

Tooth Chatter



by ALEX TRENTON, DENTURIST

DENTURE WEARERS TAKE THIS TEST!

Are your Dentures:

- () requiring lots of paste or powder to stay put?
- () living out of your mouth, more than in your mouth?
- () cracked, worn, or missing teeth?
- () stained even though you clean them regularly?
- () sore when you eat?
- () causing your face to sag inward?
- () dull and you have to chew your food too long?
- () slipping out of your mouth if you laugh?
- () over 5 years old?

If you have checked any of the above, call us for a FREE consultation. Most people suffer needlessly. Don't assume your case is hopeless. Denture Technology is constantly improving!

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Alexander Trenton, D.D.; F.C.A.D.(A), Denturist
Georgetown Denture Clinic
18 Church Street, Georgetown, ON
(Across from the library and Cultural Centre)
(905) 877-2359
www.georgetowndentureclinic.com

Community Cornerstone

Charlie Parchem

By DONNA DANIELLI

Not many men can say they have looked death in the face and lived to tell the tale, but Charlie Parchem has the distinction of having done just that twice in his 59 years.

Thirty years ago, when Charlie's truck got stuck in the mud, and threw him off the road and into a tree, it broke his neck. He spent three months in the hospital before being declared fit to go home. Mayor at the time Ann MacArthur and Councillor Ivan Hunter recommended Charlie for a job with the Town of Milton's Works Department and Charlie began his 28 year career with the Town of Milton.

"I've done a bit of everything," says Charlie who has lived on Campbell Avenue with his wife Audrey for 36 years. "I've done garbage, snow plowing, tree cutting... if it needed doing, I did it."

All that came to an end for Charlie on January 4, 2002. Working with his nephew, Glenn Hall, he climbed a ladder to tie a rope to the top of a tree and then fell almost 25 feet.

"I hairline fractured five vertebrae in my back and punctured my lungs. I was on life support and the shock of it all brought on a heart attack."

It wasn't until mid February during a visit from his son who flew in from Calgary that Charlie began his trip back to the land of the living.

"He moved his hand for the first time when our son was there," says Audrey. "He was so weak when he came to that he couldn't have lifted his head."

Audrey faced a number a number of difficulties in early 2002. Not only was her husband of 37 years sedated to a near coma state and badly hurt, but two weeks after Charlie's fall, Charlie's mother passed away of a heart attack. Audrey also ended up hospitalized for a week due to stress.

"She went through more than I did," says Charlie, to which Audrey laughingly replied, "He slept through it all."

Charlie, who served as a Lions Club member for 27 years and a volunteer fire fighter for 10 years, has now retired from the Town of Milton. He spends two days a week in physiotherapy in Oakville. While his lungs currently operate at 55% capacity, doctors are hopeful that may one day increase to 60 - 65%. "I miss working in the cherry picker the most," he says. "It could be 20 degrees below zero, it didn't bother me, I just liked being up there. I'd go back steady tomorrow if they'd have me."

Audrey is happy to have her husband home and healthy again. "He only seems to hurt himself every 30 years or so, I know he's safe for the next 30 years," she jokes.

Audrey and Charlie are particularly grateful to everyone who has

lent a helpful hand to them this year. "I want to thank all the people who helped - the fire department, the ambulance service, and my nephew for alerting them so quickly," says Charlie. "Top of the list is my wife Audrey, and our two sons, Charles and Wayne. Family, neighbours and friends should get a special thanks for their support and their prayers. I know their prayers had a lot to do with my getting better."

Charlie and Audrey

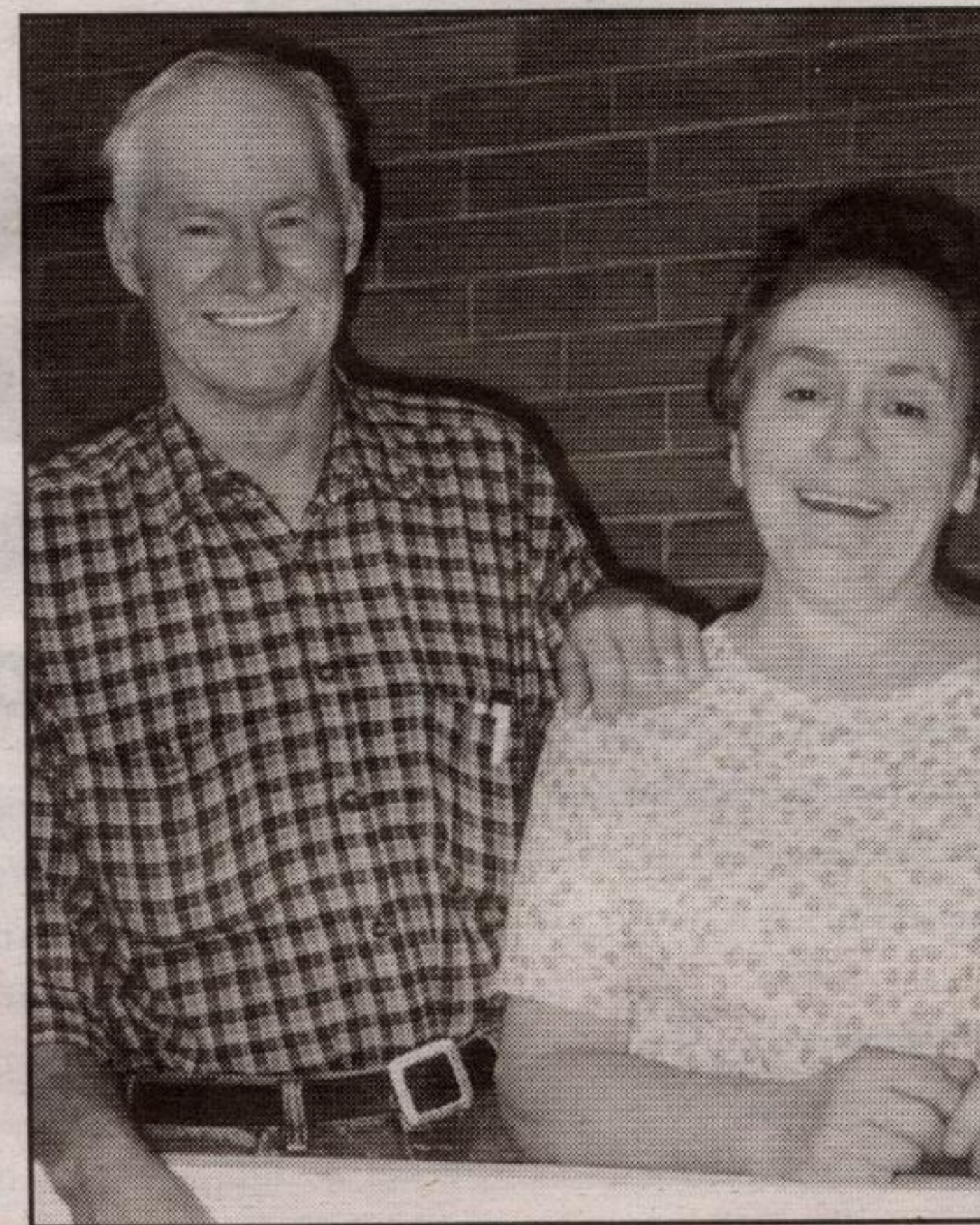


Photo by DONNA DANIELLI

Celebrating the 10th Annual Montgomery Country Christmas

BY DEBORAH QUAILE

Celebrate Christmas in the country the old fashioned way with an annual celebration in the village of Norval. On Saturday, November 30 from 10 am to 4 pm, enjoy the 10th Montgomery Country Christmas in various locations around the area. Many of the festivities are designed to honour Canadian author Lucy Maud Montgomery, who lived and wrote in Norval from 1926

to 1935. This year the event falls on the author's actual birthday (she was born in 1874). During her Norval years, she published five novels and wrote 2-1/2 of her 10 journals from her writing room in the Presbyterian manse that overlooks Russell's hill of pines.

The event is a unique opportunity to discover the history and character of Norval and to meet some of the people who live and work there. Enjoy the music of the season with the talented Celtic harpist and vocalist Anneliese Cameron, wood carving demonstrations by the Ontario Wood Carvers Association (some of these carvings will be available for sale), and refreshments by The Norval Community Association - hot apple cider, coffee, and delicious homemade cookies. The NCA will also offer a display and sale of Heritage Seeds from the Lucy Maud Montgomery Garden, LMM Garden souvenir T-shirts and gardening hats, Norval Country Kitchen Recipe Book and Norval History 1820-1950, homemade preserves, and a raffle of donated prizes. The Grand Draw will be at 4 pm.

Norval United Church will hold a bazaar from 10 am to 2 pm that features a scrumptious bake table, Mary's Farmers' Market, a fabulous tea room, a white elephant table, unique Christmas crafts, and the CGIT girls will be selling Norval Calendars.

At Crawford's Village Bakery, there are numerous Montgomery-related books and items to choose from, including a special treat - the rich, moist Christmas cake made from Maud's own recipe that has been handed down through the family.

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