

HIGHLAND NEWS

An Occasional Collection of News & Views about
Highland Community Residential Services.
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HCRS Prepares for move out of Group Home at St. Vincent Street.

The long awaited move of residents from the Group Home is weeks from implementation. This facility has been home to as many as 9 persons at various times over the last 20 years.

This wonderful old home is owned by the Children's Aid Society of Pictou County. Over one year ago they asked HCRS to find another place from which to operate the Group Home. We are extremely grateful for their patience with the process of our relocation.

To help this move happen HCRS is busily renovating two homes - 333 Hollis Street and 517 Washington Street. These two homes are currently three person small option homes. They will be renovated to accommodate a fourth person. These two homes along with the new home at 19 St. Bernard Street and as yet to be identified four bedroom home will meet the housing needs of the people living at St. Vincent Street.

HCRS joins New Glasgow in welcoming the Crusher's Junior A Team. The Crushers have a 32 game season. HCRS has purchased three season tickets for use by residents and

Parents Group Active in Pictou County

Parents Representing Challenged Residents (PRCR) is an advocacy group representing people supported by HCRS. Over the past several years this group has hosted number of events including a feedback session for Dr. Michael Kendrick, legal education sessions for parents and partnered in sponsoring networking events for families. However, their number 1 priority continues to be accountability - for services from HCRS, from the Department of Community Services and other service providers like SSI. Currently, this group has focused all of its efforts on making sure that residents from the two group homes are provided better and improved housing. PRCR have been meeting with Ms. Catherine Berliner, DCS Regional Administrator and Hilary Amit, HCRS Exec. Dir., to make sure that the move out of the St. Vincent Street Group Home happens as soon as possible.

New Glasgow Welcomes the Crushers

staff. We look forward to a great season of hockey this winter. Terry Curley, HCRS Board member and Crusher's Board member has selected three excellent seats at the New

Glasgow Stadium. Long time HCRS Board member and Crusher's season ticket holder Bob Curley has offered to accompany groups of residents to the games. Tickets will be distributed from the HCRS Main office as soon as the home game schedule and the tickets arrive. Hockey fans please make sure your House Manager knows you are interested in attending.

Pictou County Special O & Dragon Boats

For the third consecutive year Pictou County Special Olympics figured prominently in New Glasgow' Race on the River Dragon Boat Races. This year Pictou County Special Olympians won the race in their category besting teams from Colchester and Antigonish in this fun event. As always athletes and coaches from the HCRS family figured prominently on the Special Olympics team - some of whom raised a \$1,000.00 in pledges for the event which raised a total \$103,000.00. Congratulations to all.

Events & Social Notes:

Corn Boil at Powells Point - September 26, 2004.

A Big thank you to Debbie Brooks and Donna Longmire for Organizing this event. Bring your guitars, your appetite and your sense of fun. HCRS staff service recognition awards will also be held at the Corn Boil.

...While the residents hold a birthday party...

Congratulations to Aaron Smith, Julie Tobacco, & Melissa Didsbury on their nuptials.

Congratulations to Fred & Marie Maxwell on their wedding anniversary.

Congratulations to Shelley Maldre-Sullivan proud mom of a baby girl.

Staff at 304 Temperance Street hold a painting party....

Staff at 304 Temperance Street used a planned resident vacation week to spring clean and do some serious painting. The majority of the residents spent the week at MacKean's Cottages. This freed the house from its regular routine to permit staff to paint and clean. In the process they got a new office floor by stripping off carpet and having the floor

refinished. Thanks to all of you for your hard work, caring and pride in your home.

Gordie Mackinnon celebrated his birthday at MacKean's Cottages with all his friends from 304 Temperance Street, even sponge bob square pants showed up as a pinata on the clothesline.

Summer Recreation Program For Children a Success

HCRS hosted a summer recreation camp for twenty school aged children at the Sister Catherine Steele Centre in Lourdes. The camp was staffed by grant supported student employees and supervised by Sheri Scott. Field trips this year included visits to PEI, Shubenacadie, LORDA, Greenhill and Trenton Park.

The summer recreation camp wrapped up on August 25th with a talent show. The show was quite a success with everyone participating in an event in front of a large audience of friends and family. The talent show was followed by a pizza party.

Thanks to all workers and campers for making this year's summer recreation camp such a success!