



IN THE NEWS

February 2018

We're 45!
1973-2018

A BIG Welcome to Dan!

Dan came to visit us one day last fall. He and his family were exploring their options for a new home for Dan. Having lived with his family in Halifax until the age of 21, he was ready to expand his horizons.

He and his Mom came again in mid-December to join us for our annual Christmas dinner and to get a sense of what we are all about.

I guess they liked what they saw. In early January, Dan moved into Gibson House.

“Daniel has settled in well since coming to live at Gibson House. He adds lots of laughs and fun to the household.”

- Amanda Meisner, Residential Counsellor



Dan Morris moved to Bonny Lea Farm in January.

His friendly and happy personality have been helping him settle in.

He enjoys social activities with other participants and playing basketball during breaks.

“Dan is adjusting to his new work routine. He has learned paper prep for shredding and stacking cloths for packaging wipers.”

- Lori Davis, Vocational Instructor

A recent graduate, work is new to Dan. To get used to a work environment, he has started in our transition program and Wipers crew. He enjoys beginning each day with an hour in our snoezelen room. This helps him with the daily transition from home to work routine.



Farewell Dr. Gibson

Last month many in Nova Scotia shared memories of Dr. M Allen Gibson and the ways he touched their lives.

For us at Bonny Lea Farm, we recalled the contributions of one of our founding members. Back in 1973, Dr. Gibson was one of the people who saw the need for people with disabilities to be given the opportunity to learn, grow and succeed.

Together with the Bakers and a small group of like-minded people, Dr. Gibson was instrumental in getting Bonny Lea Farm up and running. His commitment to community and addressing the situation of those he recognized as needing support made him a formidable force in making the dream of Bonny Lea Farm a reality. As the inaugural chair of the Board for the South Shore Community Service Association, a position he held for decades, one of his early accomplishments was arranging for the purchase of the property where Bonny Lea Farm is located.

“He was tireless, selfless, a real blessing to this organization and this community. He always had time for people and would not give up,” recalled Bonita Church, Bonny Lea Farm staff, whose family sold their farm for the creation of Bonny Lea Farm.

He was always ready to be a champion for Bonny Lea Farm and the people we serve. Often the public face of Bonny Lea Farm, an eloquent and convincing speaker, he frequently advocated on Bonny Lea Farm’s behalf, facilitating and coordinating efforts with government and other parties.

“He was like a conductor of an orchestra, able to bring everyone together to reach consensus, agreement and harmony,” commented Executive Director, David Outhouse.

To mark his many contributions to the organization, Bonny Lea Farm named a residence after him in 2000.

“Allen was always a source of wisdom and humour. I can’t say enough about the kind of person he was and what he meant to me. I will miss him,” said Joe Stackhouse, remaining founding member.

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Fund Drive Update - Over \$50,000 so far!

We are in our last month of our annual fund drive! It ends March 31.

Thank you to every one who has contributed to this year's campaign. You may recall we shared the story of Laura, her journey to Bonny Lea Farm and how happy she is to finally be calling Bonny Lea Farm home.

So far we have raised just over \$50,000 to help us support our participants in achieving their goals - to learn, grow and succeed.

If you haven't yet made a donation it's not too late! Gifts of all sizes make a difference!

Top 5 Ways to Give:

- Send along your cheque (our address is at the bottom of this page)
- Call us with your credit card number (902-275-5622 ext 221 or 241)
- Visit us online at www.bonnyleafarm.ca and click on "donate"
- Sign up online to make monthly donations - spreading your giving throughout the year
- Get a tax break on appreciated stocks and shares by donating them. You get a tax receipt for their value (call us or see form at www.bonnyleafarm.ca)

Our enhanced programs are part of what make us unique. We couldn't provide participants with all of the opportunities that we do, without your faithful support. Thank you!

Still one month to go. Let's make it the best year ever!

Team Bonny Lea Farm enters Chester Cut 'n Run

For many years we participated in the Scotiabank Blue Nose Charity Challenge. The event was a great opportunity to raise awareness, visibility and funds for projects selected by the participants.

We've decided to bring Team Bonny Lea Farm "home to Chester" to gain similar results without the high administrative and entry costs associated with entering the Blue Nose and to enable a higher participation rate by participants, families, staff, volunteers and community members.

We are grateful to the Municipality of the District of Chester for the opportunity to enter Team Bonny Lea Farm in this year's Cut 'n Run, raising funds through team member sponsorships, having a cheering section, and more.

Stay tuned for more details!

Hold the Date

Get your pen, calendar, day timer or phone and mark these dates!

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| Chester Cut 'n Run with Team Bonny Lea Farm | June 3 |
| Plant Sale & Breakfast | June 9 |
| Lobster Lovers' Feast | August 5 |
| Annual Benefit Golf Tournament | September 9 |



TOP to BOTTOM: Winter Carnival Fun! Pajama Day, Participant Breakfast & Awards, Bingo and more. Sue & Jeffrey; Lacosta reading her award; Nancy at the Lumberjacks' game where Bonny Lea Farm was a special guest; Larry & Morgan; Liz, Val & Debbie; John.