

# Newslink



Nov. 2011 Issue

## Coming Events

Welcoming  
Celebration  
November 15th.,  
2011, 5 p.m  
At The End Zone.

Staff Creamery  
Christmas Party  
Dec. 2, 2011  
1pm to 4pm

Christmas Dinner  
5:45-Social  
6:15- dinner  
Dec. 9th. At The St.  
Marys Golf and  
Country Club

Community Living is  
sponsoring the  
Community Dinner  
at the United  
Church on Dec. 12,  
2011. If you have  
some time to volun-  
teer contact Marg.  
McLean.

Because **Connie Seaton** had a full sheet of pledges for the Create A Smile walk, her name was in a draw with other employees. Congratulations Connie! You are the lucky winner of one day off with pay!



## Create-A-Smile 2011



**Generosity, gratitude and friendship...these words come to mind when thinking of the recent Create A Smile walk. Over 100 people gathered on a cool but sunny October 23<sup>rd</sup> to walk or run our beautiful River Walkway. Their purpose was to have fun and raise money for Community Living St.Marys and Area. Both goals were achieved. Many smiles and stories were shared and close to \$13,000 has been raised!**

**Top fundraisers include the Rossetti family, Mary and Danny Muir, the Holland family, and the Hainer family. Best smile went to Michael Mainland. Fastest runner was Hunter, son of Angie Clarke.**

**We want to acknowledge and thank the founders of Create A Smile, Tracy and Mirco Rossetti, and the Muir and Van Dyk families. Special appreciation is extended to all participants, sponsors and the many people who contributed to the success of this event.**



# Central Administration



**Part Time Vacation:** Vacation pay for part time employees will be paid out on the last pay day of November (30<sup>th</sup>). This is pay period ending November 25<sup>th</sup>. This is a mandatory pay out.

**Christmas :** Please be advised that for the pay period ending December 23<sup>rd</sup> all timesheets must be into Central Admin on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> as payroll will be transmitted the morning of Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Central Admin office will be closed December 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011 and January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012. Please ensure that all payables (mileage, expenses etc) are in by December 22<sup>nd</sup> in order for the cheques to be ready on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Have a Joyous Holiday Season!**

**Matching RRSP Benefits:** Every year **December 15<sup>th</sup>** is the date to notify Central Admin by if:

- a) you wish to remove yourself from the matching benefit
- b) you previously did not meet the earning requirement and are interested in participating, check with Central Admin to see if your 2010 gross earnings are

greater than \$10,000

c) 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

d) you wish to change your matching percentage

Eligibility requirements are also checked at this time for all participants. If you no longer meet the requirements, you will be notified by letter. All changes will be implemented pay period ending **January 06, 2012**.

\*\*Effective December 2009 employees were given the option of participating at 1%, 2% or 3% matching.

**Criminal Record Check:** The Association wants and needs to provide a safe and secure environment for all people who use the services of the Association. It is important that the Association can demonstrate to the people using the service

that the Association has taken as many precautions as it can.

As a result, all employees of the Association must provide a Vulnerable Persons Criminal Record Check (CRC) by **December 15, 2011**. New employees are required to provide the CRC prior to working one-to-one with a person using services.

Employees who have submitted a CRC dated on or after June 15, 2011 are not required to provide a new CRC at this time.

Forms are available from your team leader. You will be reimbursed for this cost (\$25 from OPP).

**If you have any questions, please contact me at 519-284-1400 x 225.**

**Thank you! Marg McLean**



## General Staff Meeting ~ October 18th

A book reading of "Waddie Welcome and the Beloved Community" started the General Staff meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Readers shared the story of Mr. Welcome, a man who wanted to live in the community and smell food on a stove and hear children playing. It was motivating to hear how his wish came true and about the people he met along the way. Special thanks to our readers..... Jenn, Nancy, Candace, Tracy, Don, Kim, Vickie, Laura, Elizabeth and Allan.

Welcoming groups participated in a pumpkin carving contest. The object was to carve a pumpkin to display something about your group. Draw winners walked away with the carved pumpkins. Thanks to all who came out!



# An Evening of fun and Hilarity



On Friday, October 14th, 2011, Welcoming Group 4 A&C welcomed Jimmy G to St. Marys, he put on a show that will be remembered for years to come. With over 100 people in attendance Jimmy hypnotized four individuals that made the show. One did the chicken dance whenever she heard the chicken dance song while another told everyone to "Shut up" whenever she heard laughter. A big thank you to everyone who came out and everyone who put their time and effort into making the evening a great success.



## And the winner is...



Thanks for Visiting Monthly Door Prize

**September:** Angie Gallant. The prize was a Tim Horton gift card

**October:** Tracy Brant. Her prize was an assortment of candy

There will be 2 draws in November. The first will take place at the Welcoming Celebration

November 15th and the second on November 28th.

Draws are made the last Monday of the month so be sure to fill out a ballot when you stop into JPC!

## From....Domain 4 Group C

*"Do not Regret growing older. It is a privilege denied to many."*



Happy Birthday to all employees during November, December, January and February.

### November

- 1<sup>st</sup> Kim Monden
- 7<sup>th</sup> Paul Cluff
- 17<sup>th</sup> Cathy Molitor
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Donna Mitchell
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Sharon Rourke
- 27<sup>th</sup> Shannon Moir

### December

- 1<sup>st</sup> Linda Munro
- 7<sup>th</sup> Michele Rourke
- 8<sup>th</sup> Don Dingwall
- 10<sup>th</sup> James Vanderloo
- 18<sup>th</sup> Abbey Moffatt

### January

- 3<sup>RD</sup> Ed Blagdon
- 8<sup>th</sup> Mary Connolly
- 10<sup>th</sup> Jen Arthur
- 17<sup>th</sup> Seth Coddington
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Alix Boersma
- 31<sup>st</sup> Marion Fox

### February

- 8<sup>th</sup> Jenn Costello
- 17<sup>th</sup> Laura Cannon
- 17<sup>th</sup> Rebecca Huffman
- 18<sup>th</sup> Michelle McKay
- 25<sup>th</sup> Annette van Til



# COMMUNITY LIVING

St. Marys & Area



### How to reach our office:

519-284-1400 ext.

Marg McLean.....	225
Jennifer L.....	228
Kim M. ....	222
Nancy M. ....	221
Vickie L.....	241
Laura C .....	242
Brenda K. ....	224
Linda M. ....	243
Angie G. ....	234
Don D.....	223
Jen 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



**Shirley Croff ,Derek Atchison, Mackenzie Ballantyne, and Derek's son Josh all out enjoying a great fall day at the London Fair.**

WELCOMING DOMAIN GROUPS

DATE: TUESDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2011

TIME: 5PM - 6:30PM

End Zone at the Pyramid Recreation Centre, St.Marys (upper level overlooking the pool and ice rink)



**CELEBRATE!**

## COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY....

**“Good communication is as stimulating as black coffee, and just as hard to sleep after.”**  
~Anne Morrow Lindbergh.

Community Living St. Marys is committed to supporting people to have choice and be heard in their lives, however communication can be a major barrier in making this happen. **Meredith Tyler**, a student studying her Master's in Occupational Therapy at Queen's University, Kingston, came to us with an excellent presentation on how the Apple iPad can breakdown the communication barriers in so many people's lives. Since this presentation, Community Living; with the expertise of Elizabeth Davidson, has purchased an iPad and a few of the recommended apps. We currently have MyTalk, Tap to talk, iconverse, speakpad, Autoverbal Pro, and icomm uploaded and ready to try. Our goal is that all people who need some communication assistance will take the iPad for a test run; keep it for a length of time, try out the different apps, discover a world of communication technology that will knock your socks off. Making this device available gives people a chance to explore the possibilities an iPad offers without the monetary commitment.

Seth Coddington was awarded the Community Living Scholarship at the St.Marys DCVI Commencement on October 7th. Seth is in his first year of the Child and Youth Worker program at Niagara College in Welland. Congratulations Seth!

