



# CLM POST

## 'Tis the Season!

On December 4th, staff, board members, Individuals, family, and missionary church members, all got together to celebrate the Christmas season. The missionary church was gracious enough to donate their time, venue, and a delicious feast for all to enjoy.

Dinner included a turkey (which our own John Caruso cooked all by himself!), stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, carrots, peas, bun, and an array of delicious desserts. There was more than enough to go around, with some people going back for seconds!

And what better way to help digest that turkey, than to sing an array of Christmas carols! Steve Clark made his way to the piano and filled the room with holiday spirit. He started playing some classic Christmas carols, which soon became contagious, and everyone started to join together and sing.

Shortly after the Individuals exchanged presents. Girls brought one girl present, and the boys brought boy girl present to give away. The excitement

on everyone's faces as they opened their gifts, was something truly magical.

Needless to say, a fabulous time was had by all.

Community Living Manitoulin would like to extend a sincere thank you to Pastor Ray and all the kitchen volunteers who helped make the dinner possible.

Merry Christmas!



*Eric, Megan, Tyler and Jamie all smile for the camera!*



*Amy, Linda and Marie Claire singing their hearts out!*



*< Norm and Frank opening their gifts!*

Community Living  
Manitoulin

## John Phillip's Joke of the Month:

What bus was the first bus to cross the ocean?



Columbus!



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## A Case of the Crafties

Members at Day Program have been very busy this holiday season making all sorts of crafts to sell or give to friends and family for Christmas. They have made teddy bears dipped in scented wax, reindeer treats,

copper Christmas trees, candles, cookies in a jar, and 3D snowflakes kits. If you missed an opportunity to buy some of the homemade knick-knacks at the craft shows, many of the items can be found at Everything Under the Sun consignment store in Mindemoya. CLM

also wants to thank Doug Clark for kindly bringing in wooden bird houses for the guys to paint, along with other wood crafts.



*← Bruce, Jamie, and Clarissa showing off big smiles as they pose at their table during a craft show.*



Jamie Pyette is expanding his photography business! After his initial debut at the craft show, the word of Jamie's photography talent spread like wildfire. To help keep up with the demand of prints, a website was created to help organize the orders and to make viewing the pictures from home possible.

To view Jamie's website, visit the website below:

<http://mdubray.wix.com/jamiepyette>



## First Aiders

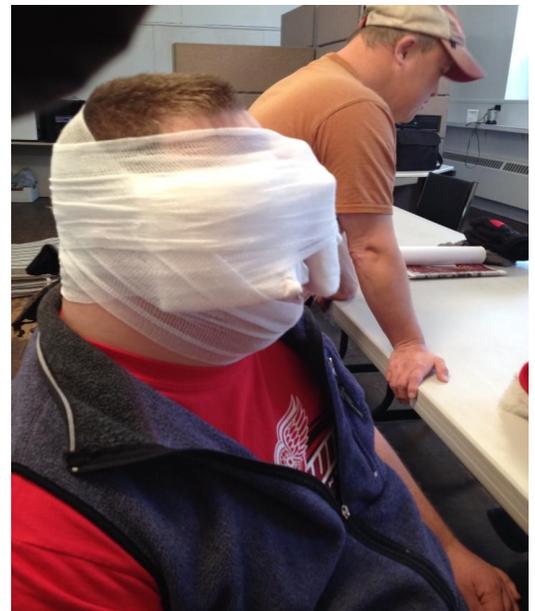
Individuals within CLM have been taking part in a First Aid course. The course is run by local paramedic, Monic Shaw. Participants in the course have the opportunity to learn the basics of first aid, act out real life scenarios, and how to properly bandage different wounds. We urge Individuals to take advantage of the course, and contact Wendy Friesen (705-377-6699 ext. 26) if interested. The course is open to anyone within CLM who wants to participate.



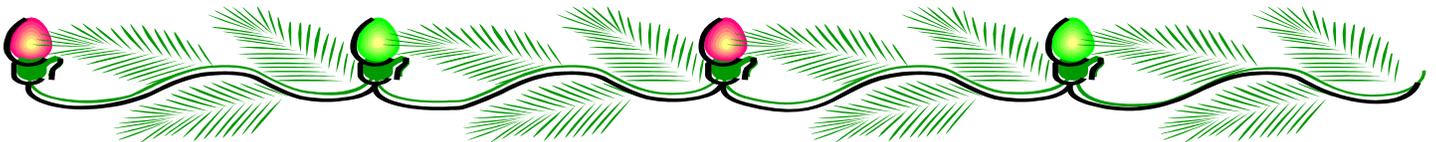
*Art showing off his sling*



*Matt displaying his homemade sling*



*Guess who?! Brock is all bandaged*



**Everything Under the Sun**  
**Winter Hours**  
**Mon-Fri: 9:00am-4:30pm**  
**Saturday: 9:00am-4:30pm**  
**Sunday: CLOSED**



## 'Twas the Night Before Christmas at CLM

*'Twas the night before Christmas  
And all through CLM  
Not a creature was stirring  
Not even at Day Program*

*The Individuals were nestled all  
snug in their beds,  
While visions of Christmas morning  
danced in their heads;  
The trees had been decorated, all  
shiny and bright  
Staff was hoping it would be a quiet  
night*

*When out in Maple Terrace there  
arose such a clatter,  
Chris sprang from the desk to see  
what was the matter.  
Away to the common room he flew  
like a flash,  
Only to see Shirley having her own  
Christmas bash*

*"Shirley, why are you up? You must  
go to bed.  
Santa won't come, if he see's you're  
awake." Chris said.  
"But I want to meet him, good ol'  
Mr. Clause,  
Plus I already invited everyone  
from Field House."*

*As soon as Shirley finished speak-  
ing, appearances were made  
Sonia, Richelle, Collette, Carlene,  
Anthony, and Elizabeth invade.  
Chris scratched his head, wondering  
what to do  
He says, "Ahh, what the heck" and  
his smile grew.*

*Not a minute later, here comes more  
Katie, David, Bradley, Cathy, Travis  
and Steven come through the door.  
Everyone was dressed in their favour-  
ite holiday wear  
The spirit of Christmas was thick in the  
air.*

*Chris looked around to find the place  
seemed packed  
When in came David, Tim, Brock,  
Clayton, Arthur, and Bruce to inter-  
act.  
Then just as you were thinking this  
may all be a CLM prank  
In came Rachelle, Sam, Clarissa, Nor-  
mand, and Frank*

*All the staff and people in SIL, showed  
up to the celebration  
With them, they brought food, smiles,  
and more decoration.*

*The entire house stood in a pause  
When they looked to the door, there  
stood Santa Clause!  
"Ho Ho Ho! I'm here to spread cheer,  
It's nice to see, the gangs all here!"*

*The evening celebration was a grand  
time had by everyone  
It was a magical night, not soon to be  
forgotten.  
On behalf of everyone at Community  
Living Manitoulin  
"Merry Christmas to all," We say with  
a grin!*



## Recognizing Our Staff



*Jackie Batman, the chair of the board of directors, congratulates Ann Johnston on the completion of her DSW degree.*

### Did You Know?

The average college student is older than people usually assume. Over one in three college students begin their education after the age of 25, even though it's assumed that students usually go straight into college from high school. One in five college students begin after the age of 30.

Community Living Manitoulin and the board of directors have created a way to inspire their staff to pursue education. An award of \$500.00 will be given to staff for successfully completing either a degree or diploma in a program that will enhance the quality of service at CLM

Ann Johnston, an employee and a recipient of the award, took a break from her employment here to expand her knowledge in the workplace. She traveled to Sarnia and went back to school as an adult learner at Lambton College as they offer the DSW (Developmental Services Worker) in a compressed one year course.

"We are very proud of her persistence and commitment to success and congratulate her on this award," stated John Caruso, the Executive Director for Community Living.

Under her belt, Ann already has her nursing assistant diploma, a PSW diploma, an office administration diploma, and a palliative care diploma.

In Ann's case, knowledge is power. As a result of her

recent education, Ann was promoted from a CI worker to a primary care councillor at Hope Terrace.

"The reason why I went back to school was so I could gain knowledge, and better advocate for our Individuals. The field that I work in is going through constant changes, and I just wanted to have the most up to date education," Ann explained.

In this day and age, higher education has become almost essential when one is looking to advance their career

"I recommend to everyone that they keep on learning and growing as a person as it will not only improve their work prospects, it will increase their self-worth and their quality of life," stated John.

Ann would also like to send out a personal thank you to her professor, Janice Smith at Lambton College.

She would also like to thank her friends, family and her fellow co-workers. Her support system was the cornerstone in receiving her education.

## A Note from our Executive Director

As 2013 comes to a close I reflect on the past year at Community Living Manitoulin, the progress that we have made as an Agency and the challenges that we will face in 2014.

Over the past year I have had the opportunity to work on many challenges with members of our staff who are dedicated to making this Agency a better place to work and a better place to live for the Individuals that we support. As an Association and a community we have had to say good-bye to three of our core members who died of natural causes. This has been difficult for staff and their friends, who call our community home.

Our board of directors has provided CLM with excellent leadership and direction. They are committed to guiding the agency towards achieving excellence in governance, service, and policy practices. They have provided me with the support that I need to implement their governance direction and operational decisions. Without their support and confidence, the role of ED would be difficult, if not impossible.

2013 saw the agency deal with a difficult Ministry compliance review. This review identified a number of internal operational and policy deficiencies that required immediate action. The management team and many members of our unionized staff rose to the occasion to address these deficiencies in a timely and effective manner, resulting in the Agency meeting all required compliance standards.

2013 also saw the launch of a capital campaign to replace our current Day Program building. This is a long term project, but we need to start now as the current building is too small, in constant need of repair and is poorly insulated, resulting in very high heating costs. In addition, we have secured approval from the Ministry to enter into an agreement with Blue Goose Pure Foods to pasture Black Angus cattle on the Hope Farm property in 2014.

2014 will see the completion of our business case study to have a new apartment complex built for an enhanced supportive independent living program. If successful, this complex will enable Individuals who desire more independence to leave group living and achieve their goal of having their own place to live, while providing them with the daily support that they need.

2014 will also see CLM enter into collective bargaining with our unionized workers. As the provincial government fiscal restraint program continues, transfer agencies such as ours continue to operate with 0% budget increases. This fact will require both parties to approach collective bargaining with creativity and commitment to continued service delivery and change.

I look forward to working with everyone at CLM in the New Year, along with our broader community partners and stakeholders. My wife Jennifer and I want to extend our warmest wishes to everyone for a happy holiday season and a healthy and prosperous new year.

-John



## Looking Forward



May this new year find you healthier and happier, peaceful, fulfilled, gratified, looking forward to fresh, revitalizing interests, a collection of pleasures, fascinating new people, and personal victories to make this new year the best one yet.  
Happy New Year!

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

We're on the web!  
[www.clmanitoulin.ca](http://www.clmanitoulin.ca)

Or check us out on

**facebook**

[www.facebook.com/clmanitoulin](http://www.facebook.com/clmanitoulin)

Community Living Manitoulin is an incorporated non-profit agency offering residential, vocational, and community services to adults with developmental disabilities.

Community Living Manitoulin currently operates 4 group homes, a Supported Independent Living program, a Life Skills program, a Transitional program for young adults, a Respite program, a Supported Employment program, and a Consignment store.

Community Living Manitoulin serves over 60 Individuals with developmental disabilities across Manitoulin Island and employs close to 60 staff. We are led by a volunteer Board of Directors that works with the Executive Director and the Management Team to ensure the Individuals we serve attain their goals of independence and inclusion within their communities.

*Inspiring Possibilities*



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