



Newslink

September 2009

Community Living St. Marys & Area

Family Is Important To Everyone!

Ethel Loves Her Family!



On August 1st, Ethel traveled to Shrewsbury, Ontario, which is near Chatham Kent for a family reunion. Ethel's sister Charlotte hosted the party at her cottage and requested that everyone wear white for the day. It was a beautiful day for the drive and visit. Laura, one of our summer students, escorted Ethel on her trip. They enjoyed a barbeque and participated in outdoor games. Family members present were her sister Charlotte, nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, and even a great, great niece and nephew.

- How to reach us :**
Call
519-284-1400
and the
extension:
- Marg McLean x 225*
 - Nancy Marriott x 221*
 - Vickie Logan x 241*
 - Jennifer Leslie x 228*
 - Kim Monden x 222*
 - Jan Gerrie x 223*
 - 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*

Anne Nairn turned 50 years old on April 13. She had a great celebration in the Common Room of her apt. building. Many of her family and friends were there to give her their best wishes for the many years to come. Anne, along with her staff Angie, hosted a party that was very memorable for all.



Anne Celebrates 50

Anne enjoyed all the people that came out to share this special day with her and she particularly enjoyed having Birthday cake with everyone.

- Mark your**
calendars:
- Create A Smile**
October 18, 2009
 - Community Living Christmas Party**
December 11, 2009
Golf & Country Club

Independent Facilitation Comes to Perth County

A group of people that includes the agencies in Perth County is working hard to come up with the resources and structure to ensure that independent planning and facilitation is available to people and families in Perth County. It may need to start small but will provide a way for families to get support to plan for good lives outside of agencies. If you would like to know more information please contact Jennifer at 284-1400 ext. 228.

Voices Announcement

Off to meet the Queen? Well not exactly but Connie Seaton is off to England to teach for the next few months and so while she's away on her leave Kim Monden will have a few hours a week re-assigned to cover the St. Marys' Coordinator role with Voices. Kim was involved with Voices when it first started and so has the experience to quickly step into the role. The Voices project has some big plans for the fall including the release of the 2nd printing of "Where to Find it", a guide to community and government services. There will also be leadership training workshops planned for the high schools in St. Marys and Listowel.

Parents in Perth Event

This new network of parents, family and friends of people with disabilities is organizing an event on Tuesday September 15 to provide up to date information on the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP). The event will be held in Mitchell most likely at the Friendship Centre at 6:30 p.m. Details are yet to be confirmed but please save the date! Contact Teresa DeJong at (519)527-0202 or hcf@tcc.on.ca for more information on the event or to find out more about Parents in Perth.

Looking for someone to share an Ontario cottage in St. Marys!

Senior gentleman, active and healthy is looking for someone to share a lovely small home in quiet residential neighbourhood in St. Marys.

Rent would be minimal to free if person was available to help with some meals and be home overnight. This would suit someone working part time or already retired.

No smoking in this home and social drinker only please.

The man is away one to two weekends a month and there is lots of flexibility for a housemate to be away. If desired the person could provide extra assistance for remuneration.



Core Gifts Club

September 22, 2009 at JPC from 6:45p.m. to 8p.m.

Please contact Jan Gerrie @ 519-284-1400 X223 if you are interested in learning more.

Employment Support

Having a job is an important part of life for many people. This is especially true for young people finishing school and moving into adulthood. In recent years, the association has become involved with a number of young people who are interested in work but have experienced some barriers to finding and holding

a job.

By researching and networking with others, I am beginning to learn more about what it takes for people to be successful in work, who can help and where in our community do people get help. It is with much excitement that I will be assisting people to find employment with as much or

as little support as they need to get on track. Along with assisting a number of people in their job searches, I will investigate existing services in hopes of creating some partnerships for the future.

I'm always looking for new ideas and connections so please don't hesitate to call me at 519-284-1400 x 232.

Thanks!...Jennifer Costello

Bon Voyage to Cathy McCormick

It is with mixed emotion that we wish Cathy McCormick a fond farewell as she retires after 20 years with Community Living St Marys.

Her Contributions to the agency will be greatly missed. Cathy was a strong advocate for her peers in her role on EMRC, and made regular donations to the

social committee in their fundraising ventures.

Through the years, Cathy was a valuable asset to many teams.

Enjoy the time you will now have to spend with family and friends, don't forget us when you are delivering your AVON books.

Best wishes from everyone at Community Living St Marys!!



Thank you Cathy!!

Committees

EMRC

There is a position for a support worker on EMRC if you have any questions about the committee or are interested in sitting on it please contact Cathy McCormick 519-229-6431 or E-mail mbernie@quadro.net before Sept 25th

Social Committee

The Social Committee would like to welcome Donna Mitchell and Jane Bean to our group; we look forward to working with you both! Our Committee works very hard to provide fun draws, events and Social gatherings for the employees of Community Living St Marys. We

are looking to expand our group so please contact Tracy Brant or me to join or find out more.

Don't forget to put in your \$4 a month for our 50/50 draw, drawn on the last Monday of each month.

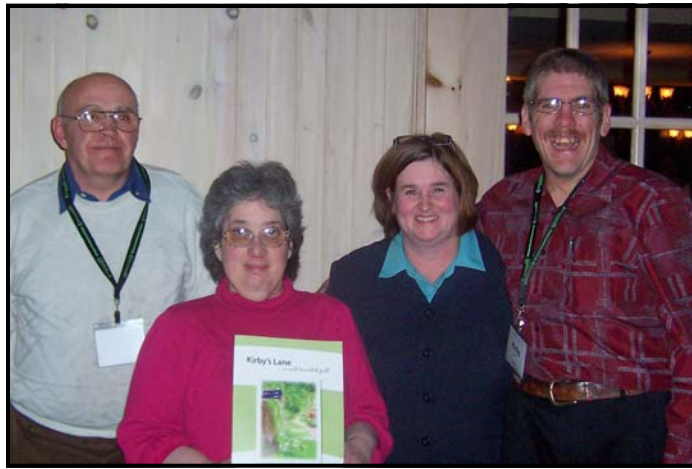
Thank you all for your continued support!!
Jenn Costello



**COMMUNITY LIVING
ST. MARYS & AREA**

**Community Living
St. Marys and Area**

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*This photo was taken at the launch of **Kirby's Lane...a well travelled path.***

Pictured are David McKillop, Barbara Fowke, Charlotte Dingwall and Kirby Allen. This collection of stories captures many voices in a way that deepens our un-

derstanding of the people who tell them, their relationships, services and community. We are invited to use their experiences to create conversations that will expand our own thinking. People from across Ontario shared their stories for this book on citizenship. Please drop into the James Purdue Centre if you would like to borrow or purchase a copy.

*As well, **Create A Conversation A Companion Book to Kirby's Lane...a well travelled path** is available to borrow.*

Central Administration

Canada Savings Bonds

Through payroll the Canada Savings Bonds deduction program is offered. Applications will be available at the Central Admin Office late September if you are interested in participating. For those employees who are currently participating this is the time to make changes to the amount you are contributing (increase/decrease). Application forms should be returned to Central Admin by October 19th in order to meet the Bank of Canada deadline.

Part-time Vacation

Part-time vacation will be paid out the last pay date of November (18th). This is a mandatory pay out.

2% Matching RRSP

Benefits

Every year **December 15th** is the date to notify

Central Admin by **a)** if you wish to remove yourself from the matching benefit **b)** if you previously did not meet the earning requirement and are interested in participating, check with Central Admin to see if your 2008 earnings do meet the requirement (earnings greater than \$10,000) **c)** if you opted not to participate when you were eligible and would like to, check with Central Admin to see if you have continued to meet the eligibility criteria. Eligibility requirements are also checked at this time for all participants. If you no longer meet the requirements, you will be notified. All changes will be implemented pay pe-

riod ending **January 08, 2010.**

Reminder

Due to privacy laws and to protect the employee's information, Central Admin does not give out phone numbers (including cell#'s) or addresses. If you are aware that your place of employment may be contacted for release and/or confirmation of personal information – you are required to fill out a "Consent to Share Information" form which is available from the Central Admin office. You can request a letter with the relevant information from Central Admin but a "Consent to Share Information" form is still required.