

GATHERINGS

SPRING 2011

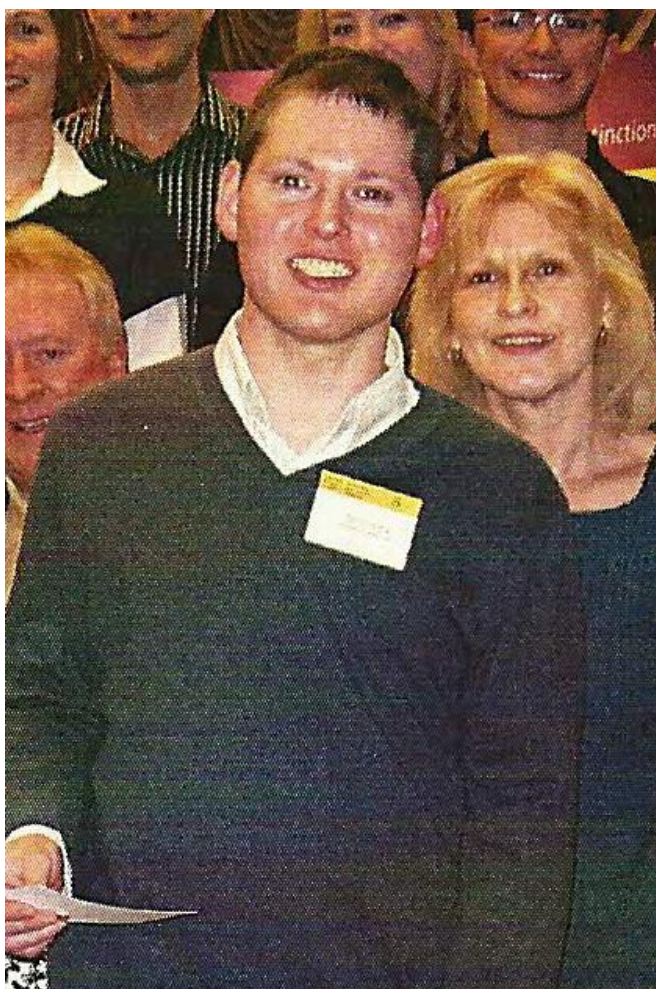
CHRIS YOUNG RECEIVES A FIVE YEAR AWARD

Perth District Health Unit is pleased to have Chris Young as a committed volunteer. Chris comes in every Tuesday morning and the Health Unit nominated him for a 5 year Ontario Volunteer Service Award presented by the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. The award is a way for the government to recognize volunteers like Chris for their 'continuous years of committed and dedicated service to a group/organization'. The Health Unit is happy to have Chris receive this award for his years of volunteering and valued contribution to his community.

Chris was also recognized in 2008 at the 4th Annual Volunteer Fair organized by the Festival Marketplace during National Volunteer Week. The Health Unit nominated him that year for his continued dedication and commitment as a volunteer.

Here's what Chris had to say about his volunteer job at the Perth District Health Unit. "I like to go to the Health Unit in Stratford. I do a good job at the

water bottles and labeling. Deborah brings me cookies and apple juice at 10:30. I have been going to the Health Unit for a long time."



Chris Young and his mother Evelyn at the award presentation

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GATHERINGS COMMITTEE

Heather Contois
Carys Wyn Hughes
Trudi Johnston
Trevor McGregor
Sara Ropp
Nicole Tracey

ROB LOGAN VOLUNTEERS

Rob has been volunteering in the Pre-Admit Clinic on the fourth floor at Stratford General Hospital for the last twelve months. The special thing he does for us is putting together the charts which go to the Doctors' offices. He is very fast at doing this and we are sure that if we tried to keep up with him, he would beat us every time.

Not only do we appreciate how good he is at his job, but we also love the fact that he does it with a smile. Rob has become very special to us and we don't know what we would do without his help."

Gayle

Unit Clerk, Pre-Admit Clinic

NEW ARRIVALS

David Reid
Baby Boy - Ethan
December, 2010

Sarah Reid
Baby Girl—Morgan
February, 2011



YOUR INVITATION TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

You are invited to the 53rd annual general meeting of Community Living Stratford and Area to be held on Tuesday, June 21st at the Army, Navy and Air Force Hall at 151 Lorne Ave., E. Stratford from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

There will be entertainment, a buffet meal and a business meeting will follow. Please come and support your Association. RSVP to Irene McCann at 519-273-1000 ext 0 if you are planning to attend.

Please ensure that your membership is up to date if you wish to vote or speak at the meeting. You can use the form on page 7 of this newsletter to update your membership.

DOUG CARTAN WORKSHOP UPDATE

Almost one year ago, Community Living Stratford hosted a workshop for our staff entitled "Examining the Purpose of Our Work". Doug encouraged us to reflect on the work we do utilizing exercises that made us pay attention to how we listen and respect the people we support, and ensuring the supports we provide allow for people to lead dignified lives as citizens within Stratford. We were encouraged to develop intentional actions that reflected person centred thinking; making sure we listen, respect and support each person with their personal

and individual goals and aspirations. Many of the participants left the workshop with renewed energy and excitement about their roles in the lives of the people we support. We then hosted a follow-up day a few months later to help us as an agency start focusing on what we need to do next in order to continue to improve, set priorities, and get everyone involved and able to share in the excitement. What resulted from that follow-up meeting was a small committee of dedicated and enthusiastic staff who are determined to inform,

share and mobilize our staff at a grass roots level that will encourage us all to "Examine the Purpose of our Work"; to make us reflect on how we do what we do; to ensure that we continue to foster a work environment that produces support staff who are "champions" rooted in the values and mission of the agency, and excited about the prospect of coming to work each day to offer the support and encouragement to people, assisting them to achieve their vision of their future.

Jane Brenneman
Manager of Panning/Facilitation

PULLED FROM THE DESK OF LINDA HILL

Community Living Stratford and Area has and is undergoing many changes since my last newsletter article.

The Quality Assurance Measures (QAM), regulations under the SERVICES AND SUPPORTS TO PROMOTE THE SOCIAL INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ACT 2008, are now in place. In order to meet the government requirements for the QAM we were required to train all current staff and volunteers in the standards. That process was completed within the deadline set by the Ministry. We are now obligated to train all new staff and volunteers as they enter into our agency. This process is incorporated in our Orientation of new employees and of Volunteers. As part of the requirements of the QAM we are required to train and have ongoing training and resources available to staff, volunteers, and people we support on abuse prevention, identification and reporting. A committee of self advocates has been struck to work with myself and Jane Brennehan in putting together a package on abuse that will be in plain language and suitable in presentation to meet the needs of all the people supported by our Agency. The committee has

decided that they would like to put together a DVD as part of the ongoing training package. If anyone knows of any resources either in expertise, or equipment to help us put together a quality DVD please don't hesitate to contact myself or any member of the committee. Everyone is quite excited about acting through various scenarios to get the message on abuse out there to others.

The partnership between ourselves and Partners In Employment is going well. The referrals have increased over the past few months. Word is getting out about this collaboration and its successes. For further information please contact Lorie Lepelaars at (519) 272-1946 ext. 239

As an agency we are receiving more referrals and providing more supports to persons with a dual diagnosis of developmental disabilities and mental health, behavioural issues. We have trained approximately 14 staff in Advanced Behavioural Skills through the Enhanced Specialized Services initiative. We are hoping to participate in more training plus refresher courses that will be offered in the future. All staff who have taken the course have given positive reviews and have recognized the benefits.

The Huron Perth Dual Diagnosis Committee has formed a subcommittee to organize an educational day for staff and interested others who are supporting persons with developmental disabilities and mental health issues. It will be held on June 10th at the Festival Inn. More details will be forthcoming once guest speakers have been confirmed. One of the topics we will be presenting will be around how to prepare for a visit with the psychiatrist, what information to bring and an awareness of what questions to ask. Please contact me at 519-273- 1000 ext 225 if you are interested in receiving more information.

- Linda Hill
 Director of Support Services

**JOIN OUR
 VOLUNTEER TEAM,
 DISCOVER THE
 OPPORTUNITIES.**

We have opportunities to connect with a person to go for walks, play some cards

See what's playing at the movies and just being a friend.

To learn more about volunteering contact Carys Wyn Hughes at 273 1000 ext 234 or email chughes@clsa.ca

AT A GLANCE



Dave Murray and Meagan Jones help out at the Salvation Army Kettle



Barbara Feeney volunteering at the Salvation Army Kettle



John Wilkinson and Matt Hands at the Kiwanis Family Christmas Dinner



John Wilkinson and Mary Feeney at the Kiwanis Family Christmas Dinner

AT A GLANCE



Dave Murray and John Wilkinson at the MPP's Christmas Open House.



Ron Rhodes volunteers at the Salvation Army Kettle



Lisa Schmidt and Leah Illman help the Kiwanis Club pack Christmas Baskets

**Want to see your pictures in At A Glance?
Make sure you get some great shots of your
summer activities and drop them off at the
office, or email them to tjohnston@clsa.ca**

IN MEMORIAM—TIMOTHY C. HOPCRAFT



Timothy, better known to us as Tim, was the Director of Finance for Community Living Stratford and Area from September 7, 1993 until his death in November 2010. Tim was the tall skinny guy with long hair and a vest. When you would first meet Tim you would think him to be a very serious person and you would never really know if he was pulling your leg or not. He could keep a straight face

when you just knew he couldn't be serious.

Tim saw many changes while he was here at Community Living Stratford and Area. From the closing of Frederick Industries to the opening and subsequent close of the West End Centre to the renovation of ELC where the administration offices are now, as well as the building of the house on Norfolk and many more I can't begin to list. He got the ball rolling on the new roof at ELC and even when he was sick in the last year of his life, he kept an eye on what was happening with the roof to be sure we knew what was proposed.

Tim was a family man with three children and a loving wife. He often shared stories of his family and how proud he was of them,

and was excited to become a grandfather.

This time of year when the spring flowers should be coming out and the gardens need to be cleaned up, was one of Tim's favourite seasons. He was a gardener at heart and often Tim and his wife Elizabeth would pop in on a weekend and look after the back gardens at ELC. He showed us pictures of his own beautiful backyard and spoke of how he enjoyed sitting on his back deck admiring the colours. He'd even bring in an occasional rose cutting to brighten the office. In Tim's honour we have purchased a birdbath to place in the backyard of ELC in the spring. Here's to hoping the birds and their families enjoy our garden, as we enjoyed working with Timothy C. Hopcraft.

CORRECTION

The incorrect photo of the men's Special Olympics Baseball Team was printed in our Fall 2010 Newsletter. Here are the correct team members with our apologies.

Back Row: Bill Cilleland (coach) Mike Hitchcock, Rick Tourmigny, Steve McKone, Cody Gondek, Matt Hands, Ingrid Newberry (Co-ordinator) **Second Row:** Graham Knott, Kerry Douglas (coach), Luke Patterson, Aaron Moses, Meagan O'Donovan

Kneeling: Chris Nicolls, David Baker

Not Clear in Shot: Jesse Smith (coach)



PROVINCIAL AWARD GIVEN TO TED BLOWES

At a ceremony held at City Hall in October of 2010, Ted Blowes was presented with the 2010 Senior Achievement Award. This is a very prestigious award given by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario to 20 seniors annually. As Ted pointed out, Johnny Bower (past Toronto Maple Leafs goalie) was recognized in this year's group as well.

In accepting his award, Ted talked about how much he enjoys volunteering with Community Living Stratford and Area, saying it is the best volunteer experience he has had. This coming from a man who has volunteered his time in many, many areas (including the

building of Rome) is quite a compliment for our Agency.

Ted volunteers his time as a member of our Board of Directors, chairs our Swing into Spring fundraising dinner and auction and promotes the Agency as a strong community partner. If something is going on in the Agency, Ted is either there to support or help get it organized from behind the scenes. For all Ted has done, I would be amiss not to thank Pat Jones (past President of the Board of Directors) for introducing him to our Agency. This is a great example of how volunteering strengthens

organizations through actions and influence.

On behalf of everyone here at Community Living Stratford and Area, I would like to extend our congratulations for achieving such recognition. It is well deserved.

*-Trevor McGregor
Executive Director*



Mayor Dan Mathieson, Pat Jones and Ted Blowes
Photo: Scott Wishart, The Beacon Herald

COMMUNITY LIVING
Stratford and Area

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E-mail: info@clsa.ca www.community-living.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Vision: "That all people live as valued, contributing members of society"

Please note: Memberships are effective from April 1st to March 31st

Cost: Single—\$5, Family and Corporate—\$10

Enter amount if you would also like to make a donation: \$ _____

Please make cheques payable to: Community Living Stratford and Area

NAME: _____ **ADDRESS:** _____

CITY: _____ **POSTAL CODE:** _____ **PHONE:** _____

You will need a membership to vote at the Annual General Meeting. Please plan to attend.

COMING EVENTS

SWING INTO SPRING

Thursday, May 26, 2011
 Knox Presbyterian Church
 6—10pm
 7:00 pm Buffet Dinner
 Door Prizes
 Live Jazz Band
 Live and Silent Auction
 throughout the evening

REMAX/COMMUNITY LIVING

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Wednesday, June 15, 2011
 at the Stratford Country Club

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

June 21, 2011
 at the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans Hall
 151 Lorne Ave. East
 Only members are able to vote.
 Use the Membership Application
 on Page 7 to register and plan to attend!

PARENTS' CORNER

PARENTS IN PERTH

Parents in Perth is a network for families and those who care about people with disabilities in Perth County and the surrounding area by supporting them, sharing information, knowledge, resources and life experiences.

This network is: A way for the families with children with disabilities to communicate; A source for mentoring; A resource

for current/relevant information; A link to systems/services for people with disabilities.


Parents in Perth Leadership Group

Carol Ackersviller
 Doris Barkley
 Lisa DeJong Satchell
 Stephanie Gratton
 Diane Hahn
 Lynn Hainer

Jennifer Leslie
 Celina Thomas Hicks

Teresa DeJong (Facilitator)
 parentsinperth@gmail.ca
 519-527-0202/226-339-9325

 Join us on Facebook and stay up to date with what is happening here at Parents in Perth!

 Look us up on Facebook!



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