Community Living Toronto Where choices change the lives of people with an intellectual disability

Connections

Community Living Toronto Teams Up With MLSE

By: Eric Laimer



The basketball pad in preparation for the concrete pouring.

Lawson Residence is a site blessed with space, both inside and out. The indoor gym has always seen lots of for people of all skill use but many people expressed an interest in taking those gym activities outside. While there is plenty of grass, there is little space for activities requiring a hard welcome addition for surface.

Shawn Ratnasingam, Scarborough Adult Day Program (ADP) and Passport Supervisor, had the idea to build a multifunctional sports pad and turned to Community Living Toronto's Fundraising Department to help make it happen.

With help from Tonya Dendrinos, Fundraising Coordinator, Shawn put together a proposal for \$15,788.27 to the Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment (MLSE) Team Up Foundation that included contracting costs and portable basketball nets.

The MLSE Team Up Foundation was created to help give kids access to sports and the opportunity to develop to fulfill their dreams on the playing field. With the support of all four MLSE teams – the Toronto Maple Leafs, Toronto Raptors, Toronto FC and Toronto Marlies - the Foundation funds the refurbishment and creation of local athletic facilities

and programs that support kids through sports and recreation.

Since launching in December 2009, the MLSE Team Up Foundation has invested more than \$6.5 million into communities across Toronto.

Work on the sports pad started in late July. While unpredictable weather threw a couple of detours in the work plan, the site was staked out, leveled and a solid foundation of concrete was laid. A path leading to the pad was also included to make the pad accessible for people in wheelchairs and walkers.

The final phase of this project is to paint lines for a basketball half court and then the pad will be ready for use. The two basketball nets are portable so that they can be easily removed and the pad used for other sports. One basketball net is of regulation size while the other is smaller to make the game more enjoyable

levels.

The pad will be a children and youth attending the Lawson Respite program. With the merging of the two ADP's in Scarborough Region back in 2010, the people in those programs will surely enjoy some hoops on a fine day as well.

A public ceremony is planned to formally open the sports pad and celebrate the partnership between Community Living Toronto and MLSE. Look for details in an upcoming edition of Connections.



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October 2012

News

Volunteer Leadership

Honourary Patron The Hon. David C. Onley Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

Patron's Council Chair Duncan N. R. Jackman

Founding Chair The Hon. Barbara McDougall

> Vice-Chair Andrea Alexander

Michael Adams The Hon. Zanana Akande Patsy Anderson Mary Pat Armstrong Brad Badeau Jalynn Bennett Chief William Blair David Crombie The Hon. William G. Davis Michael Enright W. Robert Farquharson Paul Godfrey Pooja Handa **Bob Hepburn** Dale Lastman Dr. Kellie Leitch Glenn McConnell Jack Rabinovitch Meredith Saunderson John H. Tory

> Board of Directors President Chris Stringer

> Ibrahim Absiye Colleen Broadhurst Anny Chow Paul Cochrane Lisa Ellis Victor Figueiredo Sherron Grant **Bonnie Heath** Morris Jesion Mark G. Johnson Colette Kent David Layton Nick Macrae Susan McCloy Susan G. Seller Stefica Skof Cay Shedden

Chief Executive Officer Garry Pruden

Annual General Meeting

We celebrated our 64th Annual General Meeting on September 11th. Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate in our achievements of the past year!



Patron's Council Chair Duncan Jackman, Guest Speaker John Tory and Board President Chris Stringer



Cay Shedden, Community Living Toronto CEO Garry Pruden and Jim Shedden



Community Living Toronto employees Jenna Martinuzzi and Laura Starret



MCSS Deputy Minister Marg Rappolt, Starbucks Canada's Kirsti Stubbs and Board member Susan G. Sellers



Donna Britten and Community Living Toronto's HR Director Gerry D'Amico



Community Living Toronto employee Felicita Zanatta and North York Region Chair Nancy Ceci

CORE

Provide Your Input on Draft Regulation

The Ministry of Community and Social Services has created a draft regulation regarding eligibility for adult developmental services, specifically regarding those who were receiving funding through Special Services at Home (SSAH) or Passport Funding. These two programs were funded differently, under the Ministry of Community and Social Services Act, not the old legislation.

This meant that under the new Social Inclusion of People with Developmental Disabilities Act, adults eligible to receive direct funding through the Special Services at Home and Passport Programs were not automatically eligible. To address this, MCSS has drafted a proposed regulation that clarifies eligibility, specifically:

Adults who:

- were receiving Passport Program funding as of April 1, 2012
- transitioned from Special Services at Home to the ٠ Passport Program on April 1, 2012
- were on the Special Services at Home waitlist as • of March 31, 2012
- applied and were found eligible for adult services and supports under the DSA between January 1, 2011 and June 30, 2011, and began to receive support or were waitlisted for support during that time.

Children who:

- are receiving Special Services at Home and will turn 18 by March 31, 2013
- turn 18 between April 1, 2012 and March 31, 2013 Fax: and are on a waitlist for Special Services at Home 416-325-5554 or toll-free 1-866-340-9112 before they turn 18.

If the regulation is approved transfer of eligibility will be automatic. The clarity it provides regarding who will be determined eligible for adult services

without going through the DSO process is helpful. However, this is not a guarantee of immediate access to service. This proposed regulation will not affect people who are already receiving adult developmental services and supports or are waiting to receive them.

Community Living Toronto is preparing feedback, which will be made available to the membership, via regional councils beginning in early October. We will also post our submission online once we've provided it to MCSS.

Families are encouraged to provide their comments to MCSS as well; the regulation will be posted until November 5, 2012 and submissions are being accepted until that time. The draft regulation has been posted on the ministry's website, along with an explanation of the regulation that is written in plain language: http://www.mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/ programs/developmental/regulation.aspx.

You can send your comments to MCSS in a number of ways:

Mail:

Comments on Draft Regulation Community and Developmental Services Branch Ministry of Community and Social Services 80 Grosvenor Street 4th Floor, Hepburn Block Toronto, Ontario M7A 1E9

Email:

dstransformation.css@ontario.ca



YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE SPECIAL EDUCATION INCLUSION TOWN HALL MEETINGS

WEST REGION

October 2, 2012 Runnymede CI 569 Jane St, Toronto

October 11, 2012 William Lyon Mackenzie C 20 Tillplain Rd, North York

EAST REGION

November 1, 2012 Stephen Leacock CI 2450 Birchmount Rd, Scarborough

November 8, 2012 R H King Academy 3800 St. Clair Ave E, Scarborough

All meetings will begin at 7 PM and end at 9 PM

If child care is required please contact the appropriate number indicated below at least one week prior to the event:

West: 416 394-7406

East: 416 396-9039

"To achieve excellence, we must be inclusive. To be inclusive we must be equitable. We have a vision that in two years, in 2014, students with varying abilities are working together, supporting each other and valuing everyone's contribution in a more inclusive environment."

Dr. Chris Spence, Director of Education, TDSB

Please join us at one of the meetings with your response to this question:

Imagine that you and your child are in 2014. Describe in detail what has changed from 2012 to 2014 that has contributed to achieving this vision. What new and different inclusive practices are in the classroom, in the school, and in our communities?

Please see reverse for additional information

Central News

Motion Specialties Fundraiser

Council Listings

Central Regional Council

Chairperson Peter Wakayama

> Vice Chair Lee Tarshis

Board Representative Susan McCloy

Alternate Board Representative Peter Wakayama

> Treasurer Susan McCloy

Chair of Fundraising Committee Judy Dawson

Members at Large Paul Cochrane Nelson Raposo Sandra Ricci David Danyluk Alda Zimbalatti Serena De Souza

Regional Executive Director Frances MacNeil

Membership Coordinator Felicita Zanatta 647-729-1210 fzanatta@cltoronto.ca

Contact Information Central Regional Office 20 Spadina Rd. Toronto, Ontario M5R 2S7

> T: 416.968.0650 F: 416.968.6463

Central Region Meeting: November 21, 2012 5:30 pm 20 Spadina Road Room 2B Motion Specialties in Leaside hosted a fundraiser barbecue with proceeds benefiting Community Living Toronto. The sunshine brought light, happiness and warmth on the afternoon of July 27th as did the smiling faces of all who participated in the fundraiser.

By David Bedard

Motion Specialties, a strong supporter of Community Living Toronto and its community members, kindly provided a part of their business space to host the event.

As the grills were lit, donations started to come in from various eager members of the community wanting to take part. Even members of the community who did not purchase any food or drinks still offered their support and made donations, which totaled over \$370 by day's end.

Everyone had fun with the music provided by St. John's Music, and the well attended event even included a visit from MPP Kathleen Wynne.

The overall goal of the fundraiser was not only met by the support shown from community members, but also by raising awareness of Community Living Toronto and the initiative for community involvement. This event represented a wonderful opportunity for those from Manson who came out and interacted with other members of the community while they enjoyed a freshly grilled lunch.

Many people in attendance were eager to learn more about Community Living Toronto and demonstrated their interest in our program. Community newspaper SNAP North Toronto also came out and published a piece on the fundraiser in their September issue.

This event was a great success and would not have been possible without the cooperation of the handful of energetic staff and volunteers from both Motion Specialties and Community Living Toronto. Thank you to Goldie and the team from Motion Specialties at Leaside for hosting the fundraising BBQ event. Thank you also for being our partner in the community.

See page 9 for more event photos.



Goldie, MPP Kathleen Wynne, Felicita



Kirk, Goldie, David, Deepak

Etobicoke /York News

Council Listings

Etobicoke/ York Regional Council

Chairperson Ann Marie Fierro

Board Representative Stefica Skof

Alternate Board Representative Laura Parsonson

> Treasurer Ruth Nagy

Airi Clifford Zdenka Bilic Mary Byne Janina Coulthard Wally Richards Joan Karout Gaston Karout Christine LeClair Peter Marrese Mary Pawson Stefica Skof Sharon Totafurno

Regional Executive Director Brad Saunders

Membership Coordinator Eric Laimer 647.729.0445 elaimer@cltoronto.ca

Contact Information Etobicoke/York Regional Office 295 The West Mall, Suite 204

Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 4Z4

T: 416.236.7621 F: 416.236.7673

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday Oct. 9th. 6:30 pm 295 The West Mall Suite 204 Boardroom

Fairy Tales Can Come True

By Eric Laimer



Susan Macklam finally meets Cinderella.

Since childhood, Susan Macklam has always loved Cinderella and dreamt of going to Walt Disney World to meet her. Recently she fulfilled that wish when she joined seven people from the Supported Independent Living Program (SIL) for a week long trip to Walt Disney World in Florida. it's challenges and became a small adventure story unto itself.

The tail end of Hurricane Issac brought some less than ideal conditions. Throughout the week a fair amount of rain fell mixed in with some very hot temperatures. However Susan remained undaunted.

Early in the week Susan went to the Magic Kingdom in anticipation of finally meeting Cinderella. Upon entering the Magic castle Susan dropped to her knees in excitement. "Oh my gosh, oh my gosh!" she cried. The moment that she dreamt of was about to take place but there was one small problem. Cinderella wasn't there!

Susan made plans to try again later in the week and enjoyed other attractions at Walt Disney World such as Animal Continued on page 13.

Meeting Cinderella wasn't without

How Can We Help You?

Etobicoke/ York Region Council will be hosting a round table discussion for parents to network with other parents, voice concerns and develop ideas for future meetings and programs. Your input is very important to us. We are your Council, we want to work for you; always for the benefit of the people we serve. Join us, keep the passion alive.

> Tuesday November 20th 6:30 pm Coffee 7:00-8:00pm Meeting Etobicoke/ York Region Office 295 The West Mall, Suite 204

RSVP to: Eric Laimer 647-729-0445 or elaimer@cltoronto.ca

North York News

Council Listings

North York Regional Council

Chairperson Nancy Ceci

Board Representative Colleen Broadhurst

Alternate Board Representative Morris Jesion

> Treasurer TBD

Self Advocate Representative Sam McKhail

> Members at Large Teresa Bhandal Shirley Germuska Eva Lipa Dr. Norbert Kerenyi

Regional Executive Director Brad Saunders

Membership Coordinator Wendy Dyke 647-729-3627 wdyke@cltoronto.ca

Contact Information

North York Regional Office 1122 Finch Ave. W., Unit 18 Toronto, Ontario M3J 3J5

> T: 416.225.7166 F: 416.225.8623

Note: No Meeting of Council in October

Next Council Meeting:

November 5, 2012 North York Office Boardroom 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Community Garden Plot

By Dianne Doan, Support Worker III



Shrivraj stops hoeing for a photo.

In late winter, the North York garden group planted tomatoes from seed and if you came in through the main entrance of the Employment Training Services (ETS) you would have seen the tomatoes welcoming the spring sun.

We were lucky enough to make a connection with the 'Less Mess' group of soil aggregates at the Canada Blooms Show and negotiated a considerable savings on two large bags of earth for our allotment garden at the Four Winds community garden located at Keele and Finch.

This is our third year of growing vegetables and flowers here at plot ninety-six. Several of our program participants enjoy the exercise and opportunity to learn more about where our food comes from.

We have since transplanted our seedlings into their summer home, along with green peppers, yellow beans, squash, cucumbers, some herbs and a special request for radishes and pumpkins. The group goes to the garden twice a week to weed and water.

Now that harvest time is upon us. participants are sharing in the bounty: Shrivraj, who helped with hoeing and watering the garden, took home a large zucchini for the group home staff to cook. Rachel helped with watering, picking tomatoes, and took green peppers home to her mom. Sunshine, who loves to water the garden, took home tomatoes and green peppers. Gordon helped water the garden and took tomatoes home. Jim also did some of the watering and was offered tomatoes but declined them. Most of the produce is being shared with the participants to enjoy fresh garden produce and to supplement their food budget.

With these fresh vegetables, we have also made some stir fry zucchini dishes. Rachel and Linda used their culinary skills to cut up the zucchini. Rachel, Linda, Gordon and Sunshine grated zucchini and we made muffins in the ETS kitchen to sell at break time. Katina who makes hot lunches on Thursdays has used tomatoes and green pepper in the salads she serves. We also have three pumpkins we are watching grow to use for our Halloween decorations.

The group has had an amazing summer learning about where and how our food grows. They look forward to doing this again next year.

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Scarborough News

Council Listings

Scarborough Regional Council

Co-Chairpersons Judith Andrenacci Alison Thomas

Board Representative Bonnie Heath

Alternate Board Representative Donna Britten

> Treasurer Alison Thomas

Membership Chair Pat Sparks

Self Advocate Representative Robert Shaddock

> Members at Large Donna Britten Donald Hale Deborah White Kathy Lisle Ellen Armstrong

Regional Executive Director Sue Lynch

Membership Coordinator Ann-Marie Binetti 647-729-1635 abinetti@cltoronto.ca

Contact Information Scarborough Regional Office 1712 Ellesmere Rd. Scarborough, Ontario M1H 2V5

> T: 416.438.6099 F: 416.438.6144

Next Council Meeting: Monday, November 5th 2012 6:30 pm Boardroom 1712 Ellesmere Rd Conference Room

Rebecca Beayni Receives Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

By: Rebecca and Susan Beayni

"Revel in the Light", the name of Rebecca's first film, was the theme that Rebecca Beavni presented to the United Nations (UN) in 2005 before a committee developing a UN Convention around the inclusion and self-determination of people with disabilities. In August 2012, the release of her second film, "Dance in the Shadow, the unfolding story of Rebecca Beavni"caused a flurry of excitement in over twenty five countries where it has been shown within the period of one month. Now thirty years old, Rebecca's life and hopes continue to burst through the seams of her disability. She brings her message of hope online.

Rebeccabeayni.com continues the work of Rebecca and her circle of support in their continued journey through the limits of social justice toward a deepening of community capacity for us all. "Rebecca Beayni's message is deeply inspirational and profoundly important to the well being of the human community. I look forward to Rebecca's new website, the content of which is guaranteed to be outstanding!" said Keith Powell, former Executive Director of Community Living Ontario

Rebecca is an active communicator, a recognized dancer, painter, and an inspiring presenter in the education field. Her website is one more tool inviting people to dream of a more compassionate society where everyone's gifts are recognized and welcomed.

Rebecca deeply values the importance of interdependence in her own life and her personal witness speaks to the necessity

for deep connections and solid relationships for all people. Rebecca's hope is that the site's visitors will allow this message to impact them and in small ways help families, friends, communities and larger social systems to work towards positive social change.

Rebecca has recently been recognized for her global work by being awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. She was nominated by the Canadian Association for Community Living. She is deeply grateful for the support she has been given to continue her work and for the great honour that has been bestowed upon her. www.rebeccabeayni.com



Rebecca Beayni in front of the UN

News, cont'd...

Motion Specialties Fundraiser



Felicita and David Grilling Hot Dogs



Enjoying the BBQ



Mike and Nicola



Amir

Central Region Council Dinner Club Wednesday Evenings 4 pm to 7:30 pm 30 Birch Avenue

\$5 for a great meal and friendship.

Please call Felicita Zanatta at 647-729-1210 for information

 \bigstar **POP CAN CLUB** ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Day: Saturdays ☆ ☆ Time: 6:30-9:00 pm ☆ ☆ At: Wallace Emerson Community Centre, 1260 Dufferin Street ☆ ☆ Fee: Free ☆ ☆ Age: Youth and Adults (14 yrs. and over) \bigstar ☆ ☆ ☆ The Pop Can Club is a drop in program that runs every Saturday evening at Wallace Emerson ☆ Community Centre. It's a free program that offers sports, fine arts, a light snack and a lot of opportunities ☆ ★ to be social and have fun! Come out to see old friends or to make new ones! Participate in new activities \bigstar ★ each Saturday and bring a friend or two along! The group also celebrates each season with themed ☆ ☆ dances. For more information call City of Toronto; Parks, Forestry and Recreation- Adapted and ☆ \star Integrated Services 416-397-4690. ☆ ☆ \bigstar

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News, cont'd...

Inclusive Education Awards Handed Out At AGM



Alisa Vandertoom, centre, with Marg Rappolt, Deputy Minister, MCSS and Community Living Toronto Board Member Sherron Grant

Each year at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), Community Living Toronto presents awards to teachers, educational assistants, principals, and at times, entire schools who promote inclusion of students with an intellectual disability. As exemplified by this year's award recipients, inclusion is much more than a desk in a classroom.

Nominations were submitted from across Torontofrom both the public and Catholic boards- by parents, students and colleagues. This year, the Inclusive Education awards were presented to Alisa Vandertoorn from Terry Fox Public School and Michelle DeSouza, teaching assistant at Holy Angels Catholic School .

The following is an excerpt from the introduction given at the AGM about Alisa Vandertoon and her dedication to inclusive education.

"Alisa Vandertoorn's grade one program has served as a perfect example of an inclusive classroom. She has students of all levels and abilities and treats every student with the utmost respect and care.

She actively seeks out strategies to meet children where they are in their learning journey. She does not hesitate to share her knowledge with other colleagues to help the children in their classes too. Alisa attends many workshops to develop her professional knowledge and she is happy to present her findings and ideas in a variety of professional settings.

Alisa always has a sunny disposition and a lot of energy! She ensures that ongoing assessments are completed in her classroom, and is in constant communication with the school support team so that she is always giving her students what they need to learn. Alisa modifies and accommodates for all of her



From I to r: Marg Rappolt, Michelle DeSouza, and Sherron Grant

students and demonstrates great sensitivity not only to her students but their parents as well. She appreciates parental input in regards to their child's learning, and welcomes them into her classroom as volunteers. She also welcomes in student volunteers from high schools and the faculty - anything to give her students some more one-on-one time for learning and to attend to her students' different learning styles."

Michelle DeSouza, teaching assistant at Holy Angels Catholic School was the recipient of the second Inclusive Education Award handed out at the AGM. Her dedication to inclusive education was well documented in the introduction given in her honour.

"Ms DeSouza is nominated for her outstanding work in a senior kindergarten class with a young boy who has autism. Ms. DeSouza works tirelessly to make inclusion her priority. She deeply values inclusive education and uses each and every opportunity to provide various experiences for the student so he can fully benefit from being in the classroom with typically developing peers. Ms DeSouza is a great asset to the classroom and is loved by all of the children in the class. She is constantly bringing things in not only for her student but for all the children in the kindergarten room. She is very caring and truly passionate about her work. Once when talking with her nominator, she stated "Inclusion is my Passion". One can clearly see this when observing her working in the classroom. "

Congratulations to Alisa Vandertoorn and Michelle DeSouza for their outstanding work and dedication to inclusive education.

Bridging Diversity

Connecting with Newcomers Through Mentoring

In our continuing effort to outreach to diverse communities, we recently partnered with the settlement agency CultureLink to provide newcomers to Canada an opportunity to volunteer with the Bridging Diversity Project. CultureLink's Community Connections Mentorship Program brings new and established Canadians together to build a strong, more welcoming and inclusive community. This was Community Living Toronto's first year partnering with this innovative mentorship program.

Our role, as the Bridging Diversity Project mentors, was to meet weekly with the mentees for six months to exchange knowledge and skills in a number of areas including English communication and Canadian workplace culture. There were initially four mentees who joined us, but due to other commitments only two newcomers were able to meet regularly. We had the pleasure of working with Lerma from the Philippines and Ping from China. Both of the mentees brought extensive knowledge and experience to our meetings, as Ping has a background as a teacher, and Lerma as a social worker.

The role of the mentees was to support our outreach to diverse communities and to become ambassadors of the Bridging Diversity Project. This included learning Community Living Toronto's mission, vision and key messages, practicing how to give presentations after learning this information, and translating key messages into Tagalog and Mandarin. Through our joint community outreach we were able to make connections with the Chinese and Filipino communities because of the mentees' connections.

Our activities together included:

- English language conversation circles
- Discussions about Canadian culture generally and in the workplace
- Mock interviews
- Walking tours of Toronto neighbourhoods

- Learning about the Bridging Diversity Project's key messages and
- Participating in community outreach

This partnership was such a success, we hope to explore further opportunities with the CultureLink mentorship program! For more information about CultureLink go to: <u>www.culturelink.ca</u>



Ping, Katelyn (York MSW student) and Lerma exploring the Annex neighbourhood.

Did You Know?

- In 2010 about 78% (92,181) of Ontario's permanent residents settled in the Toronto Metropolitan area.
- Since 2003 more than 240 Bridge Training programs have assisted approximately 50,000 internationally trained newcomers in Ontario to get their license or certificate in their profession or trade.

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada



Self-Advocates Council Update

Self-Advocates Council Listings

Vegetable Harvest at Foster's Community Garden –Thank you BMO

By: Sue Hutton

Chairperson Robert Shaddock

Vice-Chair Sam McKhail

Board Representative Paul Cochrane

Community Living Ontario Representative Peter Marrese

> Treasurer/Secretary Robbie Cowdrey

Members At Large

Caseen Johnson Candice Doherty Lorraine Bradley Margherita Cappiello Mark Miller Mike Murray Nelson Raposo Nick Lappas

Community Support Coordinator Sue Hutton 647-729-1205 shutton@cltoronto.ca

SAC Meetings are Held the third Monday of each month at 1PM at 20 Spadina.

Next Council Meeting: October 15, 11 am 20 Spadina.



Caseen and Bill display the latest harvest.

Self Advocates Council (SAC) member Caseen Johnson overlooks the lush vegetable garden right outside Foster's Club House. "I like to do the watering." Caseen says, holding some fresh kale. "We take care of the plants."

Foster's volunteer Bill Rolfe holds ripe green peppers – asking questions about them. These are not foods that Caseen or Bill normally have a chance to eat. "I only have a microwave to use in my apartment ", Bill says with disappointment. "It's really good that I get to eat salads here at Foster's."

Foster's facilitator, Jeff Cook, joins in the conversation while staking up the ripening tomato plants. Jeff shares that the Bank of Montreal (BMO) generously donated the Gardens. Everyone at Foster's Club House has been learning about vegetables. "We have all been learning together – there is so much potential in this garden!" Jeff has been researching community gardens and sees terrific opportunities on so many levels.

Caseen and Bill both love the healthy foods that come out of Wellness Wednesdays at the Club House. Members have all tried something from the garden this summer. Beans and snap peas went quickly and kale went into the pasta sauce made this week.

The nursing students who helped with Wellness Wednesdays noted that diabetes, high cholesterol and high blood pressure are extremely common for people with not enough money for healthy foods. With most Club House members living on ODSP (Ontario Disability Support Program), the community garden has the potential to have an incredible impact on their health. Jeff and all the Club House members are incredibly grateful for BMO's donation of the beautiful garden.

Interested in helping out with the garden? Contact Jeff Cook to find out about the next Garden Club meeting at jcook@cltoronto.ca or 416-926-0010.



Bill has the fresh yellow tomatoes ready to garnish chicken burgers and hamburgers.

Resources, Networking And You

Have You Considered the LBS Program?

The Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) program is offered through the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) with funding from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) and Employment Ontario.

This program is offered to adults who speak English and want to upgrade their literacy skills for employment opportunities, apprenticeship, secondary school credit, post-secondary, or for everyday life skills and improving their confidence.

An individual interested in attending the program needs to contact an assessment center in their area. A placement test is conducted by the Toronto District School Board to:

- determine eligibility
- literacy level
- goals you want to achieve from attending the literacy program
- determines the site that would best suit your literacy goals

Some locations are specifically for individuals with an intellectual disability. The TDSB assessment center will discuss this with you during assessment. Note that you would be responsible for transportation to the

Fairy Tales Can Come True

Continued from page 6

Kingdom, Epcott Centre and Hollywood Studios.

With some help from the amazing hotel staff, plans were set to see Cinderella on the last day of the trip.

After a 45 minute wait in line, Susan still had to make her way through all of the other princesses. Snow White, Sleeping Beauty and Alice in Wonderland were magical and charming but Susan was only focused on seeing Cinderella. Finally the moment came. Susan was completely star struck. She program.

Currently there are spaces available. For more information:

- go to the LBS website at http://LBS.tdsb.on.ca
- email the Literacy and Basic Skills program at LBS@tdsb.on.ca
- or contact the assessment center in the area where you live

SOUTH Bickford Centre 777 Bloor Street West Toronto 416-393-1995

WEST Burnhamthorpe 500 The East Mall Etobicoke 416-394-3809

EAST Terraview Learning Centre 1641 Pharmacy Avenue Scarborough 416-386-6904

could barely contain her excitement. Cinderella took plenty of time to chat with Susan, signed the autograph book that she purchased specifically for the occasion and together they posed for several pictures. It was truly a magical moment.

Shortly after, Susan had her favourite picture framed and also purchased a plush Cinderella doll as a memento.

Susan is typically anxious on airplanes but the trip home was different this time. With fond memories to reflect on and her Cinderella souvenirs, Susan had a relaxing flight home. It was the trip of a lifetime.

Events / Workshops

North York Halloween Dance

Friday October 26th, 6:30-8:30 pm 1122 Finch Avenue West, Unit 16

For registration and information contact: Wendy Dyke 647-729-3627 wdyke@cltoronto.ca Or Flora Nichols 416-638-7042 fnichols@cltoronto.ca

Flu Clinic

Toronto EMS Public Health Department

November 19, 2012 1 –3 p.m. 20 Spadina Road, Room 1 First come first served

For more information contact: Felicita Zanatta, 647-729-1210

Victoria Park Hub Fall Walk & BBQ

Enjoy a leisurely walk in the Victoria Park Village Everyone Welcome!

Saturday October 13, 2012

Starting at Sloane Public School 110 Sloane Avenue, North York

Ending at the East Toronto Chinese Baptist Church 22 Carnforth Road

Note: There is a wheelchair accessible route

TIME: 10 am to 1 pm

Must Pre-Register to Participate

Call to Register: Flora Nichols 647-729-3645 Or Wendy Dyke 647-729-3627 Support Group for Parents of Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder

> Ancaster Community Centre 41 Ancaster Road, North York Every other Thursday 9:30 am to 11:00 am

To learn more & to register contact: Rachele Zilli at 647-729-3634

Pizza/Bingo Night at Victoria Park Hub!

Thursday November 15, 6 - 8 p.m. 1527 Victoria Park Avenue E.

> Everyone Welcome! \$2.00 Cover Charge

Call to register! Flora Nichols: 647-729-3645 Wendy Dyke: 647-729-3627

Space is Limited!

Calendar of Events

October 2012

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|--------------------------|---|---|-----|--|---|
| | 1 Scarb. Council Mtg. | 2 Scarborough Residential Alternatives | 3 Central Dinner Club | 4 | 5 Lawson Dance | 6 Tri Hard Bowling |
| 7 | 8 | 9 Etobicoke Council Meeting | 10 Central Dinner Club Central Council Meeting | 11 | 12 | 13 Central Youth Group Hub Fall Walk |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 Central Dinner Club | 18 | 19 Scarborough Bingo | 20 Tri Hard Bowling |
| 21 | 22 SAC Meeting | 23 | 24 Central Dinner Club | 25 | 26 Connections Dance NY Halloween Dance | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 Central Dinner Club | | | |

November 2012

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Central Region: Felicita Zanatta 647-729-1210 | Etobicoke/ York Region: Eric Laimer 647-729-0445 | North York Region: Wendy Dyke 647-729-3627 | Scarborough Region: Ann-Marie Binetti 647.729.1635 | 1 | 2 Lawson Dance | 3 Tri Hards Bowling Central Youth Group |
| 4 | 5 NY Council Mtg Scarb. Council Mtg. | 6 Scarborough Residential Alternatives | 7 Central Dinner Club | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 Etobicoke Council Meeting | 14 Central Dinner Club | 15 Hub Pizza/Bingo | 16 Scarborough Bingo | 17 Tri Hards Bowling |
| 18 | 19 Central Flu Clinic | 20 Etobicoke Council Discussion Group | 21 Central Council Meeting Central Dinner Club | 22 | 23 | 24 Community Rocks |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Central Dinner Club | 29 | 30 Connections Dance | |









