

WISHING YOU HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS

Your friends at Bonny Lea Farm



Laura (left) shown with Holly.

Farewell to a Friend - A Tribute to Holly Van Barneveld

Contributed by Laura Glazier, participant

Holly was a treasure who lived everyday to the fullest and on her terms. Nobody or anything, not even her mobility challenges were going to stop her from having a grand life.

She got along with all of us here at Bonny Lea Farm where she loved to share with whomever would listen, her love of theatre.

She loved boating with her Dad and stepmom Ruth and looked forward to her annual White Point trip with her mom Amanda, among other activities. I was even invited to tag along a few times.

Holly was my first friend at Bonny Lea Farm. She was a treasure in a treasure chest to be shared with the world.

She loved to sing, act, perform, and watch bloopers. She loved Annie and Friends.

She was a warrior, fighter, inspirer and an amazing hugger with a huge spirit.

Farewell Holly.



Forty-five Years and Counting - A Look at Our Past

In September of 1973, Bonny Lea Farm held a Grand Opening. It was a well attended and memorable celebration on a beautiful sunny afternoon—marking a brighter future for people living with a disability.

Our founders had a vision for people who live with the everyday challenges of a disability - hope for a fulfilling life with opportunities to learn, grow and succeed.

We still have that vision and are so glad you do too. Thank you for being part of our journey!



Tom's Scary Plan

A story of setting goals & realizing them

Last year Tom had an idea. He thought it would be great fun if Bonny Lea Farm had a Halloween haunted house. He talked to staff about it and identified it as a goal in his individual program plan for the year.

He worked with staff to make some of the props and his scary plan took shape. With the support and amazing creativity of Wade

Davis (spook spinmaster extraordinaire), Matt Hallett (spook effects), Vanessa Pareek and Sharon Church (interior spookifiers), Bonita Church (spooky prop designer), friend Josh Venoit (fellow spooker), Tom's goal was realized.

On Halloween, the Board room was transformed into a Haunted Room. Participants were guided through by staff and shrieked and screamed with fear and delight.

Tom felt great to have achieved his goal and thanked everyone for their part in making Bonny Lea Farm's first haunting such a success!



TOP to BOTTOM: Toby has a visit from his brother; Anton receives the Powers' award for personal achievement from Stacey; Laura receives the McClung award for achievement in the workplace; Joanne is presented with the Huey Barkhouse award recognizing spirit, humour and contribution to life at Bonny Lea Farm. Way to go everyone!

More News:

Judy Melvin retires after nearly 45 years with Bonny Lea Farm; Stacey MacDonald is recognized for 30 years of service; Lindy Penny receives 20 years of service.



Dan's Story - A Gift of Hope

By now you have likely heard Dan's Story. But in case you missed it, we are sharing it here in our newsletter.

A year ago Dan and his Mom visited Bonny Lea Farm. They had hope. Hope for a home. Hope for meaningful work. Hope for a welcoming community. Hope for independence. Hope for new friendships.

Today, Dan is living in one of our group homes with four other participants. He is learning new life skills, making decisions and

gaining independence. He is also making friends. His personality and sense of humour are enjoyed by his housemates and staff.

During the day Dan got used to the work routine in our Transition Program area. This provided him with easy access to our snoezelen room for relaxation, an introduction to the work of each of our social enterprises, and a quieter setting to help make the transition from home and school to work a successful one!

We know there is a bright future for Dan here at Bonny Lea Farm and we are thrilled to be able to offer him this opportunity.

We estimate that since 1973, we have given hope to over 300 people living with a disability.

Thank you for supporting Dan's Gift of Hope annual campaign. You have provided \$35,000 so far to help us achieve our goals.

If you haven't already made your Gift of Hope, there is still time. Visit www.bonnyleafarm.ca or call 902-275-5622 ext 241.