

Around Hopewell

Fall 2009

Dear Friends... Updates by John

As the season is changing rapidly, we see also changes inside Hopewell. We have recently welcomed Robert into our children's home and soon Kayla will join as well. Bedrooms are seeing fresh coats of paint and a start has been made for the construction of the new pool. We are preparing for the flu season and are awaiting the final decision from Public Health in regards to the H1N1 vaccine.

Board members, staff and parents will be selling 50/50 tickets during the Guelph Storm game on October 9th as part of our Campaign of Hope. A condition for this fundraiser is that Hopewell will sell 150 game tickets for the (Friday) October 23 game (Oshawa Generals at the Storm). Let John or Sara know if you are interested in buying game tickets. **Playsense has seen** a number of

successful camps during the summer. The Rotary Club of Guelph South will hold its fourth annual Spelling Bee at the Guelph Place Banquet Hall on Thursday, Oct 22nd with proceeds going to Michael House, Dr. William Tytler Reading Trust and PLAYSENSE! Playsense which has been a recipient during the past 2 years; will again send a team of one parent, one board member and one staff. We welcome pledges to support this event. Pledges of \$20.00 or more (payable to the Rotary Club of Guelph South) will receive a tax receipt. You can also attend this terrific event by buying a \$30.00 dinner ticket.

Stephanie Home has also had a very busy summer with many outings. I continue to receive great feedback as to

how well the staff is tuned in to the needs of families.

In light of these economic times we are thankful to be able to continue to offer our services. Unfortunately charities such as Hopewell, despite receiving a majority of government supports are not excluded from the same financial stresses experienced by others, and are reducing expenses where we can and trying to become more creative.

John Oosterhuis



CAMPAIGN OF HOPE

As mentioned earlier, we have started with the first phase of our capital campaign, which is the pool! Special thanks to recent fundraisers: Flash Freight in Ariss; Bob Ball's The "Old Blue Golf Classic"; and an event at Labatt's to launch a new Man Tracker series, featuring Andrew Oosterhuis and his friend Hainsley. The picture above shows Hopewell receiving a large donation from the Rotary Club of Guelph, this being the seed money for the pool. Many thanks also to individual supporters for their donations.



A summer full of excitement and trips to the Lion Safari, St. Jacob's Market, the Market place, and some picnics in the park has flown by.

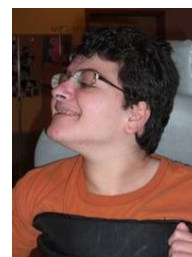
The Children's Home is seeing some rooms made over as we have welcomed Robert into our program, and prepare to welcome Kayla on Thanksgiving weekend. School has started again and we are pleased to welcome back Stephanie after her maternity leave! Anita has also joined us once again as our E.A.

The Adult Home as well is seeing some changes. Beds have been moved around. Trevor was welcomed into the adult program in April and more recently



Paul moved in (both from the Children's Home).

The Adult Program is also in full swing and these mornings, you can hear the sound of bells and drums and smell various "sweets" baking for residents to



enjoy a taste. When you're in be sure to check out the "sensory room" that has been set up in the living room in the "West Wing"

Please feel free to visit our programs or let us know if you're interested in joining us on an outing!

Sara Kavanagh

Christmas is just around the corner!!!

Keep an eye on our website at www.hopewellchildrenshomes.ca for dates of Christmas happenings at all three locations!

Stephanie Home swam through yet another busy summer enjoying some of our favourite excursions especially our many Conservation areas for hiking, swimming and exploring the wild world of Nature. Other outings included Bingemans, The Toronto Zoo, African Lion Safari, Markets, petting a stingray or two at Marineland and let's not forget a picture perfect moment at Niagara Falls!



As fast as summer began so too did it end as we fell straight into fall. Stephanie Home looks forward to

enjoying a few more weeks of nice weather. While Mother Nature paints her canvass in many beautiful colours we will take full advantage frolicking in the leaves and strolling through the forests at our neighbouring conservations. The many crafts that the fall inspires with Thanksgiving and Halloween are sure to add to the array of décor always to be found at Stephanie Home.



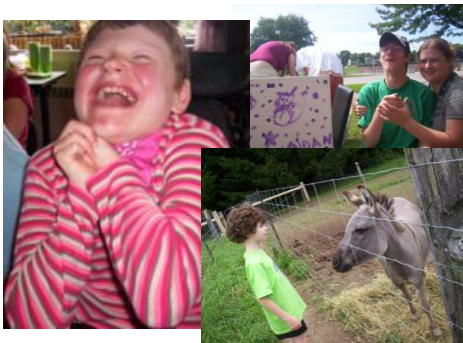
The sun has already begun to go to "bed" early and although we know this means winter is just around the corner we also know that brings so many more fun activities to be had – tubing, skating, snow forts, snow angels



and more! Stephanie Home awaits the holiday season and looks forward to the many home-baked treats, crafts songs and warmth the season always seems to generate!

This fall we have not had to say goodbye to any of our staff BUT at the end of December we will wish our Michele all the best as she adventures "down under" for a couple of years to continue her education. All the best Michele and we look forward to your return in a short couple of years!

Erin Fitzgerald



Five fun filled camps were held over the summer at Playsense. In addition to the usual compliment of summer activities, children and teens enjoyed outings to the boathouse for ice cream, games in the park, not to mention visits with a variety of creatures from Guelph Lake, and introductions to Wilbur the pig. Thank you Marketplace staff for so warmly welcoming all of our campers! **It was a summer** of "firsts" for many: The first time – on a bus, on a train, on a merry-go-round! Holding a snake! And most significantly for a couple, the first

time at camp! A huge heartfelt thank you to the ministry for supporting all of our campers this year! We had tons of fun. (A high five to the Supporting Kids in Camp staff and Katie for your hard work...you do make a difference!)

Karen Calzonetti

BOO! HALLOWEEN IS SNEAKING UP SoooooN!

1. Children 6 & up are invited to join us for a Halloween party Wednesday October 28th from 4-6pm.
2. Our third annual Halloween Dance for Teens is on Friday October 30th from 7-9pm.

Registration is required for both of these events. Don't forget to wear your costumes!

Upcoming Fall Events:

SHAKE IT UP classes! Cost: \$30.00

This fun fitness group will get your child moving before they know it! Classes combine dance, yoga and games in an environment focused on fun & friendship. Classes run for 4 consecutive Tuesdays: 5:30-6:30pm.

1. Shake It Up for Children (6-12 yrs)
October 6, 13, 20 and 27th

2. Shake It up for Teens (13-21 yrs)
November 3, 10, 17 and 24th

TEEN THURSDAYS (AGE 12& UP)

Teens are invited to Playsense for social activities from 6:30-8:00pm. A variety of teen-oriented activities will be offered including board games, music & karaoke, visual arts, teen talk & current events discussions.

SIBLING SATURDAYS:

Oct 31, Nov 28, & Dec 19

Siblings of *any* age may join for a visit to Playsense to play with their brothers and/or sisters! Join us on the last Saturday every month!