

Jeremy Booth *cont'd from pg 3*

Jeremy certainly seems to have found a place where he belongs. He works alongside fellow volunteers Lisa MacKenzie-Biggs and Shawna Lowes as they wash and prepare litter trays.

The best part of his job is "putting the newspaper in the tray" with Lisa, says Jeremy. And judging by the way he tenderly holds the Society's mascot, O'Malley Cat, the second best part is loving the animals.

Community Betterment 2005 Civic Award Recipients

The City of Peterborough acknowledged the following dedicated citizens at their 2005 Civic Award Ceremony:

Robert Condon, Individual Award

A.J. McNaught, Peter Bascan, Lynda Naim & Joyce Fee, Members of Persons with Disabilities Committee

Dianne Austin, Member of 2004 Ontario Special Olympics Spring Games Organizing Committee

Marjorie Michelin, Member of Dream Players Theatre Troupe

Income Tax preparation

assistance: A parents perspective

by Del Facey, parent

It is that time of year again, Tax Time, and as we know, our income tax system is a self assessing system, putting the onus on the taxpayer to prepare their tax returns.

I would like to share my experience dealing with Ken Lagasse Professional Corporation, a National Chartered Accounting Firm specializing in DISABILITY/MEDICAL issues relating to income tax returns for the person with the disability and the caregivers / families involved. The procedure is straight forward:

1. A one-on-one meeting with a representative. You bring along the last tax return(s) submitted.
2. The interview involves discussing your particular disability circumstances and reviewing your return(s) to see what benefits, if any, you may be eligible for, who is involved and who should be claiming what. This sounds difficult, but the representative is extremely knowledgeable and will outline the proper deductions /credits. For example: I thought I was claiming the appropriate caregiver deduction when in fact I was entitled to other deductions, creating a large tax refund for myself.
3. If you are interested, you will be the client of Ken Lagasse

Wish Fund: Helping to achieve Outcomes

Since March of 2003 the Wish Fund has assisted people supported by Community Living Peterborough with funds to obtain those things that may make a difference in their personal lives. Each application is considered on an individual basis while assuring that the request will help achieve the person's outcome(s)/goals, such as providing funds for recreational activities, trip to Florida, mobility equipment, glasses, dentures, and communication devices.

We would like to thank those of you who have made donations over the years and those of you who continue to support the Wish Fund, most recently: Mr. Del Facey, Walter and Elizabeth Wood, Ben Taylor, the Swinging Angels, L.E. Newell, Carl & Sharon Young, John & Edna Wolf, Mary Carlin, Marg Nelson, Alma Bowman and the staff at Community Living Peterborough.

If you would like to know more about the Wish Fund or make a donation, please contact: MaryEllen at 705-743-2412 ext.538



Professional Corporation, which will represent the parties involved in negotiating with Canada Revenue Agency to ensure all the correct deductions / credits are maximized to create the best tax position. There will be authorization forms to complete.

4. A one time fee of 30% is charged by Ken Lagasse Professional Corporation upon file completion, which is tax deductible in the year paid and no future benefits will be subject to fees. Please keep in mind 70% is sent to the client with explanation of future tax filings, with detailed accounting of the results.
5. If efforts of Ken Lagasse Professional Corporation do not result in a positive tax refund, there will be no charge for their efforts and any FUTURE gains are NOT subject to the 30%.

This material is sent unsolicited for your information only.

Links of Interest:

Ken Lagasse Professional Corporation

www.taxwise.ca

Canada Revenue Agency

www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tax/individuals/segments/disabilities/menu-e.html

Peterborough Chartered Accountants and Tax Preparers

www.peterboroughchamber.ca/



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Opening Doors

A Publication By: **COMMUNITY LIVING PETERBOROUGH**

An agency committed to ... *Building Inclusive Communities*



Fleming
Keep it clean!

The Bluebox Recycling team makes an impact on environmental conservation at Fleming.

Brian Wilson sorts for a cleaner environment.



Photo by Rob Viscardis

The Peterborough Humane Society is a warm, welcoming place to volunteer.

Jeremy Booth's new volunteer experience has been fun and rewarding.



Iain Norrie takes us behind the scenes at the Memorial Centre.

Iain shares his 15 years of volunteering with our hometown Peterborough Petes.

Page 2

Page 3

Page 3

GIVING BACK to the COMMUNITY

Kevin Matthewson: Perfectly suited for his position

by Mary Bucholtz

Kevin Matthewson has been volunteering at a Trent University lab for 20 years. Two mornings a week Kevin boards the #1 bus and heads out to the lab where his supervisor, Jason Allen (Lab Technician), refers to him as "senior staff." His mornings are busy, with tasks that include looking after frogs, snakes, turtles and birds.



Kevin and Jason were kind enough to take me on a tour of the lab and I was able to see first hand the tremendous work Kevin has been doing all these years. Their work at the lab needs to be precise, routine and efficient. "Kevin should be proud of the job he does," says Jason. "He does his job well. He carries a heavy work load. He's perfectly suited for this position."

As Kevin took me through his morning routine, it was very clear that he and Jason work well together. Whether it was cleaning the animal cages, feeding the snapping turtles, or explaining the workings of the lab, they were in sync.

see 'Perfectly suited' pg2

www.communitylivingpeterborough.ca

Susan Lustic: 20 years of dedication - Her colleagues write

*by Anne Polito & Angie Maxine
Peterborough Family Resource Centre*

For over 20 years, Susan Lustic has volunteered at the Peterborough Family Resource Centre (PFRC). Susan helps in the craft and baby area at the Rubidge Street location.



Susan often holds a baby for a mom so she can do an activity with another child. Susan is always happy to help out with any task we ask of her. The craft area is always well organized and inviting when Susan is around. This is often the messiest and well used area. A big job!

**PFRC honoured
Susan for 20 years
of valuable
volunteer service.**

see '20 years' pg 2

MISSION

Community Living Peterborough

To inspire respect and equality for people with an intellectual disability by promoting: community knowledge, organizational excellence and individual quality of life.

contact
US



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20 Years of dedication

cont'd from front

Susan listens to the children and is always ready to help. She has developed many positive relationships with parents, children and staff at the centre. Parents are always glad to see Susan because they know they will be well taken care of.

Comfortable and at ease with our participants, she loves to chat and visit with parents. Staff and parents appreciate and respect her hard work and quiet dedication.



"I like visiting with the moms and dads and helping the children. It makes me feel good." - Susan

Susan's assistance with the loading and unloading of the mobile outreach van is such a big help to the staff. This is hard work (especially on really cold days) and is very much appreciated.

It's always a pleasure working with Susan. She enjoys being with the children and they often make her laugh. It is great for staff to see her happy and enjoying her work!

Thank you Susan, for all your hard work and dedication to the parents and children.

S special volunteer

U unique in every way

S super helper to the parents & children

a asset to our team

n nice to everyone

Perfectly suited for his position

cont'd from front

When asked what his volunteer job at the lab meant to him, Kevin said, "It's important, they need me here to do my work. I like working with Jason."

When he's not disinfecting cages, or caring for frogs, turtles and other creatures, Kevin will often stop and engage in conversation with students, staff, and neighbouring lab technicians. "As well as fitting into the strict routine that a lab requires, Kevin's positive and outgoing attitude has rubbed off." says Jason. "He has a healthy perspective on life that people can learn from."

The bond between Kevin and Jason goes beyond work. They often get together to share some of their common interests. "He has a good, honest heart and you can't find friends like that", says Jason of Kevin. A great memory for both is when they attended a Star Trek Convention in Toronto. A long wait in line proved to be well worth it as Kevin was able to meet some of his favourite characters and return home with a coveted autograph.

From one end of the lab to the other, with all stops in between, the tour had come to an end. It was time for Kevin to hop back on the #1 bus and head to his next commitment The Kiwanis Aktion Club of Liftlock (a community service group for adults who live with a disability). An ongoing fundraiser for the club is the Liftlock Teddy Bear Fund: Kevin and fellow club members raise funds to purchase teddy bears for local fire/police departments and hospital emergency rooms. Kevin also holds a part-time job at a beauty salon in the south end and is a member of Collective Kitchens, a community based group that gets together once a week to cook and share a meal together.

"Kevin connects people in the community. Everywhere he is he shares his life with everyone, which is spent volunteering or taking part in activities and clubs within the community," says Jason.

"It makes me feel good," says Kevin.

Brian Wilson: Member of Fleming community

by Richard Vermeulen, Fleming student

This Brian Wilson is not a singer in a band; this Brian Wilson volunteers at Fleming College with the Bluebox Recycling Program.

Almost every Monday through Friday afternoon you will find Brian in the cafeteria sorting out recycling. He is meticulous about his job. When I volunteered with the Bluebox team, I could always depend on Brian to answer any of my questions about recycling.

Every week, Brian sorts hundreds of pounds of discarded plastic, glass and paper, diverting them from the landfill site. Few students and staff at Fleming realize that the recycling boxes are sorted by Brian and the recycling team, but that is changing. Brian is now a member of the Fleming College Environmental Committee.

I am fortunate to have met and worked with Brian. Our entire community enjoys the benefits of a cleaner environment from Brian's hard work. Thank you Brian Wilson



*"...Kevin has a healthy perspective on life that people can learn from."
- Jason*



"The greatest benefit to the college offered by contributors like Brian is the opportunity to know them as members of our Fleming community."

*Janice Coughlin,
Director,
College Facilities*



Iain Norrie: A Team Player

by Mary Bucholtz

Committed, thorough and up-beat. These are just some of the words that come to Brian Miller, Team Trainer for the Peterborough Petes, when describing Iain Norrie.

Iain has been volunteering for the Petes for over 15 years. "He brings a smile to every game," says Brian. With hardly a home game missed, Iain is dedicated to taking care of the team's bench, dressing room and any odd jobs thrown his way.

Before Iain heads to the rink to start his shift, he puts a call in to Brian. "Iain calls me every game day to ask what jersey the team will be wearing for that night," says Brian "He likes to make sure he's wearing the same as the team." "He's part of the team." His 'Anniversary' jersey has special meaning to Iain as it was given to him by Brian for his birthday. "It has my name and #1 on the back," boasts Iain.

"On game days I get there at 4:00," says Iain. "I make sure the team's jerseys are hanging up neat and tidy.

I fill up the water bottles for the bench and set the garbage bags up for the team." Iain has also been known to boost the team's morale by giving pre game pep talks, a fond memory of Brian Miller's.

"I feel happy to be part of the team," states Iain. "My volunteer job is important to me. I like it when Brian says, 'You are awesome Iain.'"



"We love having Iain around and it's great to see the passion that he has for the team and how much he loves being around the team!"

*Jeff Twohey,
General Manager, Peterborough Petes*

Jeremy Booth: Welcome at Humane Society

by Linda Viscardis

When Jeremy Booth arrived at the Humane Society for his volunteer job, a warm welcome was waiting in the person of Mary Bye, also known as Princess Mary.

Mary has been working at the Humane Society as their receptionist for 30 years. She looks after the animals that come in and all of the people who love them. She welcomes every person who walks through the doors. Especially the volunteers.

"Volunteers are very important to us," says Mary. "We try very hard to make them feel welcome. We look forward to them coming."



Photo by Rob Viscardis

Certainly, that is the impression that was made on Jeremy's first day when Mary welcomed him with a huge smile and her great sense of humour. "I'm Princess Mary," said Mary, making Jeremy break into laughter. He seemed to feel immediately at home. The key to helping new volunteers to feel at home is treating everyone in a warm and friendly manner, says Mary. "Everyone is important," she says. "I treat everyone the same no matter what."

see 'Jeremy Booth' pg 4



**Peterborough
A RICHER
COMMUNITY**
Thanks for
"Giving Back"

Jeff Stewart

Trent Radio - 20 yrs
TASS—Greenhouse - 6 yrs
Marycrest at Inglewood - 1 yr

Robert Condon

Fairhaven Long-Term Care Facility - 12 yrs

Linda Shisko

James Strath Public School - 9 yrs
Peterborough New Dance - 3 yrs
Sadler House - 2 yrs

Amy Nolan

Five Counties Children Centre - 6 yrs
Peterborough County Health Unit - 5 yrs

Susan Facey

Peterborough Green-Up - 5 yrs
CNIB - 4 yrs
Peterborough Chamber of Commerce - 3 yrs

Debbie Simmons

Liberal Constituency Office - 5 yrs
Peterborough Chamber of Commerce - 2 yrs

David Collins

Peterborough Social Planning Council - 4 yrs

Shane Marshall

CNIB - 3 yrs.
Peterborough Chamber of Commerce - 1 yr

Julie Andrews

Humane Society - 3 yrs

Margie Oswald

Peterborough Chamber of Commerce - 3 yrs

Leslie Pennel

Peterborough Chamber of Commerce - 3 yrs

Gary Pauze

Peterborough Green-Up - 2 yrs

Wayne Campbell

Peterborough Humane Society - 9 mths

Barb Anderson

Trent Valley Literacy - 6 mths

Tammy Clement

Peterborough Humane Society - 6 mths

John Chisholm

St. Joseph's at Fleming

Bonnie Holmes

Lakefield Animal Shelter

Nickolas Ryback

Victorian Order of Nurses