

Local care home residents say establishments are doing the best they can

By Johnathan Houle
Special to The Record

There are several care facilities for senior citizens across the Townships. With some public and private care homes struggling to adapt

during the pandemic and provide adequate care, The Record spoke with residents of two local care facilities to hear firsthand how they feel.

Barbra Wintle has been a resident of Le Renaissance – Manoir St-Francis since before the original lockdown in 2020. For her, the hardest part about the lockdown has been the limited interaction she has been able to have with others. “We are

allowed to go into the other’s apartments but it’s better if we don’t just to be safe and our communal dining area is locked,” Wintle said, adding, “We don’t get to see the other residents and our other friends like we used to.”

Communication has always been an integral activity among its residents. Being a close-knit community where residents know each other well, many have been having a tough time with both the gathering restrictions and social distancing. “I don’t like this business of having to not be friendly with people we meet in the hallway, but that’s all you can do and it’s hard when we can’t have our monthly church service here which I miss very much,” Wintle said, discussing her difficulty dealing with the change.

Though the restrictions have been tough on everyone, Wintle had few complaints about the how the manor has provided for and protected residents. “I have no problem praising the manor here at all. We are very well looked after,” she assured. According to Wintle, the manor has offered plenty of options to ensure the safety and comfort of its residents. “There are plenty of activities here like Wii bowling, cards, bingo, washer toss, and Bochii in the summertime so there’s always something to do here.”

Wintle said she considers the manor a safe environment. “I have no complaints whatsoever and I would highly recommend the St-Francis to anyone.”

Joan Lalonde is a new resident at the Manoir Stanstead. Having moved into the building last September, she believes that the Manoir has been very good to residents. “I think they do a good job taking care of the residents on a whole,” she said, later praising the staff in the establishment. “Everyone who works here is working really hard for us as well.”

When asked how she has been faring through the pandemic, she replied, “I’m not doing too bad at all. I’m well enough that I can do my own things,” Lalonde said. “I know people who’ve been here almost since the Manoir’s beginning, and most of them are great. The Manoir Stanstead has become a second home to them.”

While she has heard the occasional complaint from neighbors, they have primarily been limited to small details at the residence, often related to food. “With all the things that have happened, they are doing the very best they can, which is very good.”

Both Wintle and Lalonde believe their homes are taking diligent care of residents and are grateful for the support they have received throughout the pandemic.



Jimmy Vachon, owner

Usinage JV Tech Inc.

Business sector: **Industrial – Machine shop**
Form of financing: **Machinery acquisition**
Location: **Magog**

« My strengths are in manufacturing, so I benefited considerably from the CAE's expertise and advice in monitoring my financial statements. »

Usinage JV, Tech Inc. was founded in 2007 by Mr. Jimmy Vachon and has continued to grow since then. It specializes in the machining of complex high-precision parts for the aeronautics, recreational, medical, agricultural, industrial and energy sectors. The company employs about 15 people, working at a facility of over 6,000 sq.ft.

The CAE Memphrémagog has been involved in every stage since the creation of the company, primarily for the acquisition of equipment. Mr. Vachon explains: “My strengths are in manufacturing and I benefited from the expertise of the CAE’s advisor. She gave me sound advice on how to better manage my business and its growth. I appreciated how quick and flexible the process of obtaining financing was and the personalized services that allowed me to fully understand all aspects of managing my business.”

Le CAE
Memphrémagog,
Business Partner
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Canada Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions
offers a financial support to the CAE

SADD

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

said Ball. “We are always looking for donations of jewelry and purses and we encourage anyone who has a donation to contact Mable Hastings (CABMN Director) at m.hastings@cabmn.org She will arrange for pick up or drop off of any donations.

Fundraisers of this sort are advertised in advance and it is always wise to check out the CABMN website at www.cabmn.org for details and while on the site you are encouraged to sign up for the weekly digital newsletter to assure that you are up to date on all CABMN activities and programs especially during the Pandemic.

“Our SADD group is hoping to welcome at least three other new members in the weeks to come,” said Ball. “A group of eight to ten youth makes for a cohesive and diverse team and anyone interested can contact me at e.ball@cabmn.org , he suggested.

Ethan Ball and Eleanor Cote make up the Youth Centre staff team at the CABMN and animate the activities at the Youth Centre. During a difficult time, due to inconsistent openings and shut downs, like many youth centres, the two are experiencing the setbacks of the unpredictable pandemic regulations.

“We run our programs and strive to meet the directives in force as we can,” said Cote. “We want to keep our SADD and MAYO/JAM farm groups running as much as possible as the two programs are well attended and of great interest to the youth.”

The CABMN Youth Centre is located at 282 Principale in Mansonville and anyone wanting more information can call 450-292-4886 and leave a message on the answering machine and a staff will call you back.