



Reaching Out



Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron

Fall 2011

September was Big Brothers Big Sisters Month!!! You hopefully read some of the interviews in the local papers, saw the banner on Main Street in Exeter, checked out our display board at the local libraries and seen posters up around town. This is the time of year that we really promote our great programs, and try to encourage more Bigs and Littles to become involved. Some people ask: 'How do Big Brothers, Big Sisters, and mentors of all kinds, make a difference in the life of a child?'. The answer is: Simply by being there. All children need is to feel valued and important. Having a special friend who listens and spends quality time with a child gives them a sense of value and worth. If you have any friends or family that you feel would enjoy volunteering with us, please have them contact the office. If you know of any child(ren) that you feel would benefit from our programs, please have their parent(s)/guardian(s) call the office.

I would like to welcome some new faces to our Agency. Robin MacDonald has stepped into the role of Fund Development Coordinator, a position we are able to offer through the receipt of a Trillium Foundation Grant. Welcome Robin! Robin is actively working on applying for grants for both Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron and North Huron. As well, Robin has been involved with the Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Huron Family Tornado Relief Fund, a fund set up by both agencies, to financially help 11 of our families affected by the devastating tornado that hit Goderich on Sunday, August 21st. For more information on this relief fund, please feel free to contact Robin.

As well, I am excited to announce that we have another co-op student joining us this semester. Tess Atthill, from South Huron District High School, will be with us until the end of January. Welcome Tess! Tess will be helping out in the office on Mondays, and spending the rest of her time at Precious Blood School and Stephen Central Public School mentoring children through the In School Mentoring program.

With fall, comes the thought of Christmas! This means... we are in full planning mode of our Christmas activities. These are mentioned through-out the newsletter. Have a look, and let us know if there is anything you are able to assist with!

Amy Wilhelm - Casework Coordinator
Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron



Join us for our 3rd Annual Beat the Mall Christmas Shopping Event



Saturday, December 3rd, 2011
10am to 4pm
South Huron District High School
\$2 Admission



Over 135 Vendors
Penny Sale

Visit with Santa (for a non-perishable food item for our Adopt a Family campaign) from 11:30 to 12:30 and 1:30 to 2:30

Check out our web-site at www.shbbbs.on.ca for the complete listing of registered vendors. Vendor space is still available. Contact Lisa Pullman at beatthemall@hotmail.ca or 519-600-4044 for more information.



We currently have 11 Little Brothers, 4 Little Sisters and 12 In School Mentees waiting for a Big. We are in need of volunteers!!! If you are interested in becoming a Big contact our Agency today!



Would your child, or a child whom you know, benefit from a mentoring relationship?
To begin the process for your child to become a Little Brother or Little Sister, contact our office today!

We would greatly appreciate any stories or personal statements from volunteers, parents and children to help in our search for more volunteers. Often, people become interested in volunteering after they hear a personal story or the positive impact that is felt from being involved in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Names are not necessary.

Stories can be sent to 146 Main St. - Box 29 Dashwood, Ont. N0M 1N0 or e-mailed to cw@shbbbs.on.ca

Fall News

BIGBunch Schedule

BIGBunch is open to the children who are on the waiting list for a traditional Big Brother or Big Sister. Traditional matches are invited to join our outings.



Tuesday, October 11, 2011
Twin Pines Orchards and Cider House



Tuesday October 25th, 2011
Hallowe'en Activities and Pumpkin Carving



Tuesday November 8th, 2011
Owl Prowl and Winter Bird Feeders



Tuesday November 22nd, 2011
'Pump it Up' - Exercise Night



Tuesday December 13th, 2011
Christmas Movie Night



Tuesday December 20th, 2011
Gingerbread Houses



To sign up for any of these events, please contact Amy at cw@shbbbs.on.ca or 519-237-3554

Things to do in the Community...

O'Shea's Farm (Granton) - Fall Festivals at the Farm

Horse Drawn Wagon Rides, Animals, Corn Maze, Enchanted Forest, Pedal Tractor Track, Bunny Village and more
Visit www.osheasfarmfresh.com for prices and more information

Every Week-end in September and October

Fanshawe Pioneer Village (London) - Fall on the Farm

Watch as families prepare for the coming winter with the harvest of the corn crop, textiles, arts and wood stove cooking.
Visit www.fanshawepioneervillage.ca for prices and more information

Saturday October 8th to Sunday October 10th

Fanshawe Pioneer Village (London) - Haunted Village Hayrides

The Cultured Criminal – Revisit the 1890 Birchall-Benwell Affair, a case in which a British aristocrat gets charged with the murder of a young Englishman in Oxford County. Not recommended for children under the age of 10.

Visit www.fanshawepioneervillage.ca for prices and more information.

October 14 to October 29

Exeter Optimist Club Kid's Party (Exeter)

South Huron Recreation Centre

Saturday October 22

Lighting of MacNaughton Park (Exeter)

Go to MacNaughton Park to experience the 'aww' when the Christmas lights get turned on for the season

Friday November 25

Free Family Skate (Exeter)

Visit the Exeter Rec Centre, following the Santa Claus parade for a free skate

Friday November 26

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Upcoming Agency Events



Poinsettia Fundraiser



We will be selling poinsettia's again this year through Huron Ridge Acres.

We would like to ask Bigs, Littles and Parents to assist us with selling. If you are able to participate in this fundraiser, please contact the office and we will get the forms to you as soon as they arrive.



Exeter Santa Claus Parade



Saturday, November 26th

Get in the Christmas spirit and come out and ride on our float

We are also looking for help to build our float on Thursday November 24th at 6pm. If you are able to help, please contact the office.

Coats for Kids

The South Huron District High School is again doing a coat drive for our Agency. Bins will be set up at several locations in Exeter collecting warm winter coats, and outdoor wear for our families.

Coats and outdoor wear will be set up, and available for families to come pick up between November 9th and November 28th.



Christmas Party

Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 8th. We will be having our annual Christmas party at the Exeter Legion

Plan to join us for a traditional Christmas dinner, entertainment and a visit from Santa Claus himself! More details to come



Adopt a Family 2011



We will be doing our annual 'Adopt a Family' campaign again this year. Last year's campaign was a BIG success! All of the ornaments were taken off of the tree, and we were able to deliver gifts to 62 children, along with 16 food hampers.

For those of you who were not a part of this gift-giving campaign last year, the concept is simple. The Exeter Library generously let us use their Christmas tree, both as a place to put our ornaments and as a drop off point for the gifts. On each ornament was a family that we support. Any child, in that family, living in the household, age 18 and younger, was named on that ornament. The ornaments gave no information on the child - just their gender and their age.

This year, ornaments will be placed on the tree at the Exeter Branch Library on November 21st. We ask that all gifts be in by December 16th, so that we can deliver them to the families prior to Christmas.

In an effort to help out Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Huron and their families, who were affected by the Goderich Tornado on August 21st, we will opening our tree up this year to both Agencies. This means there will be twice as many ornaments and we will need twice your help!


If you are unable to participate by taking an ornament, food donations, as well as financial donations would be greatly appreciated. For more information on this campaign, please contact the office

What we've been up to





Falls News



Past Agency Events




Friday, July 1st, 2011
Canadian Tire
Canada Day Classic 'Show N Shine' Car Show
 Thank you to everyone who came out and helped park cars, sell pizza and sell 50/50 tickets.
 We raised \$3,772.16 at this event!!!


Saturday, June 11th
 Hensall Spring Fair and Parade
Saturday, July 23rd, 2011
 Zurich Spring Fair and Parade


Sunday, August 7th, 2011
South Huron Trail Run



At this years run, we had 179 runners and raised \$4,236.56
 A BIG Thank You to all of our runners and volunteers!



Sunday, August 28th, 2011
Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron/
Community Living South Huron end of summer BBQ
 We had a wonderful afternoon in the sun, enjoying our BBQ lunch, playing some outdoor activities, singing some songs and getting our faces painted!





Saturday, September 24th, 2011
Chili Cook-Off
 Trivitt Memorial Anglican Church - Exeter Harvest Celebration




What's Happening at the Office

Congratulations to our Big Sister, Krista, and her husband, Adam on the birth of their son, Landen.
 Congratulations to our Board Member, Dave, and his wife, Nicole, on the birth of their daughter, Erin

Congratulations to our volunteers who have recently gotten married!
 Aaron Barker (In School Mentor) and Adam Lloyd August 13, 2011
 Tracey Boitson (BIGBunch Volunteer and Board Member) and Greg McPherson September 10, 2011




Recent Matches Big Families
 Betty T., Clarence T. and Zach T./Dorian J.

In School Mentoring
 Marion M./Parker D.
 Tess A./Connor M.
 Tess A./Dominick M.
 Tess A./Jenna M.
 Tess A./Harley K.

Welcome to our Agency
 Robyn B. - Big Sister
 Zachary N. - Little Brother
 Kiana K. - Little Sister
 Marion M. - In School Mentor
 Betty T. - Big Families
 Zach T. - Big Families
 Ian B. - Little Brother
 Tess A. - In School Mentor - Co-op
 Dustin K. - In School Mentee

Little's Birthdays



October - Makailah M.
November - Robert N.
December - Skyler S., Kiana K., Alyssa S., Ian B., Hailey M.

Bigs Birthdays

October - Bob L., Deanne C.
November - Chelsey M., Devon E., Jacquelyn S., Marion M., Robin M.
December - Allyson S., Evelyn V., Krista M., Jamie S.

Happy Birthday from BBBSSH!!!

Big Brothers Big Sisters Alumni

Why join the Alumni?

- ☺ Stay connected and stay informed.
- ☺ Listen to stories from across Canada from former Littles and Bigs
- ☺ Learn about events and activities that concern you

Visit www.bbbbsc.ca and Click Alumni—Join today!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron
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Phone: 519-237-3554 Fax: 519-237-3190
 E-mail: cw@shbbbs.on.ca
 Website: www.shbbbs.on.ca





Do you have e-mail?

If you have an e-mail address, and we do not have it at the office, please send me a quick message to cw@shbbbs.on.ca

Information on up-coming events is e-mailed out on a regular basis.

The agency also has a Facebook group. Look us up under 'Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron'