



IN THE NEWS

October 2017

A Love of Music & Great Sense of Humour



On left, Mary Ellen with Anne Murray.
On right, Betty Jo (staff) with Mary Ellen.

Last month we said goodbye to Mary Ellen Brady. Mary Ellen had lived and worked at Bonny Lea Farm for more than 20 years, when she moved to receive a different level of care. She passed away shortly after leaving here.

Prior to Mary Ellen's move, participants joined her at home in Baker House to say good bye and prepare for her departure—there were photos taken, special snacks, lots of music, laughter and some tears.

Every one has their special memories of Mary Ellen. Whether it is a time when she held their face or hands in her hands or gave a tickle in the ribs. Perhaps it is listening to music or watching a favourite show. Her caring and sense of humour that she shared freely are missed by us all.

More than 20 participants and staff joined Mary Ellen's family in Liverpool to celebrate having known her and sharing in her life.

Nancy—35 years (at Bonny Lea Farm) and counting!!

Each year participants celebrate milestones. This fall marks 35 years at Bonny Lea Farm for Nancy Frank. It has been a colourful journey of growth and success.

Hardworker & Life-long Learner

There isn't a work crew that Nancy hasn't tried. She loves learning new skills and practicing her numeracy and literacy. Currently she works in the Wood Workshop.

Some recall that she is one of the few participants who worked at the "Thirsty Thinkers Tea Room" many years ago.

Community Volunteer

Nancy has been a friendly visitor at Shoreham Village for a number of years.

Special Olympic Athlete

Nancy is an accomplished athlete, participating in the Special Olympics National Games in Saskatchewan for track and field and bowling. She continues to bowl with "Special O".

Compassionate & Caring

Nancy demonstrates a strong affinity for her family as well as her friends and colleagues here at Bonny Lea Farm. She cares deeply about others and is always ready to help.

Great Performer

From impersonations to music and drama, Nancy's got talent. Not a karaoke show goes by without an entry from this country star. In fact, she loves country so much, when she realized that she couldn't go to the Grand Ole Opry, she helped organize a Grand Ole Opry dance at Bonny Lea Farm for all of the participants to enjoy. She also asked to share that she loves Anne Murray.

Way to go Nancy!

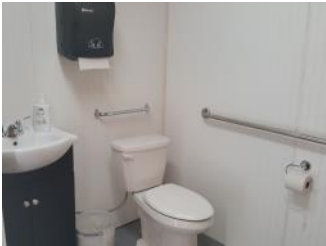
"Bonny Lea Farm is a good place to live and work. I have a full life."

- Nancy Frank



Nancy outside in October. Nancy with her all time favourite musician, Anne Murray - a shared passion of many participants at Bonny Lea Farm who cherish having met Anne at her annual meet & greet at the Anne Murray Centre in Springhill.

Good Times Gallery



Top: New insulated and heated Kindling Workshop in The Barn.

Bottom: Fully accessible washroom in The Barn.

Below: The crew in close quarters during construction.

The Barn is Ready for Winter!

Work is now complete on creating a winterized workshop in The Barn so that kindling production can continue seamlessly throughout the winter.

The new space includes an insulated and heated workshop and a fully accessible washroom. Until now the kindling crew needed to cease operations when the weather became cold or move into close quarters with Maintenance. And, participants had to walk to the main building for a washroom.

The Kindling Crew have just moved into their new space and love it.

Thanks to the amazing Maintenance Team for getting this project done!



Top to bottom: Card Lake hike; Debbie is back volunteering at Hinchinbrook Farms; Lynn took time to smell the flowers while out for a walk in Chester; Floyd received the W. Kent MacLeod Memorial Achievement Award at the Special Olympics award dinner; Ronnie helped present a token of our appreciation to Rev. Dr. Dan Green at his farewell evening.

Thanks for Giving

Last year we named October "Thanks for Giving" month. It is our opportunity to say thank you to you, the many people who give your time, talents, and treasure to help make Bonny Lea Farm the unique place that it is.

Without your support, we would not be able to offer our enhanced programs and the participants would not have the opportunities that they now have to grow, learn and reach their potential.

This year, in addition to saying thank you, we also want to hear from you:

- Why do you support our work?
- What does Bonny Lea Farm mean to you?
- What is a special memory that you have of Bonny Lea Farm?

Send your notes to us by email at efinney@bonnyleafarm.ca, share on facebook or send by mail to the address below.