

**COMING EVENTS**



**2019 Annual General Meeting**

Monday, June 17

Meeting 5:00

Dinner 6:00

(Invitation enclosed)

Look for information on our Annual Fundraiser "Create A Smile" at the AGM



Managing Conflict in the Workplace  
June 20 & 21



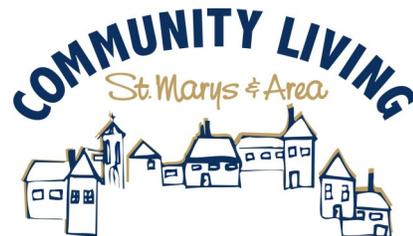
Please contact Laura Cannon for more information at [lcannon@clstmarys.ca](mailto:lcannon@clstmarys.ca)



# Newslink

**May 2019**

*Community Living St. Marys and Area*  
*"A community where everyone belongs."*



## CAN'T READ, CAN'T WRITE, HERE'S MY BOOK BY MICHAEL JACQUES



Michael is a young adult who lives and works in the Niagara Region of Ontario, Canada. He is a determined, compassionate and talented individual who has written his first book. Michael has autism and an intellectual disability and is a passionate public speaker. He has presented to students at the secondary, college, and university levels, as well parents and teachers, about the importance of belonging and inclusion. He sits on the board of Community Living Ontario, through which he advocates for individuals like himself. Michael hopes to write many more books and continue to make an impact in the world through his stories.

### JOIN US AS MICHAEL SPEAKS AT OUR AGM!

## All Staff Meeting—May 8 2019

It was a workout for our minds and a chance to connect with co-workers - just two of the highlights of CL St. Marys first all staff meeting on May 8 at the St. Marys Golf and Country Club. 97 people attended (including 4 board members) and to make sure everyone could attend, the three hour session was held at three different times over the course of the day. Along with a fun and practical presentation from Mike Masse on mindfulness and self-compassion, there were updates on strategic planning, the mentoring program and the employment facilitator role. These gatherings are an important way to share information and to get feedback. For example there was an exercise where everyone was asked to share ideas on the three strategic planning directions. This collection of ideas will be given to the newly formed implementation group as they begin creating an action plan. There will be more all staff meetings to come, 2 every year. The next one will be on Thursday November 7, 2019. If you have ideas about the content of upcoming meetings please let Marg McLean know.



# Central Admin

A reminder to staff to access the **STAFF LOGIN** on our website. Some of the benefits include information on the Family Services Employee Assistance Program and Conversations that Matter as well as multiple downloadable forms including timesheets, staff travel, consent to share, vacation request etc. If you need assistance logging in, please contact Candace O’Hearn or Laura Cannon at [cohearn@clstmarys.ca](mailto:cohearn@clstmarys.ca) or [lcannon@clstmarys.ca](mailto:lcannon@clstmarys.ca) respectively.

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter electronically, visit our website at [www.communitylivingstmarys.ca](http://www.communitylivingstmarys.ca) to sign up. You may also send your email address and request to: [centraladmin@clstmarys.ca](mailto:centraladmin@clstmarys.ca)  
If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Candace O’Hearn at 519-284-1400 ext 221 or email [cohearn@clstmarys.ca](mailto:cohearn@clstmarys.ca)

**From Presence to Citizenship** is a project started several years ago with ten agencies from across the province coming together because of shared values and a desire to make positive, lasting changes. With leadership from CL Atikokan, highlights include—three dynamic learning exchange conferences, loads of agency to agency visits, tons of phone calls and emails regarding best practices, new ideas, and so much more!

In February, a Learning Commons was organized to launch a new 18 month project on Building & Sustaining Gift-Centred Cultures. Bruce Anderson of the Core Gift Institute provided us with wonderful material and facilitation. The following is part of a Training Reflections Poem created by Tanya Neumeyer, Poet In Residence:

**Welcome, welcome, welcome to this gift theory**  
**This gift thing that grows like a garden**  
**Cultivating a collective vision that doesn’t include isolation**  
**Through an openness in sharing**  
**And by “recognizing the value in others by offering a safe and honest space”**  
**For belonging, for being together, considering everyone’s stories....**  
**Building awareness is foundational and it takes time but**  
**“Cultures change more rapidly when stories travel”**

This project is very exciting and a Gift Guidance Group has been formed to support this journey of cultural change. How will you be part of it?



**Gifts Builds a Thriving Culture.**

**RELATIONSHIPS**  
My gifts help me know where and how to belong.

**MEANING-MAKING**  
My gifts are my deeper “WHY” and can help me heal.

**AUTHORITY**  
My gifts ground me and identify my most powerful self-interests.

**LEARNING**  
My gifts focus my direction and increase my motivation to learn.

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*Every good project needs room for fun and celebration!*

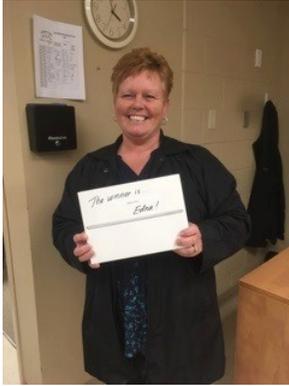


Please contact Jay DeZwart for any maintenance issues.

Contact Jay at 519-284-1400 x244 or email: [maintenance@clstmarys.ca](mailto:maintenance@clstmarys.ca)

Check out the inspiring short interviews with leaders in the disability movement at **Conversations That Matter** (link is on our website)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations Edna Willows on being the winner of the All Staff Meeting Prize!!

## A Complete Guide To Interacting With A Person Who Has A Disability

Step 1:

Treat the person like a human being.

Step 2:

Repeat Step 1.

www.arcgmc.org

### June 1 Tickets

Available at Lauren Whitney Lifestyles and Snapping Turtle Roasters! A portion of the profits will be donated to Community Living St. Marys and Area.



\$25 adv / \$30 door  
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT  
LAUREN WHITNEY LIFESTYLES

### Milestone Awards will be presented at the AGM:

- 5 yrs - Stuart Taylor  
Matt Brenner  
Mercedes Graham  
Lisa MacDonald  
Susan Graham
- 10 yrs - Elaine Primeau
- 15 yrs - Maureen Flanagan
- 20 yrs - D Ackersviller  
Peter Morgan  
Connie Seaton
- 25 yrs - Tracy Brant
- 30 yrs - Tamie Robertson-Coward
- 35 yrs - Paul Williams



Thank you Marion for 21 years of dedicated work with Community Living St. Marys and Area.

Enjoy your time with family and friends. Just think of all the time you will have for knitting and tai chi. Everyone will miss your warm smile, gentle nature and your go -with-the-flow attitude.

As you enter this next chapter in life, continue to share your gifts of kindness, respect and creativity with others.

We wish you all the very best!

"Retirement, a time to do what you want to do, when you want to do it, where you want to do it and how you want to do it," - Catherine Pulsifer

## IG WEALTH MANAGEMENT

*"CLSMA has received a very generous*

*donation from Marion Struss and IG Wealth Management Matching Gift Donation. Marion has been a strong supporter of our Association for many years. Her personal donations exceed \$30,000. It is with sincere gratitude that we acknowledge and thank Marion and IG."*



Marion Struss

## COMMUNITY LIVING ST. MARYS & AREA RAISED OVER \$1500.00! FOR THE HEART & STROKE BIG BIKE RIDE!

THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO SPONSORED AND PARTICIPATED!



### Employee Mentorship Program

We are still inviting qualified Support Workers to apply to be a mentor. If you feel you have some great experience and knowledge of our agency, aligning with the vision, mission and principles, have participated in agency initiatives, education and training opportunities, have done your Core Gift interview (or are willing to obtain and learn more about it), and have some time to devote to a newer employee, this might be the right opportunity for you.

Please contact Laura (lcannon@clstmarys.ca) for an application form if you are interested.

# Stratford FESTIVAL



## Relaxed Performances

The idea behind a relaxed performance is that it is a less restricted audience environment and they welcome people of all abilities. They also may adjust sound and lighting depending on the performance. It is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to experience live theatre.

This year's two relaxed performances are:  
Aug 7, 2pm Billy Elliot at the Festival Theatre  
Oct 2, 2 pm The Neverending Story at the Avon Theatre  
The tickets are \$39.00 each.  
To purchase tickets call 1-800-567-1600

**the local**  
community food centre

**ST MARYS  
COMMUNITY  
ACCESS  
MARKET**

For too many of our neighbours, the dual problem of high food prices and lack of adequate income are barriers to accessing healthy food.

The Mobile Community Access Market offers fresh local foods including veggies, fruits, and unprocessed meats to residents of St. Marys at wholesale prices.

**3rd THURSDAY of every month  
starting MAY 16th  
3pm - 5pm  
@THE PYRAMID FRIENDSHIP CENTRE**

Contact Jenn at [jenn@thelocalcfc.org](mailto:jenn@thelocalcfc.org) or call 519.508.3663 ext 1002 for more info.

**the local**  
community food centre

612 Erie St  
Stratford, ON  
N5A 1P2

### Employee Management Relations Committee

Provides a forum for discussion for all staff through their representative for matters of mutual interest and/or concern.

**Members:** Becky Huffman, Jen McCauley, Connie Seaton, Tamie Robertson-Coward, Carol Ackersviller, Mercedes Graham, Marg McLean, Jennifer Leslie, & Kim Monden



### The Joint Health & Safety Committee

Paul Williams, Jackie Haycock, Carol Ackersviller, Susan Graham, Linda Pickering, Kim Monden, Marg McLean.

Items of interest, dealings of the Health & Safety Committee and the minutes are posted at JPC in the photocopy room. Any concerns of a health and safety nature can be forwarded to the Chair Paul Williams at [pwilliams@clstmarys.ca](mailto:pwilliams@clstmarys.ca) or (519) 284-3620

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

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