

Community Living St. Marys & Area

Newslink



Youth for Inclusion Committee



Norman Kunc poses with some of the students from D.C.V.I. who enjoyed the message he brought to them.

Except for the times when laughter filled the room, you could have heard a pin drop at the St. Marys DCVI assembly on November 12. That was the day Norman Kunc came to the school. His

message was simple and strong; all students want to belong. Norm speaks powerfully from his own experience of being excluded because he grew up with cerebral palsy but he makes it clear that what he calls “a climate of allegiance based on a common enemy” is part of the human condition. It means that someone is always being excluded whether for their

appearance, sexual orientation, disability, etc. Norman was invited to Perth County by a unique group of young people who have joined together to make a change. They call themselves the “Youth 4 Inclusion Committee” and their ten members are from across the county. Their purpose is to connect, network and share resources with fellow students who share their passion and desire for inclusion. Because of Norm's inspiring visit there is now interest from a number of students at DCVI and a teacher willing to support them! You can find out more about Norman Kunc at his web site <http://www.normemma.com/index.htm> You can find our more about the Youth 4 Inclusion Committee by talking to Connie Seaton or Jennifer Leslie.

Good News Stories

Have you seen it yet? There is a new publication in Perth that focuses on community and good news stories and it's called SNAP Perth. It's free, published on a monthly basis and full of colour photographs of community happenings. It also has a calendar for the month and groups can submit events. You can pick up your copy at

the Pyramid Centre and other spots around town or you can check it out on their web site www.snapperth.com



Richard Smelski - Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant Review Team Member, **Helen Brockman** - Principal of Little Falls Public School, **Rob Taylor** - Taylor Construction, **Rob Brindley** - CEO St Marys, **John Wilkinson** - MPP Perth-Wellington, **Jennifer Leslie** - Community Living St. Marys, **Lynn Hainer** - Chair of Little Falls Fundraising Committee pose with student fundraisers from Little Falls Public School

How to reach our office: 519-284-1400 ext.

- Marg McLean..... 225
- Jennifer L..... 228
- Kim M. 222
- Nancy M. 221
- Vickie L..... 241
- Marg A 242
- Brenda K. 224
- Linda M. 243
- Angie G. 234
- Don D..... 223
- Laura C..... 232
- Connie S. 305
- Stephanie L..... 226
- Candace O..... 245

Employee Relations Committee

- Ruth L... 284-2388
- Michelle R... 284-0543
- Tamie C. ... 284-0930



Domain 4A would like everyone to come out for a drink on Feb 10th 7pm at the Creamery.

Welcoming new staff...

Welcoming Stephanie!!

Stephanie Lee has recently joined the Community Living St. Marys team as a Planning Facilitator. She brings experience from similar work at Community Living Stratford and a passion for working with people. Stephanie lives in Stratford with her family (ask her about being a Mom to twin boys). She is looking forward to getting to know everyone!

A New Face!

We are happy to welcome Candace O'Hearn to Central Admin. Candace is working Monday, Thursday and Friday mornings. Stop in and introduce yourself!

Tickets for HillBilly Boogie! are available from Central Admin. Let's Party!

Central Administration



Looking to get involved in the community? Check out www.snapperth.com



Our business year ends March 31st, 2011. To ensure reimbursement of your expenses Central Admin will need to receive your receipts no later than **Wednesday, March 30th, 2011.** Examples of expenses are mileage, vision, alternative support invoices, etc. Your claim dates must be between April 1st, 2010 and March 31st, 2011.

Part-Time Vacation Pay: Part-time vacation will be paid out on the last pay day in May (18th). This is not a mandatory payout. However, you must notify Central

Admin if you do not want your vacation pay at this time.

Reminder: Due to the privacy laws and to protect the employee's information, the Central Admin Office does not give out phone numbers (including cell) or addresses to anyone. 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 you can now download from our website - www.communitylivingst

marys.ca (click on downloads). Once filled out bring the form to the Central Admin Office. You can request a letter with the relevant information but a "Consent to Share Information" form is still required.

T4s: Are currently available for pick-up at the Central Admin Office. Any T4s not picked up by closing on Friday, February 11th, 2011 will be mailed.

Welcoming

There's an excitement and energy in the air that is fueling the efforts of everyone involved in our 'Welcoming' initiative! Each learning group has had discussions about their domain area, what changes they would like to make, why the change is needed, and how they'll measure the change. We will soon be at the four month

mark and it's time to celebrate our collective efforts as we move toward a more welcoming culture within our organization and our community. Our next gathering is on Tuesday February 15th at the St. Marys Presbyterian Church at 6pm. See you then!



Changes in Ontario

Developmental Services in Ontario funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services are changing. Come to an information session about these changes on **Saturday March 5th at 10am till 12noon** at the James Purdue Centre. Learn about the new Social Inclusion Act, application entities, Supports Intensity Scale assessment, etc. Everyone is welcome! For more information contact Marg McLean.

A Playground for all Kids!



Welcoming all kids to have fun and stay active in St. Marys is the aim of a

new accessible playground and fitness equipment that will be built in the spring of 2011 close to the Little Falls Public School. The project was initiated by the Little Falls Fundraising committee that has been working hard

to raise funds and awareness. Community Living St. Marys joined forces with the committee and partners, Town of St Marys and McLean Taylor Construction, to submit an application for a Trillium grant. The application was successful and a presentation to award the \$43,300 from Trillium happened on December 3, 2010.

The Royal Imperial Sovereign Court of London Southwestern Ontario

Saturday
February 26, 2011
Doors open 7:00 pm

Hill Billy
BOOGIE!

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 236
 66 Church St. N.
 St. Marys

\$5.00 per person

A "Community Living St. Marys" Fundraiser

300 Elgin Street East
PO Box 1618
St. Marys, Ontario
N4X 1B9

Phone - 519-284-1400

Fax - 519-284-3120



Providing support to people with a developmental disability

www.communitylivingstmarys.ca



Wanted:

Participants for a fun day of running around and laughing with co-workers while enjoying silly games in the glorious summer time. Afterwards, you guessed it, food! The Welcoming Committee is looking for a few good men and women to take part in the inaugural Community Living Challenge. Test your physical (but not that hard) and mental (rather elementary, actually) skills against the people we love, our co-workers, in a team environment.

Laughter is guaranteed. Now sign up already and don't you dare miss this fantastic event!!!

Saturday June 11th, 2011

To sign up contact Nancy Marriott at

519-284-1400 Ext.221

"Welcoming Domain 4 Group C"



Welcoming...Domain Four

Domain 4, Group C wanted to start the year off with acknowledging the one day that is unique to each person. YOUR Birthday! It is a day of celebration that is just for you. A special day for you to look back, look forward and be thankful for all that is good in your life.

This first group has already celebrated, but if you didn't get a chance to wish them a Happy Birthday...go ahead...do it anyway..... You know the saying it's never too late!



JANUARY

3RD Ed Blagdon
8th Mary Connolly
17th Seth Coddington
23rd Alix Boersma
31st Marion Fox

Hopefully you will be reading this in time to mention to your fellow employees how much you want them to enjoy their day!

FEBRUARY

8th Jenn Costello
9th Katie Simons
17th Laura Cannon
17th Rebecca Huffman
18th Michelle McKay
25th Annette Van Til



MARCH

3rd Kate Bibby
16th Luke Steinman
19th Jan Mullock
25th Jen McCauley
26th Marg Angus
27th Vickie Logan
31st Sherry Drinkwalter

There are many people out there who are very happy YOU were born.