



NEWSLINK

Community Living St. Marys & Area

Hatching a Dragon



May 2009



St. Marys Storytelling Festival

June 5, 2009

United Church Hall

12 noon lunch

12:30 storytelling

1:30 General Staff

Kim Kilpatrick

A professional storyteller since 2001, Kim comes from a family of storytellers. She loves to tell folk and other tales to people of all ages.



Kim has told at the NAC Fourth Stage, Ottawa Storytelling Festival, several other local venues in Ottawa, and at the Toronto Storytelling Festival. She tells many personal stories about her life. Kim is totally blind which makes for some fascinating, humorous, and enlightening stories.



Alan Shain

Shain uses

humour to attack the idea that disabled people are passive and helpless, which is reflected in the name of his company, Smashing Stereotypes Productions.



He performs across Canada, the United States, and holds the honour of being the only Canadian artist invited to perform at the 2000

Paralympics Arts Festival in Australia. Shain is a favorite at conferences, schools and universities. His act broaches such questions as 'Do people in wheelchairs ever go to the bathroom? Are they all related to each other? Do they ever think about sex?' You may learn just a little more from Alan Shain than you really wanted to know.

Something different for our upcoming **General Staff Meeting!**

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Friday June 5th, 2009 at the St.Marys United Church Hall Beginning at **12 noon.** You are invited to the St.Marys United Church Hall for lunch and a performance by Ottawa storytellers Alan Shain and Kim Kilpatrick. They will be telling their stories at the St.Marys Storytelling Festival, two local high schools, and this community lunch show.

"Hatching a Dragon" is a community performance so please

spread the word! Everyone is welcome! Since the association is co-sponsoring this event, there is no cost for people supported, employees and volunteers. A donation basket will be out for others to contribute.

12 noon Light lunch
12:30pm Storytelling
1:30pm General Staff Meeting (in a corner of the hall)

Elections for a Joint Health and Safety Committee representative will be held.

Go to www.stmarysstorytelling.org for more info on the St.Marys Storytelling Festival

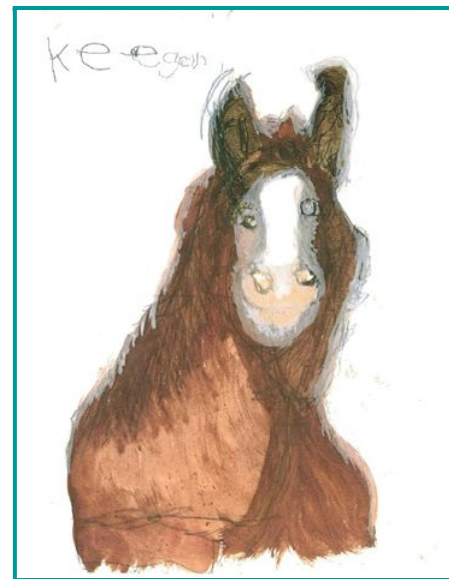
Keegan *is* an artist!

Last November you read about Keegan submitting his work and having it accepted in the Pan Canadian Art Exhibition held in Ottawa. Like that wasn't exciting enough, right? What you didn't know was that picture was sold!

So, here we are just 5

months later... Keegan has received an honourable mention in the IDEAL Art Contest and has just recently had his art *Painted Horse* displayed in the Arts Project in London Ontario.

So... it's official... Keegan is an artist!



'A Home That's Right for Me'

Two years ago the Ministry of Community and Social Services developed a special initiative they called 'Individualized Residential Models'. A call for proposals was sent out and a number of interesting and unique support situations were funded. This meant that some adults had an opportunity to move out of their parents' homes, try a different way of living, etc.

Information about the individual support arrangements was gathered and the Ministry decided to build on the initiative's success. Four organizations were invited to tell their stories about how they support people and families

in their communities. Representatives from St. Marys, Brockville, Windsor and Markdale made brief presentations in forums being held in Toronto, London, Ottawa and back in Toronto for 'the North'. Marg McLean said it was an honour to represent our association and to be part of such an exciting group of people, mostly families who believe in innovative, individualized approaches.

A resource book will be developed and made available across the province. There is real potential for making positive changes to our system as part of the Ministry's ongoing Transformation. To watch the video of one of these presentations go to the Ministry of Community and Social Services website and follow the links or www.accesson.ca/mcss/english/pillars/developmental/what/IRM_survey.htm



The Social Committee

is looking for someone with fresh ideas and some fresh enthusiasm to join the committee. If you and a couple friends would like to get together and have some fun, your ideas are certainly welcome. Call Tracy at 229-6254 or email brant-tron@quadro.net

Social Committee

The Social Committee would like to remind everyone that the 50/50 draw is still going on. The sign up sheet is up at JPC. You can join in for a dollar every two weeks. If your name is drawn you win half of the pot. If the person whose name is drawn has not played,

it goes back into the pot. As the pot grows, the more fun it is.

We also had a Survivor pool again this season, the winner was JT. He was such a cutie. The person that had JT was none other than Nancy Marriot. Can you believe it? This woman has horseshoes in her

back pocket, I swear! She won \$80, so if you need a loan.....



“The R Word”

“The R Word” is a one hour documentary film written and directed by **Pierre Tétrault** and produced by **Doris Rajan**.

It is an exceptional film that was premiered in Ottawa, November 2008, at the Canadian Association for Community Living's 50th Anniversary Conference.

The following was taken from www.cacl.ca. We have ordered copies of this film and will make them available for borrowing as soon as they arrive.

We have been called “village idiots”, “imbeciles”, “fools”, “sub-humans” and “retards”. We have been thrown to the wolves, incarcerated in prisons and institutions, abused and even murdered in foster homes, rooming houses and streets across the country. We have been feared and misunderstood for centuries. We are people with intellectual disabilities. This film – *“The ‘R’ Word - but names will always hurt you”* – chronicles the incredible struggles of people with intellectual disabilities and their

families to be recognized and treated as fully human with the same rights as anyone else in society. Beginning with a brief examination of the history of their oppression, we see how the fears and superstitions of the middle ages, with their creation and isolation of the “village idiot”, culminate in the policies of Hitler and the eugenics movement. And how vulnerable these beginnings have left people with intellectual disabilities right up to the present day. We do this by revealing personal histories over three generations - of families and individuals, their incredible stories of courage, vulnerability and love. The film will also look at the not so pretty side, where individuals are abandoned and neglected by family and society left to suffer and die in isolation.

We come out of these stories with a new understanding of the urgency to create conditions where all people can maximize their potential without fear of discrimination and dehumanization and how that process in turn makes us all more fully human.

Pierre Tétrault and Doris Rajan

Pierre Tétrault is the writer/director of the documentary called *“This Beggar's Description”* for the National Film Board of Canada which was released in the spring of 2005. It tells his brother's story – one of art, love and madness – capturing the far-reaching effects of schizophrenia, on one man, his family and his friends. It had its world premiere at the Montreal World Film Festival in 2005 and has been seen in numerous film festivals in Canada and the States winning the CBC Newsworld Award for Best Documentary

at the Victoria Independent Film Festival 2006 and the Calgary Picture This Festival 2007 as well as the Schizophrenia Society Of Canada's Media Award 2006. It is now being aired on the Documentary Channel. He is also a director of fiction having directed **Doris Rajan's** *“Healing Rani”*, a half hour comedy for television recently released that had its premiere at the New York International Independent Film Festival in July 2007. Pierre was also executive producer and co-writer of *“Crack Diary”*, a half hour drama that aired on CBC, TVO and Bravo.

COMMUNITY LIVING ST.
MARYS & AREA



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Marilyn Haywood x 227

Caroline Simons x 226

Marg Angus x 242

Brenda Kaiser x 224

Linda Munro x 243

Jenn Costello x 232

Angie Gallant x 234

Core Gifts Club

Lots of people have now had interviews and have

expressed an interest in exploring the idea of gifts. We have talked about a "Gifts Club" where like minded people could meet and explore more deeply the idea of gifts. How often and other details will be discussed if people decide to continue to meet. This invitation is extended to everyone who has had or is scheduled to have an interview.

** Please note, only those supporting someone will be paid for their time

Please join us and help the club begin!

When: Monday, June 1st, 2009

Time: 6:45 – 8:15 pm

Where: James Purdue Centre

Bring a snack. Drinks provided.

Please be sure to have your core gift interview completed BEFORE attending.

RSVP by May 25th, 2009:

Jennifer Leslie 519.284.1400 ext 228 jvleslie@execulink.com

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Jan Gerrie 519.284.1400 ext 223 jgerrie@execulink.com

Kim Monden 519.284.1400 ext 222 kmonden@execulink.com

Hope to see you there!

For more information on core gifts, check out

AGM Reminder

Our AGM is on June 15/09 and will be held at the Community Centre. Dinner starts at 6pm, followed by the meeting at 7pm. This year we ask that you Please bring along your own dinner plate and cutlery with you.

Thanks.

