wishing the Fergusons lots of happiness together!



Hairstylist Fanny Hammond in front of her Main Street home. Fanny was known, not just as a good hairdresser, but also for her many beautiful flowers! (Golem photo)