

# *The Communiqué*

The Newsletter of Community Living Guelph Wellington December 2009



A New Home for Egon, Paul, Jim and Leah! (See Bob's report, page 2)

## ARC INDUSTRIES RAFFLE

On Dec. 4, the ARC Industries dinner and dance was held at Guelph Place. 303 individuals enjoyed the food before dancing the night away. Pictures of the Service Awards will appear in the next Communiqué.

Winners of the ARC Raffle were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize—Queen Size Quilt Handmade by Vi Kramp: Marie Newstead
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize—Solar Powered Lawn Mower: Pam Shelton
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize—Spruce Take Down Bench by ARC Industries: Winnie Conley
- 4<sup>th</sup> Prize—2 Framed Pictures from Jim Bezeau: Virena Swanston
- 5<sup>th</sup> Prize—Knitted Sweater from Norma Wallace: Dave Rammage

**Thanks to everyone who bought tickets!**



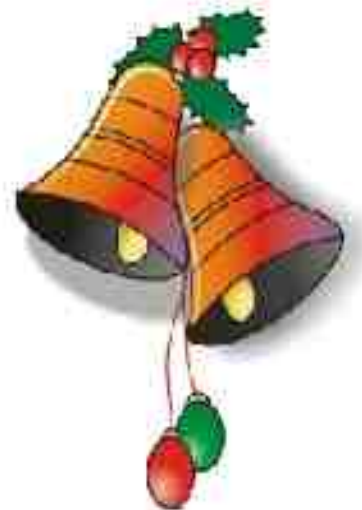
## MISSION STATEMENT

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**

Looking out the window, it's hard to believe that the holidays are almost here again! The staff party was held in the north for the first time and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. I'd like to give a big thanks to the Social Committee for organizing the event. I'd also like to thank CUPE 4392, the Board and CLGW for supporting the party. Speaking of parties... Dec. 3 was the annual dinner dance for those supported by Community Living. This is by far the best party anywhere, more than 300 people celebrated! Thanks to the ARC staff for organizing. Last but not least, the Christmas parties for children of CLGW employees were a great success as all had the chance to laugh and play and to have a visit from the jolly old elf himself thanks to the support of CLGW and CUPE 4392. We thank the Social Committee for organizing the parties. On the front page of the newsletter, you'll see a picture of a new house that will very soon be the new home for four people who have lived at the Metcalfe Street home for a number of years. We were able to replace the Metcalfe home with a bright new building that will finally allow each person to have their own bedroom and to have a little more space to enjoy. We have met several new neighbours who are looking forward to meeting Egon, Jim, Paul and Leah. We take possession just before Christmas and expect to move in shortly after. Reading through the newsletter, I'm always thrilled to see the smiling faces and to read about the activities and events that are continually taking place. It's also very heart warming to see how much support those receiving support from the agency, and CLGW itself receives from volunteers and the community. To quote one of our employees Allison Williams "We truly are an awesome team!" **On behalf of CLGW, I'd like to wish everyone a safe, healthy and happy holiday season.**

Whatever is beautiful, Whatever is meaningful,  
Whatever brings you happiness...  
May it be yours this Holiday Season  
and throughout the coming year.



President Wilf Rieck and V/P Bernie Mitchell sold tickets at the ARC Open House.

## BUY A BRICK FOR ARC

The bricks have been painted, the name plates have been attached and the Buy a Brick for ARC Campaign was a great success! Thanks again to the following individuals & companies who contributed to Campaign, raising over \$10,000! **If you still wish to purchase a brick, please contact the admin. office at 519-824-2480.**

Jean & Doug Alexander	Bill Irving	Brenda Randell
Norman Armstrong	Dave & Mary Jackson & Family	Marguerite Randell
Simon Bell	Caroline Jolie	Ken & Audrey Reeve
Bill & Nancy Benson	Katie Jones	Ernest Reinbergs
Caroline Beren	Gord, Margaret, Katie, Brook Jones	Rockwood & District Lioness Club
Marjorie Boswell	Jean Jones for Irene & Ken Milne	Grace Small
Susan Bowman	Hilary and Avery Key	Lisa Stokman
Angela Bukowski	Edward and Joan Krouse	Joanne Leone Thorburn
Andrew & Marion Butella	RLB Chartered Accountants	Don & Marlene Tosh
Employees of Ceramic Decor	Andrea & Mike Manera	Graham Tosh
Chris Clark	Geraldine Maltby	Robert Workman
Helen Cox	Kerri McCaskell	for Jackie Van Huisstede
Karen Cummings	Tess McClennan	Paul Zappacosta
Valerie Cutting	Erin McConnell & Family	Mary Strimas "People Helping People"
R., S., & M. Farley	Linda & Bob McCreary	A row of bricks from the Raegele Family
Marcie & Bud Fauteux	Casey McCrory	Joan Hicks- in memory of Valerie Hicks
Zarif Fayeze	Mae Mardling	The Couplands- in memory of Joe Yeman
Christopher Osbourne	Robert Melanson	
Gloria Gandour	Douglas Milne	
Jeff Gibson	Julia Niimi	
Connie Greenidge	Laurie Nixon	
Joan Hicks	Norms Esso	
Audrey & Alfred Crane-in memory of Barb Girling		
Ruth & Stan Girling in memory of Barb Girling		
Janice Hacking- in memory of Terry Weirmeir		
Woodycrest Group-in memory of David Lizzotte		
Bill Irving-in memory of Fred Irving & Jean Irving		
Bonnie Mardling-in memory of my father Harry Mardling		
Helen Garton- in memory of Steve Brodie & Grace Brady		
Margaret Jones for "Malvern Angels"-		
Darlene, Jane, Marie, Katie		
Patricia Flewelling- in memory of Norm Flewelling, Pat, Anne & Vick Halliburton		
A row of bricks from Patricia Eby-		
Shawn thanks "Community Living & Egremont Home"		
A row from Joe & Judy Van Huisstede		
- "for the love of Jackie"		
Two rows "In memory of our Founders & their labour of love" from the Fitton Family		
Four rows of bricks from Pam & Bob Berry		



**PEOPLE 4 PEOPLE (A GROUP SUPPORTING PEOPLE)**

**Mission Statement:** It is the goal of People 4 People to learn the skills that will enable us to know our rights, understand our responsibilities and live with dignity and respect.

There are currently 8 people who belong to this group (formerly called Self Advocates) – Tom Huxley, Dan Jamieson, Brian Platt, Cheryl Turner, Mary Ellen Otter, Brad Lammert, Penny Ross and Jackie Garveroux.

A message from Brian Platt and Bob Butella, Executive Director:

We use language to communicate our thoughts and ideas on a daily basis. Sometimes words mean different things to different groups of people. The word “client” has been used throughout CLGW for many years when talking about people who receive supports through the agency. In the eyes of many employees and volunteers, this is a respectful term used to describe the people who receive supports. To the people who get help from the agency, however, the term “client” has become less than respectful. **People 4 People**, the self advocate group representing people supported by CLGW, made a presentation to the Board of Directors on October 28<sup>th</sup> asking that the word “client” be removed from agency policies, procedures and forms. It was also asked that individuals be referred to by their first name. The Board of Directors unanimously adopted the motion to replace the term “client” with “people supported, or people receiving support”. We are in the process of re-writing our forms and expect to have them all corrected early in the New Year. (Some Ministry forms will continue to use the word “client”). **People 4 People** has asked to attend staff meetings over the next year or so to give this message in person. Please check yourself when you are talking about the people we support as language is a very powerful thing.



Brian and Dan greeted visitors to their display at the ARC Open House

We are located at:

- 8 Royal Road, Guelph, telephone 519-824-2480, Ext. 232  
email: [guelphselfadvocates@gmail.com](mailto:guelphselfadvocates@gmail.com)
- 280 St. Patrick St. W., Fergus. Telephone: 519-787-1539  
email: [fergussselfadvocates@gmail.com](mailto:fergussselfadvocates@gmail.com)
- 135 Fergus St. S., Mt. Forest, telephone: 519-343-4050  
e-mail: [northern.lights.selfadvocates@gmail.com](mailto:northern.lights.selfadvocates@gmail.com)



**JULIA NIIMI** is pictured at the Staples store on Stone Road in late November as she signed copies of her book, "The Journey of Living with a Disability"- challenges she faced as a person with Down Syndrome. The book has been available at the Stone Road location since April of this year and has sold over 180 copies! The book sells for \$9.99 - \$5 from each book goes to Guelph-Wellington Special Olympics. Julia plans to make a film on "bullying" next. Congratulations to Julie, a member of Community Living Guelph Wellington.

Photo courtesy of SnapGuelph.

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CNIB Night at the Holiday Inn.



Lynda enjoyed an outing to the Covered Bridge this summer.

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Margo at Food Services, ARC, advises they are planning a Valentine Tea again in 2010. Watch for details or call 519-824-7147, Ext. 266

## CENTRE WELLINGTON ROCKS

## DREAMS CAN COME TRUE by Aimee Olivier

For as long as I can remember, I have wanted to go to Disney World. Disney World is a magical place; it doesn't matter how old you are, in Disney World everyone can be a kid. I kept putting it on my Personal Support Plan goals but didn't think it was really possible. It cost so much money and I would need staff support to travel that far. In 2007 a staff brought in a brochure from Travel Partners. When I saw it I became more determined to go. First problem was the cost. With the help of a staff I had a garage sale and with the proceeds I opened a savings account. My family helped when they realized I was determined to go. For Christmas and birthdays I received money instead of gifts. I also saved by curbing my spending. Very quickly my account grew and I had enough money to go. I was so excited to pay the deposit. Now I had to get a passport. Lots of forms to fill in and what a terrible photo, but I was all set. It seemed like forever but in March 2009 the day came, a staff drove me to the Travel Partners meeting point and I was off! I was a bit scared at first but soon made new friends and the staff were fabulous. We stayed in a house in Florida. We visited Magic Kingdom, saw Goofy and other characters. There were fireworks and a parade, we also went swimming and had lots of good food. I had a great time but the week went by very fast. All too soon I was back on the plane to come home but what a trip!! Now I want to save to go again and now I know dreams can come true.



## PHILIP BLACK CELEBRATES - by Darlene Brubacher

On Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, Philip Black was enjoying his birthday party at Harvey St. Home with many of his friends when a white stretch limo pulled up to the house. The guests didn't realize they were about to go for a ride in this beautiful vehicle. With Shania Twain playing on the DVD



player, they all enjoyed spending one hour driving around Fergus and Elora. Lots of singing and laughter took place in the limo; most had never been in one before. At 8 p.m., they returned to the party. The ride was over but the memories will last a lifetime.



The “Summer Breeze” event, held by Community Living Fergus, in recognition of community contacts, volunteers and families, on Aug.14<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. Over 60 people attended. All of the Centre Wellington staff and people supported pitched in to provide food - everyone enjoyed hot dogs, hamburgers, salads and desserts- send out invitations, organize the event and clean up. Community Living is fortunate to receive support from many local community organizations and companies as far as

Toronto. Among those attending were representatives from HiTech Recycling; food bank, Community Resource Centre, Joseph & Co., and Trevor Ashley Garden Centre.

#### PASTOR KEES RETIRES by Staff & People Supported at Community Living Fergus

It was with great sadness that we said goodbye to Pastor Kees in September; he and his wife retired and moved to a new home. For years he has provided a church service every Friday morning at the Fergus base. He had a smile and a song for everyone and made everyone feel special. A small retirement party was held at the base where he received a collage of photographs. Later that week at his main retirement party he was presented with two paintings of his churches from Community Living which were painted by our own very talented Denise Potts. Good luck in your retirement, we will miss you, thanks for everything.

#### THANKS FROM ALISON WILLIAMS, Support Worker

As many of you know, Christmas Eve 2008, I was involved in a motor vehicle accident with the association van while at work. I was hospitalized over Christmas and the New Year. I am now back to work full-time and would like to thank all who sent flowers, gifts and cards. Co-workers from across the agency visited and helped me. I would like to thank by name:

- Janice Hacking, Payroll Administrator, for helping me through those awful forms;
- Diane Lang who drove me to appointments in snowstorms;
- Caroline Beren & Pat Record who transported my gifts from one hospital to another;
- Barb Alexander and CUPE for the grocery voucher;
- Joanne Fischer and Jane Martin for fish and chip dinners;
- Kim Aitken – she remained at the hospital that night, contacted my family, filled out insurance forms and made sure all that could be done was done. It was late Christmas Eve when Kim finally drove home to Mt. Forest in a snow storm. I'm almost certain that wasn't her original plan for Christmas Eve. Sincere thanks, Kim, for all you did, the many visits and the chicken soup!

I feel privileged and very fortunate to be working with so many caring and giving people. The experience will never be forgotten and neither will the support and encouragement I received from everyone. **We truly are an awesome team!**

**OTHER PROGRAMS****MY EXPERIENCE AT THE ERIN FALL FAIR**

By Jason Lush

It felt good to be part of the Erin Fall Fair, I am very impressed with myself. I was part of a group that showed a calf in the fair. Her name is Hope. Hope is a very polite calf. She did very good listening to me, when I say "walk on", she obeyed me and walked on. I also got to tell the judges what she ate and what type of calf she was. It was a lot of fun, we came in first place. Everybody got a ribbon and a trophy, my friend Steve got a ribbon and trophy too. We all went on the carnival rides after the show. I was a gentleman to Sarah at the Fair. I took her on several rides. I hope that I can go in the fair next year, I had lots of fun this year.

**BELATED BIRTHDAY WISHES TO GRACE**

Grace Small, a resident of Holody Home, celebrated her 86<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sept. 17/09! She shared it with the other residents and staff at Holody Home, as well as her son, David, who lives at Grange Street. Her other son, Byron, lives in Orillia and was unable to attend. Grace attends the Out n' About Day Program at St. Joseph's Health Centre twice a week and enjoys spending time with the Seniors Day Program, during art and music classes. Grace is an active participant in music therapy sessions every week, as well as horticultural therapy through the Julien Project at Ignatius College. Grace is currently the eldest resident within CLGW.

## TO ALL GOLFERS & SPONSORS OF PIKE LAKE TOURNAMENT

The ladies who reside at the Melissa home thank all the golfers and supporters of the 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GOLF tournament held Sept.16 at Pike Lake Golf and Country Club. Proceeds of \$5,000 will build a deck at their home. Thanks to committee members Brenda Dineen, Debb Young, Janette Andersen, Brenda Baker and Chris Bell. For information about the 2010 tournament, please contact Janette Andersen at 519-323-4050, Ext. 22.



### **BEST BUDDIES 2009-10** - Mary Strimas Host Site Coordinator, Guelph Chapter



Best Buddies, Guelph Chapter, is a popular program of Best Buddies Canada. University of Guelph students and people supported at CLGW are matched for the purpose of developing friendships. Each "match" develops according to the activities and hobbies of both parties. This season, there are 48 matches- the largest number yet for the Guelph Chapter! Five new Buddies joined the program this season and say that they are really enjoying the experience as the first semester winds down. It is amazing to see the positive energy put into this program by all participants, and, to see the fun that people have. The Planning Committee, consisting of seven members who must meet the requirements of Best Buddies Canada, plan four large group events over the course of the University year. **Thanks again to ARC for allowing the Best Buddies to use their cafeteria for these get-to-gethers.** To apply to be a Buddy, you need to be receiving service from Community Living Guelph Wellington. For more information or to obtain the Buddy Application for the 2010-11 season, contact Mary Strimas, 519-822-9280, Ext.225 or e-mail to [mstrimas@clgw.ca](mailto:mstrimas@clgw.ca).

Ifrah Zubair & Ashley Wingrove at "Meet & Greet"

**"THE MAUDE SQUAD"(Moms, Aunts, Uncles, Dads, Everyone) – Jane Heipel**

Yes, the former Moms' Group has a new name! Our goal is to include everyone who wants to support our adults in Community Living. We had three gatherings this fall to share ideas, plan fundraising, and to discuss the ARC Open House. For this event on November 14th, the Maude Squad donated gift baskets for the draw table; made soup and cookie recipe jars; pulled together a "Chance table"; sold Crafts made by our members, and kicked off the 4th Poinsettia fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who donated items, ran the tables, and volunteered their time, in preparation for November 14th, and on Open House day. A big thank you to all the businesses who made donations toward the "Chance table", the gift baskets, and the soup/cookie recipe jars. The Poinsettia Fundraiser kick-off also occurred on Open House day. It was very successful. Orders were taken and 76 plants were sold. Total sales were \$1,086.20. Special thanks to all of those volunteers who helped with this fundraiser. PS: At the time of writing, November 25th, over 1000 poinsettias have been sold. We may even do better than last year! Community Living Guelph Wellington is the largest fundraiser that this Nursery has, and we're pleased to sell these beautiful, healthy plants.



Joe and Judy Van Huisstede Selling Poinsettias with Jane Heipel at the ARC Open House



Alec enjoyed his visit to the ARC Open House

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The Poor Boys' Committee recently presented a cheque to Community Living Guelph Wellington from Great-West Life, London Life and Canada Life, part of the proceeds from the 2009 Luncheon. Pictured are Sue Ricketts and Ron Orr, members of **Advocis™ – Golden Triangle Chapter**, presenting cheque to Randy Rieck, Sandy Morrow and Brenda Randell (Brenda and Sandy are members of the Poor Boy's Committee).

**FUTURE PATHWAYS**

Congratulations to the Graduates of the Second Future Pathways Workshop Series held at the Admin Building in Oct./09. We had a wonderful group of families, learning & sharing information about the transition from school into the community. Graduation Night was most informative with our Panel for discussion and lots of fun with our graduates and a few friends.



We hope to be holding another workshop in April 2010 at the Community Living Centre in Fergus. For more information call 519-824-2431, Ext. 41 and leave a message.

Again, congratulations from your Parent Leaders Jane Heipel and Marj Stokman.

**PLEASE DONATE YOUR WORLD COINS**

This is the newest feature at the front desk reception at the Admin. Office. It is the inspiration and creation of Anton Pavlis who has collected coins/bills from about 190 different countries. He is affiliated with the South Wellington Coin Society Coin Club. This is the very best source of free help as to the value or ways of disposal of any money horde you may have inherited or squirrelled away. This donation box attraction already has proven its worth in dollars and sense. Periodically Anton will check the collection box; any Canadian, U.S. Currency or Canadian Tire monies collected from our box will be directed to CLGW. All other money he buys and finds ways to Canadianize. For any help or enquiries, please call him at 519-823-4289.

### New for 2010 – ARC Industries Calendar



ARC Industries has produced a 2010 calendar which is available for \$10.00. People supported are featured in the pictorials on each month. Please pick up your copy at reception at admin. Office or ARC or call 519-824-7147.



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#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010**

Wilf Rieck, President	Joe Hamley, Treasurer
Bernie Mitchell, VP	Brenda Key, Secretary
Heather Husnik-Osborne	Melinda Heidinga
Malcolm MacKenzie	Nancy McDougall
Liz Roth	Kim Uhrig

#### **PEOPLE 4 PEOPLE**

(a group supporting people)

Dan Jamieson	Brian Platt
Cheryl Turner	Mary Ellen Otter
Brad Lammert	Penny Ross
Jackie Garveroux.	Tom Huxley

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