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Valentine's Concert Raises $3,000 for Worthy Causes

Toronto, ON – Combining his passions for music and assisting others, Broker Paul Swartz at Sutton Group – Old Mill Realty Inc.* has raised more than $8,000 for the Greenborough Church and its various ministries. The Valentine's concert was the fourth musical event that Paul has coordinated and performed for the church. His specialities—romantic ballads and lively swing tunes—made the Valentine's event the most successful concert so far. It generated $3,000 before expenses.

"I think the Valentine's concert was so successful because it had one of the best jazz singers in the country and we have developed a following to our excellent concerts," says Paul. "The jazz ensemble was made up of seven people including singer June Garber (www.junegarber.com). We played music from the war years so it was mostly swing. It was very popular with our audience." Tickets to the Saturday, February 13 event were $20 and admission was free for people 18 years of age or younger. The hall was jammed with more than 150 people.

Paul has been playing guitar for most of his life, beginning in 1964 when he fell in love with the Beatles. His interest hasn't waned in nearly half a century. "There were probably 50 guitar players in my neighbourhood growing up and I'm the only one left."

Performing on behalf of the church allows Paul to entertain as he helps to raise money for church maintenance and various ministries. "My main passion is the youth ministry and various others including the food bank, which is why I organize and sponsor one large music concert a year." Last year's concert raised more than $2,000. That is just the beginning of his involvement.

As Chairman of the Board of Stewards at the Greenborough Church, Paul devotes approximately 20 hours per month to his duties, which include overseeing the maintenance of the church, counting and recording the offerings, caring for the needs of tenants in the church, and applying his business expertise to finding funding solutions for capital projects. He is also enjoying working on the committee responsible for planning the church's 60th anniversary celebrations in 2011.

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