



# *The Communiqué*

The Newsletter of Community Living Guelph Wellington

January 2008

## PHASES 2 & 3 OF ARC REDEVELOPMENT



A birds' eye view of the ARC Industries Construction project.

Workers on the ARC Industries Construction crew went high in the sky to take this picture of the building progress on the new site. Bottom left shows the change room areas, the gymnasium/auditorium is in behind.

**Construction is slated to be finished by July 2008.**



For more information, or to make a donation,  
please call the Admin. Office, at 519-824-2480.

### MISSION STATEMENT

Community Living Guelph Wellington advocates for, promotes and facilitates the full participation, inclusion and empowerment of people who have an intellectual disability.

**FROM BOB'S DESK**

It's hard to believe it's time for another addition of the *Communiqué*. With all the activities and events going on around the Association, time has a habit of flying by. As you'll see throughout the newsletter, individuals supported by the association are involved in a variety of activities. You'll also see examples of the wonderful support the agency receives from volunteers and the community through our fundraising activities.

We are working on some new projects that should come to fruition over the next few months. In partnership with St. Joseph's, The Elliott, Family Counselling and Trellis, we working to try and secure Ministry of Health funding to improve services for seniors with a developmental disability. An initial "Expression of Interest" proposal was approved by the local LHIN. The next step is a full blown Business Case submission due February 6. With the construction of the new ARC building slated for completion in July, we have the opportunity to review the services and programs offered there. We will be developing an operational plan that takes into account the new facilities and new opportunities. Across the Province, the Ministry continues to work out details of *DS Transformation*. We expect to have some clear ideas of the future Ministry guidelines and expectations sometime over the next several months. You can find more information on the process on the Ministry's web site. There you can find editions of "Spot Light on Transformation" and the "white paper" called Opportunities and Action. For paper copies of these publications, please call the admin office at 519-824-2480.

We were saddened by the death of two long time members recently – Ken MacKiddie and Tony Stokman. These members had been active in the association for many years.

Mary Fitton advised that a friend of the association from many years ago- John Reid Roxburgh- died the day after his 54<sup>th</sup> birthday this past Sept. Mary thought some people would remember the family from the Fergus area. John attended at St. Thomas for some time and Mary has kept in contact with his sister Marie McCallum, 94 Lamb's Hill Rd., Box 239, Parrsbow, NS B0M 1S0.

We extend our sympathies to these families.

**COMMUNITY LIVING ONTARIO UPDATE**

Rozalyn Werner-Arcé, Director, Marketing and Communications, Community Living Ontario announced a communications strategy to re-brand Community Living Ontario: ".....creating an exciting, engaging and compelling image for Community Living Ontario so government, families, self-advocates, potential employers, educators, media and donors will be captured by the message and want to get involved and support the inclusion and citizenship of people who have an intellectual disability. The Community Living story will be told through an updated current logo (the teal starburst worked in the 80's but it is time to freshen it up) and a tag line that inspires." This will be achieved with input from membership and various groups across the province to get thoughts, feelings and opinions on how executive directors, self-advocates, families and staff feel people should experience Community Living. The Lashbrook Group is leading the process; CLO will be unveiling the new "look" for Community Living Ontario at the annual Communications Workshop Feb 20-22 at the Fern Resort. The board of Directors will recommend that Community Living Ontario maintain the current logo and lettering. However if you wish to have input into the decision, please log on to [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=PQouhOuUVWt\\_2f4neAWnJ4Tw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=PQouhOuUVWt_2f4neAWnJ4Tw_3d_3d) to complete the survey.

## THANKS TO SID BROMBAL AND SIDONIO'S CUSTOM MEN'S SHOPPE LTD.

On Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>, many of the people we support enjoyed a very unique opportunity. Sid Brombal of Sidonio's Custom Men's Shoppe Ltd. donated a huge quantity of new clothing to the association and we held a "free shopping" day. Many of the people in our Supported Independent Living and other programs, had new clothes for Christmas. Sid Brombal and Sidonio's Custom Men's Shoppe Ltd host the annual Sidonio's Spring Fashion Gala Fashion Show. Community Living Guelph Wellington again thanks Sid and Sidonio's Custom Men's Shoppe Ltd.



Paul, Sid & Mark Brombal at recent Fashion Show  
(Photo courtesy of Snapguelph)

## SPRING FASHION GALA 2008

Sidonio's Custom Men's Shoppe Ltd. of Guelph is very pleased to present the **2008 Spring Fashion Gala** on Wed. Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 at the Italian Canadian Club, Guelph. Tickets are \$40 each. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. The *Spring Fashion Show* will follow featuring this year's fashions and many chances for the audience to win great prizes. Once again, proceeds from the *Spring Fashion Gala 2008* will support the programs of Community Living Guelph Wellington -last year's fashion show raised \$8,000 which was used for the ARC Industries Redevelopment Project. This is a very popular event and we expect a sold out event again this year.

For more information or tickets, call:

Sidonio's Custom Men's Shop	Doreen Rye, Admin
128 Wyndham St. N. Guelph	CLGW
(519) 836-5077	(519) 824-2480



Enjoying the game are Ryan, Tammy, Scott and Jason

## SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT ACHIEVERS NIGHT CHRISTMAS PARTY WAS EXCITING

On Friday Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, twenty five individuals attended the Guelph Storm hockey game. Everyone seemed to enjoy the variety of choices for dinner and snacks. It was nice to have our own server deliver items to our private box. The best part of the night was when Guelph won in overtime. Community Living Guelph Wellington expresses thanks to the Recreation Department of the City of Guelph for giving the people we support this fun opportunity.

- Jeff McClennan & Victoria Szucs

## ARC INDUSTRIES DINNER AND DANCE

On the evening of Friday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, ARC Industries once again held their Annual Dinner and Dance. Family and friends joined those who work at ARC and other programs too (272 in total) for an awesome turkey dinner served at the festively decorated Harpo's Banquet Hall. It was a wonderful evening of great food, fun, music and lots and lots of dancing - we need a bigger dance floor. Twenty-eight people proudly received Service Awards as well. Many thanks to those who helped out before and during the party. Thanks to Joanne Thorburn for organizing such an awesome evening and to Polycon Industries for their generous donation toward the event. It truly is the best party of the season! Hope to see everyone again next year! - Heather Grimes

**2007 Service Award-ARC Industries**



**5 years**

Tracy Ouimette  
Joshua Nancarrow  
Robert Trento  
Jeff Gibson  
Christopher Osborne

**10 years**

David DeMelo  
Scott Heipel  
Jason Miller  
Jackie VanHuisstede

**15 years**

Trent Benson  
Sherri Burton  
Michael Patteson  
Lea Ann Robbins

**20 years**

Lucy Carere  
Michael Lawr  
Doug Milne

**25 years**

Lynda Cookman  
Bonnie Mardling  
Ruth Miller  
Jane Reeve  
Lorrie Stevens  
Suzanne Thomas

**30 years**

Louise Black  
Bob Ecclestone  
Mary Grice  
David Johnson  
Randy Rieck  
Brian Warmington



Heather Grimes and Chris Clark congratulate Ruth Miller, Lynda Cookman and David Johnson. Well done!!

## SUNSET CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

- Mary Strimas

Santa's "magic" spread throughout the Sunset Club Christmas Party in Guelph, on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Over forty people supported by CLGW, volunteers and staff enjoyed the season with Santa, who did not disappoint! Sunset Club, organized by Sandi Leach, Support Worker, receives assistance from volunteers - Sharon Robbins, Gwendoline Howarth, Al Babenko, and Greg Howarth - along with some parents and staff. Many thanks to all of them; however, special mention needs to go to Sharon Robbins, long term, faithful volunteer with Sunset Club, pictured here with Santa and Sandi. She thinks of everything and everyone when it comes to the weekly snacks at Sunset.



Sharon knows and takes into account special diets as she doesn't want anyone to be left out. She gears the treats to the season, to the event or special occasion, including the monthly Birthday Party cupcakes for the participants. Sharon prepared a Christmas treat bag and coffee mug for each guest at the Christmas Party. Where there were diet restrictions, Sharon had a substitute gift, so that everyone was remembered. Thank you Sharon for once again adding your special touch to the Sunset Christmas; Santa, thank you for taking time from your very busy December schedule to visit and talk with us at Sunset!

## BEST BUDDIES 2007-08 SEASON



Sarah and Connie at "Meet'n'Greet"

This year's Best Buddies' program is under the planning and guidance of a new Best Buddies Executive, composed of five enthusiastic University of Guelph students and the Host Site Coordinator, for CLGW, Mary Strimas. After marketing the Best Buddies' program on campus, interviewing interested students, receiving applications, checking references, requesting Criminal Records Checks.... the matching process began. There were many new matches as a large number of last year's students had graduated in the spring and moved on. However, the Buddies are always looking to make new friends, and so, this program provides opportunities to do just that. CLGW always has a waiting list of people supported, who would like to become "Buddies". This year, three new Buddies became part of the program, which has 43 matches to date. The season began with the traditional "Meet 'n Greet", held at the temporary ARC Industries' location on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>. The Committee had planned well for this Hallowe'en event, and the spooks and goblins were out in large numbers for this party. The next large group event will be held in January, and will be a "Welcome Back" event with a semi-formal, pot-luck theme!

- Mary Strimas

**BILLIE BRIDGMAN, A CLGW VOLUNTEER WITH AN AMAZING OUTLOOK - M.Strimas**

The Seniors' Program in Guelph threw a surprise birthday party for Billie Bridgman as she turned 90 years young on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>. Billie has volunteered with this program for approximately seven years. She is an accomplished pianist who plays for our Seniors and leads them in song every Monday morning. An obvious bond of affection has developed amongst Billie, the people we support and staff. She taught piano to eighty pupils for many years in Toronto, moved to Guelph 14 years ago and continues to teach piano to three adults here. Billie hikes regularly and for years has conducted hiking tours for visiting tourists around the Arboretum, U of G. She enjoys her tai chi lessons twice a week and recommends this gentle form of exercise. Billie also belongs to the "Musical Matrons" group, or "M & M's" as she calls them and these musicians meet once a month. She drives to these meetings in Guelph, Elora, Brantford or Waterloo in her new car, a gift given to her by her family for this special birthday. It is not shocking to learn that her four children are all musical since her parents were both musicians and naturalists. Billie told us that she has never watched an afternoon television show and that she has something to do every day of the week. In addition to the above interests and activities, Billie loves to garden, cook, read and journal.

Her friends are many, her heart is huge and we value Billie as she shares her time and talents with us. She puts smiles on so many faces in the Seniors Program. Thank you so much!



Sue and Darlene with Billie and Robert

**FUNDRAISING UPDATES****PIKE LAKE GOLF TOURNAMENT, 2007**

We are pleased to report that over \$5,000 was raised at the 2007 Pike Lake Golf Tournament. These proceeds will assist with a new roof at the Melissa home.

Matthew and Paul from the Community Living Centre Minto, pictured with Michele, were pleased with the strong support from our community. The 2008 Tournament is scheduled for Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>; we look forward to a very successful event.

## FUNDRAISING UPDATES

### 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL POOR BOYS LUNCH

This annual luncheon was held on Friday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> this year at the Italian Canadian Club. Everyone enjoyed the pasta and meat sauce provided by our hosts. Proceeds of over \$11,000 were used to improve the deck and roof on two of the homes in Guelph and Wellington county. As well, Dan Jamieson was assisted with his trip to the Special Olympics Floor Hockey. Thanks again to everyone who supports this very popular, successful event. Special thanks to Advocis™ Golden Triangle group who work so diligently with staff to ensure a great event!

“I am Dan Jamieson and you may be aware I am a Special Olympian. From Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> until Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup> I will represent Ontario at the 2008 national winter games in Quebec city. I am looking forward to this wonderful trip with my teammates to play floor hockey. It will be a trip of a lifetime to remember. This would have not been possible without the donation from the proceeds of the Poorboys luncheon. I want to thank everyone who contributed! Thank you to the association for supporting this wonderful opportunity.”



### MOM'S GROUP - POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER



The "Moms' Group" held its 2nd Annual Poinsettia Fundraiser, with proceeds to go to ARC Industries. Due to an increase in Corporate and Small Business support, we sold 650 plants this year. That was 110 more plants than in 2006! Profit is estimated to be over \$2,200.00!! A big thank you to:

- The Nursery - the poinsettias were outstanding plants again this year.
- Those individuals who put an extra effort into selling plants at work, to friends, family and neighbours.
- Volunteers who helped on the Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> delivery day at ARC: Elisabeth Niimi, Judy Van Huisstede, Sylvia Quinn, Deloris Yaskowich, Bob Butella, Jane, Ron and Scott Heipel, Mary Strimas.
- ARC for letting us use this space for poinsettia pick-up.
- To the local community for once again supporting ARC Industries through this fundraiser.

The "Moms' Group" intends to do a Poinsettia Fundraiser again in 2008. Next fall, please think about approaching your employer, doctor, dentist, hairdresser, as well as your family, friends and neighbours about poinsettia sales. Jane Heipel, pictured here, has been the primary person in charge of this fundraiser and she has worked very hard, along with her family, to make it the success that it has been. If you have any ideas about poinsettia sales for 2008, please contact Jane at 519-822-3192. - Mary Strimas

**7TH ANNUAL SPECIAL OLYMPICS -ONTARIO TRACK AND FIELD MEET**

ST. JAMES TRACK AND FIELD, GUELPH , Wednesday May 21, 2008(Rain Date is Thursday May 22)  
As in previous years, volunteers from COMMUNITY LIVING GUELPH WELLINGTON are needed and appreciated as intellectually disabled elementary and secondary students from the Upper Grand and the Wellington Catholic District School Boards come together for a day of friendly competition. Over 400 student athletes will compete, accompanied by their student peer coaches. Teachers, Educational Assistants, Principals, Vice-Principals, School Boards, Special Olympics Ontario, Community agencies and Community members all play an important role in making this a "fun day" for the students -BUT- without the support and assistance of over 100 volunteers, this day simply could not happen. Please look at your busy schedules and let me know as soon as you can if you can be available for the 2008 Track and Field Meet. Volunteers need to be at the Volunteer Booth by 8:30 a.m. to check in, get your T-shirt, lunch ticket and any instructions/ equipment needed for the day. Volunteers really make a difference when the students disembark from their buses by getting them to their designated school areas, helping to get them in line on the track for the parade and keeping everyone moving around the track before Opening Ceremonies Time is saved and confusion reduced! Everyone is excited, but it's important to meet our time deadlines so that all students get the opportunities to compete in the events for which they registered. There is a special request this year for an extra 20+ adult volunteers to arrive between 7:30 - 7:45 am to finish the set-up that cannot be done on the 20th. This would involve putting up the smaller tents for the Volunteer booth, etc., preparing the area for the Opening Ceremonies, arranging the Food tent, ETC., ETC. For those who are able to come early, please specify how long you can remain as it is understood that not everyone will be able to stay for the day. I look forward to hearing from you if you can help out. Thanks!  
Mary Strimas, Volunteer Coordinator  
519-822-9280 Ext. 225

**COMMUNITY LIVING  
GUELPH WELLINGTON**

8 Royal Road, Guelph ON N1H 1G3  
Phone: 519-824-2480 Fax: 519-821-6174  
Web site: [www.clgw.ca](http://www.clgw.ca)  
E-mail: [admin@clgw.ca](mailto:admin@clgw.ca)

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Bill McNaughton	Kim Uhrig

**SELF ADVOCATES COMMITTEE**

Lynn Ingram  
Aimee Olivier  
Jamie Ridgeway

If you would like to be heard through this newsletter, contact the Admin. Office at 519-824-2480, Ext. "0".