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MILESTONES

Congratulations to the following staff who celebrated significant anniversaries with PCL since our Winter 2012 Newsletter

10 years

Gayle Rogan

Ellamae Hawkins

5 years

Sue Halashewski

3 years

Christine Blocki

Leah Edisbury

Jennifer Schweitzer

Katarina Sabo

SUMMER 2012

7th Annual PCL Golf Tournament Raises \$8,500!!!

On Thursday, June 21, 2012, PCL held it's 7th Annual Golf Tournament at Conestoga Golf and Country Club. The day was one of the hottest on record, a hot, hazy and humid 32°C, but that didn't deter any of the 71 golfers, 20 volunteers and guests from having a great day! A BarBQ lunch was provided by M&M Meats (55 Northfield Dr. E., Waterloo location). Golfers and guests had two great raffles to try their luck at winning - a wheel barrow full of wine (wheel barrow donated by Swanson Home Hardware) and a gas BarBQ (donated by TA Appliances).

Sixteen local businesses sponsored holes (Meineke sponsored 2!) and many local businesses and friends of PCL



Brennan H. has participated in every PCL Golf Tournament since the first one in 2006!

donated items for the prize tables and silent auction. Bill

McBay, MC for the evening, kept things lively, especially when he played the role of the auctioneer and auctioned off passes to Westmount Golf and Country Club.

Thanks to everyone who helped to make this event such a success—the Golf Tournament Committee, our sponsors, the prize and silent auction donors, volunteers and golfers. A special thank you to Conestoga Golf and Country Club and our MC, Bill McBay.

Watch for news about PCL's 8th Annual Golf Tournament, 2013! Hope to see you there!!

Thank You to our Sponsors!!



Robert O. Snyder



Swanson's Home Hardware

Blueridge Guys Go To Vegas

By Gayle Rogan,
SSP, Blueridge Home

On Monday, July 2, David & Doug O., Paul B. and Blueridge staff, Jennifer and Gayle headed to Toronto for the 4 1/2 hour flight that took them to Las Vegas and five days of fun and discovery. The Paris Las Vegas, which became their home during their stay, has a lobby and walkways that look like the streets of Paris with old fashioned buildings on either side and cobblestone streets. The guys visited the MGM Grand for the

CSI Experience where they bought hats and t-shirts with the CSI logo. On Tuesday, everyone went to the Hoover Dam, took the tour down into the dam to see how it works, then experienced being in two places at the same time. The Nevada/Arizona border runs down the center of the dam so you can have one foot in Nevada and the other in Arizona. The guys also visited the Classic Car Collections Exhibit, the Titanic Exhibit, Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum, and the Dolphin Exhibit at the Mirage Hotel. At the Mirage is the Secret Garden where the Sig-

fried and Roy white lions and tigers live. The guys also visited the Bellagio Hotel and the Cosmopolitan Hotel which has the largest chandelier in the world. The most spectacular activity was going up the Eiffel Tower at the hotel. The tower is 487 feet tall and one can see all over the city and out to the surrounding mountains. Needless to say everyone ate very well too. The Blueridge guys returned to Kitchener on Friday, July 6th. Everyone had a great time, but the guys are glad to be home sleeping in their own beds.



Spotlight on Evelyn Home

Evelyn Home is a full time home for two individuals in PCL's care and a "home away from home" for the many individuals who come for respite support.

PCL opened Evelyn Home in 2007 to meet the rising need in Waterloo County for an adult respite support home.

For the many individuals with developmental disabilities who

still live with their families, Evelyn home provides an occasional change of scenery in a loving, safe home environment and gives the caregivers a short break from the 24-hour care that they provide.

Sonya Mehta, Senior Support Provider at Evelyn Home, has been part of PCL staff since 2001. She, along with her dedicated staff, work to ensure that the Evelyn family is like

any other family. Everyone is expected to help where they can and participate in the many activities that are part of the every day life. Every summer, Evelyn Home organizes weekly picnics and invites the residents and staff from all PCL homes. A great time to socialize and make new friends.

Respite support helps to keep families living together longer.

"Respite support helps to keep families living together longer."

Thank you to all our dedicated donors. Your continued support is very appreciated.



New Vans

PCL needs your help to assist in the purchase of a new van to ensure that those we support can stay safe on the road this summer.

Donations can be made on line at www.pclkw.org (click on **How To Donate** then **Canada Helps**)

or with the donation card enclosed.



PCL's Annual Bowlathon
September, 8
12:00 noon

Brunswick Frederick Lanes, 385 Frederick St., Kitchener

How about getting a group of family or friends together to join with one of our individuals in care to make a team?

Check the web site at www.pclkw.org for more information.



PCL Annual Summer Picnic

August 29, 4:30—8:00 pm
Moose Lodge, 655 Wabanaki Dr., Kitchener.
Watch the website for more information. www.pclkw.org.

Don't forget to RSVP.

Not on the web?

Call Donna at the main office 519-742-5849.

Michelle R. joins the PCL family



By Jennifer Allan
SSP, Crimson Home

Leaving our parents' family home for the first time when venturing towards independence can be scary and nerve racking for both parents and the young adult. Michelle R.'s experience has been no different. Michelle made the decision to strike out on her own with both parents' (Sonja W. and Adrian R.) support. Michelle felt that Crimson and PCL were a good fit for her because of her strong Christian values. At Crimson, we frequently listen to Christian worship music. Michelle stated "From my perspective the home is very Christian based perspective and I am not joking about that, that's how I feel about the home". Christian music

"brings my heart into worshipping".

Michelle visited Crimson house several times before she made the BIG decision to take the plunge. Michelle moved into Crimson House on April 23, 2012. The whole family, Sonja, Adrian and brother Steven, rallied to support Michelle's decision by painting and decorating her room specific to her specifications. When asked what her dream is, Michelle responded, "to become as independent as possible, continue to push myself for myself. Even when I don't feel like it – it's going to be hard some days and some days it's just gonna be easy".

When asked if it has been easy to become independent, Michelle stated "It's hard not being attached to my mom. I like it here, but sometimes I want to go back. It's tough because you don't spend time with your family but it's part of growing up."

When asked what she likes most about Crimson, Michelle stated "Getting independent as far as getting myself ready to attend my

day program. Staff are always there when I am struggling with anything and I appreciate that so much and I mean that". Michelle loves the daily van runs to pick up her house mates and even has a crush on Tom from Stanwood. She loves the very secure and reliable accessible van.

Michelle was asked what she thinks of PCL. She indicated the following. "People are very kind and understanding to situations when things are not going well". Michelle particularly loved the Welcome to PCL party that was held in her honour on Sunday June 24/12. "I liked to see all the people paying attention to me! People care for me and I feel appreciated". She was particularly impressed that "Brenda, and Betty stepped forward to welcome me and make me feel welcome!" Even Letty from Friendship attended! Michelle enjoys attending Friendship group on Monday nights to socialize with numerous friends she has made here at PCL. Michelle is a welcome addition to the Crimson family – welcome home Michelle.

When asked what her dream is, Michelle responded, "to become as independent as possible, continue to push myself for myself. Even when I don't feel like it – it's going to be hard some days and some days it's just gonna be easy".

Those Crafty Casey Ladies and their dedicated Volunteer, Bea

The Casey ladies have had the privilege of enjoying Tuesday craft days with a very special friend to the Casey home named Bea. The ladies sat down together to write a note to talk about what Tuesdays with Bea means to them.

'All of us ladies at the Casey home want to let Bea know how much

we appreciate her time, generosity and creativity as well as her friendship. Every Tuesday morning Bea arrives at our home with new and exciting crafts to get our creative juices flowing; not to mention she brings delicious Tim Horton's coffee and tea which we enjoy so much. Bea is a very special friend who not only takes her own time

and money (which allows us to create beautiful crafts and gifts) but also helps us if we're struggling with the fine details of our creations. Thank you Bea for everything you do!

From the Casey ladies (Paula, Kathy, Catherine, Nancy and Laura)



Catherine, Nancy and Paula proudly showing their finished work.

Board Members

Sandy Milne (chair)

Trenny McGinnis (vice chair)

John Badham

Darren Becks

Tim Flannery

Jeff Harris

Ed Koenig

Timothy O'Leary

Daniel Paquin

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MISSION

To enhance the quality of life of individuals with developmental disabilities by providing services and family-like homes in our community

VISION

Every individual with developmental disabilities lives with dignity as a valued member of our community.



Join us on Facebook.

Search Parents For Community Living on your Facebook page, then "like" our page.

PCL has been the recipient of a generous donation from the new Scotiabank branch located at 420 The Boardwalk, in Waterloo. Several PCL staff, board members and friends were on hand for the grand opening on Friday, April 27th, when the cheque was officially presented. Thanks Maria, Marsha and all your staff. It was a great celebration!



PCL Annual General Meeting Monday, September 17 6:30-8:00 pm

Emmanuel Village, 1250
Weber St. East, Kitchener

Please RSVP at 519-742-5849 or donna@pclkw.org

Become a member of PCL

The annual \$5 PCL membership fee entitles you to invitations to special events and the PCL newsletter published several times throughout the year. Membership also entitles you to an invitation and voting privileges at the Annual General Meeting held each September. Go to our web site at pclkw.org, click on **Get Involved**, then **Become A Member**. Print off the membership form found there and mail it to our office. Not on the web? Call Donna at 519-742-5849 and we'll send you a form.

From our ED, Kathy Loveys



It is exciting to be a part of PCL right now, so many initiatives

underway. Various summer vacations are planned with our amazing PCL staff supporting those on vacation, day trips and the very busy summer programs for the children at Malabar and the adults at Evelyn. Construction is well underway at our newest home, Monarch, with the goal for completion sometime

mid-August. The Westvale home is up for sale and the guys and their staff team are getting used to exiting when required to accommodate interested buyers.



PCL will be involved in Special Hockey International planned for March 12-16, 2013.

I am excited to share that I have become involved in Special Hockey International, an event being planned for March 12-16, 2013. PCL will be hosting a booth at the Kitchener Auditorium along with other local agencies to demonstrate to these special hockey players, their families and friends from around the world that YES I CAN live independently in the community. For more information about this exciting event, or if you want to volunteer please check out: www.shikitchener2013.ca.

Have an enjoyable and safe summer!