

February 2021



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Resident of the Month: Linda Hanly Reid and John Terris Reid

Written by: Brent Connelly

This pleasant couple is the most recent addition to the OVM Townhouse family. The Reids moved from their Dr. Bach Street residence in Almonte, a few weeks before the arrival of that dastardly COVID, and all that goes along with it, such as isolation and lockups or lockdowns. I hope that this brief introduction will give residents a heads-up on our newest tag-team of Linda and John Reid, who in our digital world are referred to by some as L&JR.

Talking about *heads-up*, L&JR are both accomplished golfers, having played under the Arizona sun for the past sixteen winters. However, Mr. COVID would never let them away with that for another year—so it was good-bye to the Bermudagrass greens of Arizona and hello to the frozen far north, where the golf greens are winterized and in a state of hibernation. L&JR executed their retirement plans, which were in readiness as they had been made long before the virus showed up in 2019. They subsequently sold their home in Arizona and are now in the process of selling their Dr. Bach Street home in Almonte and settling into their OVM townhouse.

Linda was born in Lachute, Quebec, an only child of dairy farmers whose farm was located within walking distance east of the well-known main street of Lachute. (Former MPP for Renfrew County Sean Conway once told me that he was so impressed with the ample free parking—and what appeared to be a good working relationship between town officials and merchants—that he planned on arranging a tour of Lachute for local Ottawa Valley mayors and reeves to show them a practical example of some excellent main street development.)

Linda spent all of her school holidays with her grandparents in Montreal, Calumet, or Huntington, Quebec—that is, when she wasn't helping with the gardening or doing other farm chores. At the age of twelve, she and her cousin John Walker took a trip with Grandmother Hanly to England for four months, and after she graduated from high school, Linda returned again in 1971. One of the focuses of these trips was to retrace the Hanly family's Irish and Scottish roots. The trips were quite similar to previous holidays that her grandparents had enjoyed and were centred out of a Warwickshire apartment. Grandmother Hanly continued to take these trips after her husband, Arthur Hanly, passed away. Linda went on to attend Dawson College in Montreal and became a registered nurse (RN); she subsequently worked in the provinces of Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia, and Alberta in critical care, in a doctor's office, and as an infection control nurse.

Apart from working as a RN for 21 years (she retired to help out with her ailing father), Linda's primary interest is genealogy research. She has spent many hours in completing family trees for the Rankin, Hanly, and Reid families back to 1805. In 2000, L&JR, who don't have any children, attended a Hanly Clan reunion in Ireland. While explaining the details of the Hanly line of heritage, Linda offered, perhaps with a trace of sadness, that "I am the last of our family to have the Hanly name."

In 2009, the couple moved to Almonte, where Linda took a great interest in contributing to museums, local historical organizations, and to various websites. One of these websites is Bytown or Bust (www.bytown.net), where she contributed an article on her great-grandfather titled "Doctor John Frederick HANLY—Early Physician in Almonte, Ontario, Canada" (link: <http://www.bytown.net/hanlydrjohnfrederick.htm>).

Dr. Hanly (1868–1927) was a highly respected physician, surgeon, and *accoucheur* (male midwife) in the community, who was also heavily involved in the opening of the first hospital in Almonte. He served the people of Almonte and surrounding area for more than thirty-four years and, along with his wife, Jane Elizabeth Kean (Jennie), raised a family of three children (the eldest son, Arthur, was Linda's grandfather) in the house at 119 Bridge Street on the corner of Richey Street. Sadly, Dr. Hanly passed away on the job while making his rounds in a horse-drawn cutter (sleigh). Dr. and Mrs. Hanly are buried at the Auld Kirk Cemetery in Almonte.

Now we'll turn to the other half of this dynamic couple (the two are younger than most of us at OVM): John (Tiger) Reid (his nickname comes from his interest in golf). John was born in Dunfermline, Scotland, and like Linda, he was an only child. At the tender age of four years, Little Tiger emigrated to Canada with his parents where the family settled in the area of Kingston, Ontario. John attended elementary and high schools in the area and graduated from Queen's University in 1976 with a BSc degree in chemical engineering.



John's first engineering job was in Trail, British Columbia, with Cominco, a heavy metal smelter operation. He lived in nearby Rossland, which at that time was known by some as the "ski bum capital" of Canada. One time he organized a ski week among school buddies and others, including Linda, who was on holidays and visiting the girlfriend of one of John's engineering classmates. Predictably, it wasn't too long after the ski week that Linda had moved out to Rossland and began working there. As John puts it, there was a strong engineer–nurse connection in the air, and so it seemed that their paths kept crossing. After a few cross-Canada visits, the happy young couple were married in Rossland in 1983.

I once spoke to a veteran minister who had presided over a plethora of wedding celebrations during his career, and he shared that every wedding has a different twist to it—something that makes it a little different from the one before, or the one after it. And so you ask, what makes this wedding so different from the one before, or the one after it? Well, I wasn't there, so all I can offer is the same tongue-in-cheek response that I received from the groom to the same question: "Some of the wedding party went skiing on our wedding day and nearly missed the afternoon wedding because the skiing was so good that day." I think that, at this point, I will cease speculating on the "rest of the story" and leave it to the imagination of the reader. It will be more fun that way—at least for me!

Since both the Hanly and Reid families were living back east, the newlyweds sought jobs closer to their families. John found employment in Brownsburg, Quebec (aka the home of champions), with the research department at CXA, where he eventually became the technical support manager, and later with ICI Explosives (now Orica Explosives) while Linda continued her nursing career.

By the late 1990s, the couple had retired and were living in Kanata. Now, as they look forward to the post-COVID parts of their lives, it will be golf, golf, and more golf. John hopes to curl after a fifteen-year break, and Linda plans on getting back into some knitting and needlepoint.

In quiet reflection on their lives to this point, this remarkable couple adds this, "We have no children. Both being only children, who never had to learn to share, we say that's why we get along so well together. What's mine is mine, and we don't have issues with that."

Keep on



Smiling



Employee of the Month - Heather Yankoo

Congratulations to Heather on being February's employee of the month! Heather works full time on our "main stage" of the Reception Desk. She has been a vital pillar in keeping all visitors, residents and even the staff all in the know and the ship cruising along smoothly. Heather is beyond kind, humble, a mighty good dancer and always willing to help with a smile. Even when she has a question... there is a smile on her face. A big thank you for Heather for all her hard work and dedication through the vast challenges and changes we have had. Keep up the great work and let's see you dance your way through 2021!

Testimonial - Ken and Jean Church

This place is great! I look around each day and think how fabulous the staff are. They will do whatever it takes to make sure everyone is happy and healthy. The nursing staff take such good care of you, the management are easy to talk to and always around.... I just don't know where to stop with the wonders of our new home.

Laugh out Loud with Orchard View

Having plans sounds like a good idea, until you have to put clothes on and leave the house.

It's weird being the same age as an old person.

When I was a kid I wanted to be older....
This is not what I expected

Chocolate is God's way of telling us he likes us a little bit chubby.

It's probably my age that tricks people into thinking I'm an adult

I'm getting tired of being part of a major historical event.

Yesterday I wore something from 5 years ago and it actually fit! SO proud of myself.
It was a scarf. But still, let's be positive

Open Activities

~ Bistro ~ Puzzle Tables

~ 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)

~ Docking Station for phone calls or Video Calls on the computer

~ Library ~ Tuck Shop

~ Church Services / Rosary Prayer

~ Fitness classes on Main, 3rd and 4th Floor from Almonte Physio

~ Door to Door Mind Work Games

Valentine's Day at Home

This year is proving to be more of an adjustment, and waiting game. But that doesn't mean you can't have fun at home this Valentine's day. Here are a few ideas on what you can do:

1. Have an indoor picnic
2. Dip everything in Chocolate
3. Relax with a Movie Marathon
4. Become Mixology Masters
5. Quiz yourself with a Trivia Night
6. Take an online Cooking Class
7. Indulge in Breakfast in Bed
8. Embrace your creative side with painting or crafts
9. Bundle Up in the Backyard with a bonfire
10. Relax for a Spa Day



JoJo's Did you Know

Many people will walk in and out of your life but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.

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Who finds a friend finds treasure.

~

Friends find a way of speaking without words.

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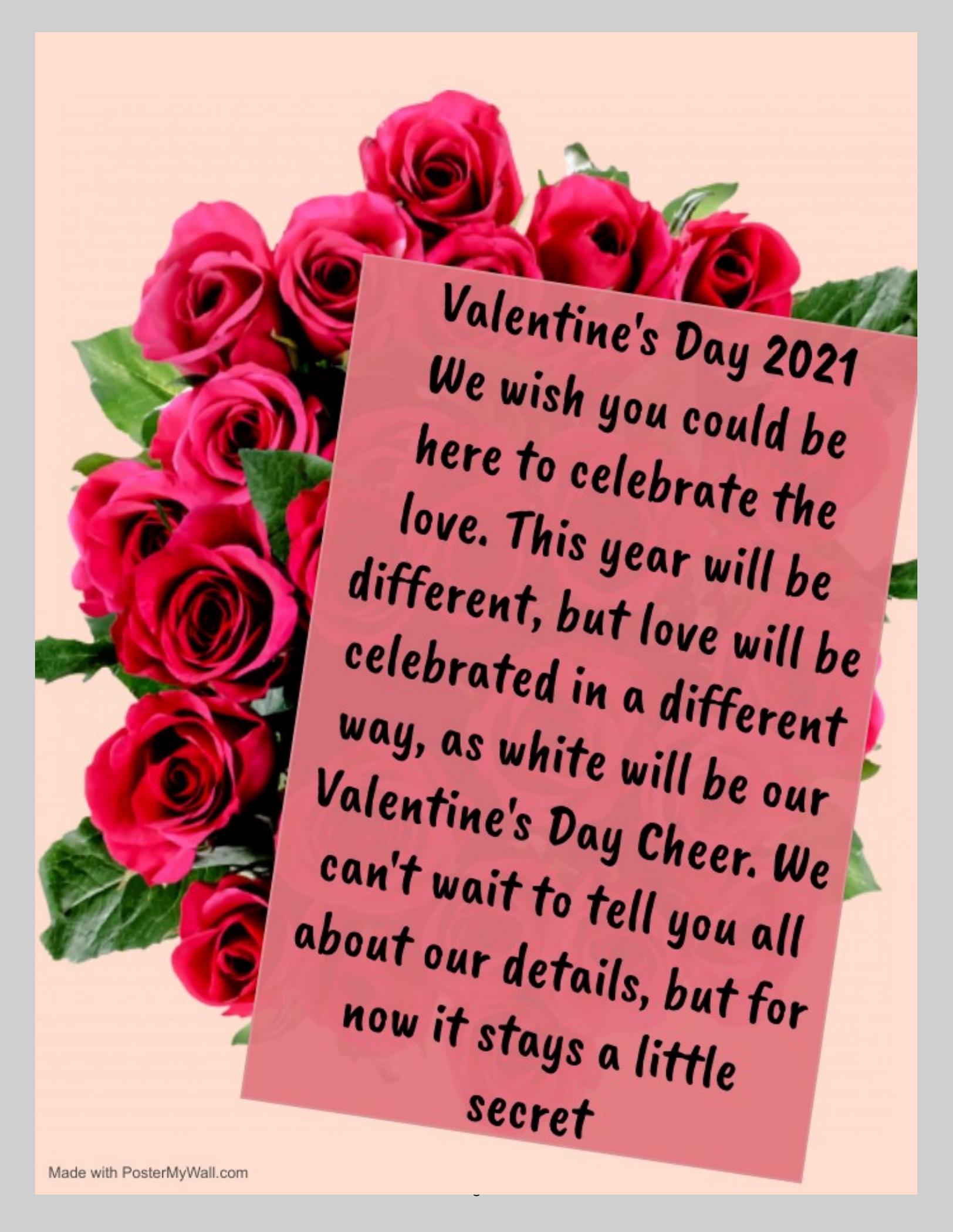
Time waits for no one. Treasure every moment you have. You will treasure it even more when you can share it with someone special.

~

Age is mind over matter. If you don't mind it doesn't matter

“The warmth of every single ray of the sunshine reminds me that we were just meant to be — Good Morning Love”

~TheFreshQuotes~



Valentine's Day 2021
We wish you could be here to celebrate the love. This year will be different, but love will be celebrated in a different way, as white will be our Valentine's Day Cheer. We can't wait to tell you all about our details, but for now it stays a little secret