



EFL Newsletter



WINTER • JANUARY 2025

Bring on 2025...

Welcome 2025!
Looking forward to a year full of energy, wonder, lots of fun and some talented silliness.



CONGRATULATIONS CHANDLER AND BRENDA



PROGRAM DIRECTOR
LEADERSHIP SKILLS,
CAPABLE, CONFIDENT



ASSISTANT PROGRAM DIRECTOR
SUPPORTING STAFF
POINT PERSON FOR SUPPLY
STAFF, VOLUNTEERS AND
FACILITATOR WHERE NEEDED.





Best Wishes, Shelley

In December, we gathered to give tribute to the founder and inspired leader of Events for Life. Accolades to Shelley were made and stories about her dedicated work shared. In the end the message was clear – Shelley, you are loved and equally, you share your love and energy with us at EFL. As Ralph Waldo Emerson said “Dare to live the life you have dreamed for yourself. Go forward and make your dreams come true” Thanks for making your dream before retirement, Events For Life, come true to the benefit of the participants, family and staff. May your retirement dreams be as successful – full of fun and adventure.



Happy Retirement

STAFF NEWS

Welcome Clara and Clare! Clare and Clara are joining EFL as support staff. (no, they are not related! lol)



CLARA

Clara Pretli

Clara was raised in Meaford. She graduated from Western University with an Honours Specialization in Psychology (BA) and a minor in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies. Clara volunteers for multiple organizations, including the Canadian Mental Health Association, where she has been a mentor and volunteer for almost 2 years. Clara is currently enrolled in various online courses, including ASL, with the goal to apply for a Master's degree in Speech and Language Pathology. We are excited to have Clara continue incorporating ASL into our program.

Clare Hopkins

Clare is a graduate of the Massage Therapy program at Georgian College, and she will be attending university in Ireland 2025-26 to complete her 4th year of a Bachelor of Science program in Health Sciences. She is a lifelong competitive athlete, a certified personal trainer and a yoga instructor. She is a marathon runner, and she has played competitive hockey for 15+ years. Clare resides in Collingwood. She is an upbeat, responsible and hard-working individual who has actively volunteered with a number of organizations including Special Olympics. Upon her return from Ireland, she plans to complete teacher's college so she can pursue a teaching career. We are so grateful to have Clare join the team.



CLARE

Kelsey is taking on a program staff role including the workshop program and work experience program. She will facilitate healthy lifestyles and other activities at the EFL Centre and BMCC. Look out for new craft and card making ideas!

Abbey continues to do an amazing job managing the EFL arena cafe. She is always looking for volunteers so if you are interested in helping out, let Abbey know. Abbey is currently working on her Masters but has time to help in a support staff role two days per week.

Laura has moved to a program staff position in charge of the Performing and Creative Arts programs. Did you know Laura used to be a dancer? She is very excited to start working on the "Spring Fling" and bring some new creative ideas to the program.

Kait We are happy to have Kait back in action. She is continuing her impactful role as support staff and helping mentor the new staff.

Ernie will continue leading culinary adventures, science and experiential programs at the EFL Centre and BMCC. We look forward to "Edwardo de Flamingo" surprising us during aqua fit and other programs.



Board of Directors News



SELL. SELL SELL! OUR BOARD MEMBERS CATHY AND KATIE SELLING RAFFLE TICKETS AT THE GPSC CASINO NIGHT

THANK YOU TO GARY WILSON FOR HIS SERVICE AS TREASURER AND AS A MEMBER OF THE FACILITY EXPANSION COMMITTEE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SHARING YOUR TALENTS, TIME AND ENTHUSIASM WITH EFL.

WELCOME TO MARLA SIMON! MARLA IS AN EFL PARENT AND LOCAL BUSINESS WOMAN.

WELCOME BACK KATHY DEWLING AND CHRISTA CARROLL. KATHY IS SUPPORTING OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AND CHRISTA IS RETURNING AS TREASURER

WE ARE SO PLEASED TO HAVE THESE WOMEN JOINING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS!



Important calendar dates



- JANUARY 29 1:00 PM-2:00 PM VOLUNTEER MEETING MARSH STREET CENTRE DOWNSTAIRS
- JANUARY 29 2:30 PM- 3:30 PM PARENT MEETING MARSH STREET CENTRE DOWNSTAIRS
- FEBUARY 17 FAMILY DAY CLOSED
- MARCH 20 KNOCK YOUR SOCKS OFF AT THE SOCK HOP 3:30 TO 5:30
BEAVER VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE
- MARCH 21 NATIONAL DOWN SYNDROME DAY
- MARCH 25-28 SPRING BREAK CLOSED
- APRIL 18 - 21 GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER MONDAY CLOSED
- MAY 19 VICTORIA DAY WEEKEND MONDAY CLOSED
- JUNE 19 SPRING FLING MARSH STREET CENTRE
- JUNE 20 **FIRST DAY OF SUMMER!!!!**
- JUNE 23 -27 SUMMER PREPARATIONS EFL CLOSED



EFL Arena Café
OPEN
11 AM to 1:00 PM
BVCC Arena
Stop in for lunch!
Monday -Friday





DO YOU NEED AN EFL 3 IN 1 BLUE JACKET?

THERE ARE LIMITED SIZES AVAILABLE. PRICE IS \$150 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ORDER THE FLEECE/SHELL COMBO, PLEASE CONTACT HOPE OFFICE@EVENTSFOR.LIFE

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR SIZE AND WE WILL CONFIRM IF IT AVAILABLE OR NOT.



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: EFL TOQUES

\$20 CHEQUE, CASH OR ETRANSFER

ORDER YOURS NOW. LIMITED QUANTITIES.

EMAIL HOPE OFFICE@EVENTSFOR.LIFE



Valentine's Day Cards are available at Home Hardware in Thornbury. Want a custom card?! Email brenda.topham@eventsfor.life

Events for Life
www.eventsfor.life



**THANK YOU
FOR VOLUNTEERING**

"THE SMALLEST ACT OF KINDNESS
IS WORTH MORE THAN THE
GRANDEST INTENTION."

- OSCAR WILDE

**Volunteer Meeting
Wednesday January 28th
1-2 pm**

Marsh Street Centre

**If you cannot attend, be sure
to get a copy of the revised**

handbook and important forms