

# NORTHUMBERLAND BIG SISTERS BIG BROTHERS

18 JOHN STREET  
PORT HOPE, ONTARIO  
L1A 2Z2  
(905) 885-6422 or (905) 885-8435  
Toll Free: 1-888-278-2484  
Fax: (905) 885-4699  
E-mail: [bigsisbigbro@eagle.ca](mailto:bigsisbigbro@eagle.ca)  
[www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/northumberland](http://www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/northumberland)



## FALL & WINTER 2010

### THE MATCHMAKER



“Me and My Big Sister” by Little Sister Kyrsten

### ***LITTLE SISTER, BIG TRIP!***

Little Sister Katrina had the trip of a lifetime this summer: she went to Malawi, Africa with a church group called "Tattered Tiaras." She travelled with 14 other girls. "We went to the Village of Hope and the Crisis Nursery and to Children of Blessing," she writes. "We got to eat what they eat. It was not that bad but I would not eat it all the time."



She saw many animals, including an elephant, hippo, eels, zebra and wart hogs. Even though the flights took a total of "35 hours, 24 minutes and 18 seconds," she is hoping to take another big trip next year, this time to India. "Seeing the way people live in Africa was definitely heart breaking to me...I am so thankful for all the stuff I have and the people in my life."



### **FORT PHOTOGRAPHER**

Little Brother Steven and his mom took a trip to Fort Henry this summer and Sandra got to view the photo slide show he made of the trip on his Wii. He really is a good photographer.



### **GREAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL!**

WOW! There are five WestJet vouchers for two to any WestJet destination up for grabs! All you have to do is join the BBBS of Canada alumni program at: <http://support.bbbsalumni.ca/> between Oct. 15 and Nov 1, or if you are already a member, refer a friend, and both of you will be entered. There are loads of other perks to becoming an alumni.



FREE monthly bowling passes are available for all Bigs & Littles. Call your caseworker at 905-885-6422.



### **NBSBB SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT**

Little Brother Ethan has graduated from the heavy machinery course at Sir Sandford Fleming College in Lindsay. Well done!



### **AND THEY'RE OFF...**



New Big Sister Doris (upper right) looks a little tense at the start of her first race ever, but she had fun. This year the Littles snatched the 28th Soap Box Derby crown from the Bigs with a substantial margin, thanks to Jayden beating Jason (bottom picture) down the hill too many times to count!

### **LOOKING FABULOUS!**

Little Sister Christina is working hard at Fleming College. She is taking an esthetician course, and we know she's going to do a *beautiful* job!





# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



Kyrsten & Jenni 1yr  
 Kelsey & Vanessa 1yr  
 Annabelle & Miriam 1yr

Jordan & Jay 2yrs  
 Cassidy & Brenda 2yrs  
 Chase & Al 2yrs

Michel & Jeff 3yrs  
 Hailey & Stephanie 3yrs  
 Claudia & Suzanne 3yrs

Brandi & Katie 4yrs  
 Stephanie & Kim 4yrs

Kristen & Vicky 4yrs  
 Curtis & Chuck 4yrs  
 Austin & Adrian 5yrs  
 Brittany & Brenda 5yrs

Melanie & Kathryn 6yrs  
 Desmond & Wayne 6yrs  
 Spencer & Chris 6yrs

Karli & Martha 7yrs  
 Katrina & Kat 7yrs  
 Jessica & Jen 7yrs  
 Shaenan & Amy 7yrs

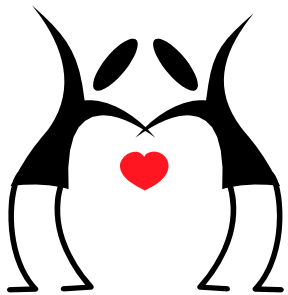
Ashley & Pat 8yrs

Mackenzie & Cheryl 9yrs

Caitlin & Lynda 10yrs  
 Mark & Shawn 10yrs

Nikki & Judy 17yrs

Karli & Pam 20yrs



## NEW MATCHES

Vincent & Bryce  
 Allison & Amy  
 Jaedynn & Elaine  
 Emily & Doris

## IN SCHOOL MENTORS

**Welcome Back to Recess!**

**Tracey**, *Castleton PS*  
**Kathleen**, *Grant Sine PS*  
**Danette**, *Brighton PS*

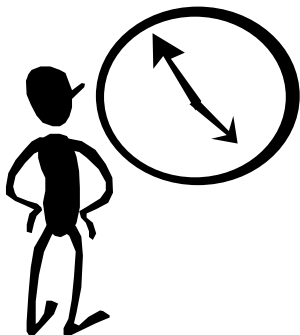
**In our Co-op Program, we have four students matched in local schools:**

**Sarah:** *Camborne PS & Plainville PS*

**Samantha:** *St. Anthony's (PH) & George Hamilton*

**Torrie:** *Hillcrest & Kent*

**Kaylee:** *Hillcrest & St. Mary's Campbellford*



## WAITING LIST

Bobby	8	Isaac	13
Dalton	8	Jamie	13
		Amber	13
Steven	9		
		James	14
Riley	11	Amber	14
Julia	11	Dustin	14
Dawson	11		
Kira	11	Jennifer	15
		Janine	16
Jonathon	12		
Hayden	12	Brandon	16



## WHISPERS... GIGGLES....GOSSIP!

Probably the most exciting event of the summer was that a number of our LS & BS, two staff, plus one dad, went to Ottawa to see the Justin Bieber concert from a luxury box at the Corel Centre — Bieber fever was raging!!

A-camping we did go...to a brand new spot: Emily Park. The campsites were fabulous, the food was yummy, the s'mores were gooey and best of all, the storm held off!

BB Rob's son Alex was the top fundraiser at Dale Road School for our own Bowl for Kids' Sake event — he raised a total of \$400... unbelievable but tremendous!

*I do...I do* said BB Jason in Cuba when he wed his lovely bride Christina. Vows were exchanged between BB Matt and new wife Jackie. LB Kody was thrilled to be included and felt like one of the family. Our congratulations to all!

Grade 8 graduation can be a daunting event, what with getting up in front of everyone in a fancy new dress and new shoes, but LS Kelsey graduated in style after being treated to pedicure and manicure by her BS Vanessa.

BB Chuck and his family have been building their new home all summer long and now it's finally time to move in!

One of our LBs, Steven, has spent his summer teaching himself to play the organ...now that can't be an easy feat!

## HOT OFF THE PRESS

On October 3 at high noon, **the last soap box car** raced down Walton St. Unfortunately, after holding the derby for 28 consecutive years, we have fewer and fewer Bigs & Littles participating. Because it involves a lot of staff time and may now require special (costly!) insurance, we have regretfully decided we cannot continue to hold this event.



## OUR HISTORIC WEEKEND

This past August I enjoyed a perfect weekend with my "little sister," alias "eldest daughter," who will be a lifelong friend. She suggested that we should have a "girls" weekend to celebrate our 20th anniversary. When I arrived in Quebec, Louise's husband Patrick graciously vacated the place for most of the weekend, but not before he served us a sumptuous seven-course dinner.

Louise had a full weekend planned, and she insisted that almost everything we did, ate or saw was her treat! We kicked things off by joining 300,000 others at the Celine Dion concert on the Plains of Abraham during Quebec's 400th anniversary celebrations.

The next day we went to Le Louvre de Québec, featuring some of the famous originals that usually hang in the Louvre in France. Even though neither Louise or I are regular gallery enthusiasts, we both enjoyed the amazing art. Of course, between activities we did a lot of catching up and reminiscing. The pièce de résistance was spending all day Sunday at the Siberian Outdoor Spa, again Louise's treat. It was absolutely heavenly!

Each night Louise and I spent hours browsing through photo albums and letters and cards I had sent her over our 20 years together. I was amazed that through all her moves she had managed to save them all! She told me she wanted to make sure we did this together, to show me what a huge impact Big Sisters and I had on her life.

We also found cards of support from Barb Keenan,, myself and my husband, John. These cards were sent at turning points of Louise's life, some good, some sad, some frightening and some happy.

I got a real laugh as I read the cards from me, because almost everyone of them started with an excuse:

"It's been such a busy month," "I'm sorry this birthday card is a little late...I've just found time to send it..."

I remember the busy times when our three children were little (three kids in two years), but what I especially remember is how Louise played a major role in keeping in touch with me and my family.

She made the regular calls and sent the photos and letters. John and I would often remark, "Thank goodness Louise is making the time to call us when we're busy. She's really holding this relationship together!"

We agreed that our bonding time this weekend was precious. Usually when we get together, it is with my family and Louise and Patrick. As much as we enjoy those times, we don't get much of a chance just to be together to chat about what's going on in our lives. We decided that once in a while during future visits at the cottage in Ontario or ski trips in Quebec, we'll sneak off for a little time with just us!

Louise and I are so thankful that Barb and Big Sisters brought us together. As a Big Sister I've always said that Louise's accomplishments in her career and family life and overall quality of life tell a success story of what Big Sisters is all about. All John and I did was show her the "other side of the coin:" that there are loving, caring, trusting people in this world with working relationships. She made it a goal in her life to be that kind of person and to find the same kind of person to spend her life with. She says her husband Patrick is "her John", and I tell her I would be ecstatic if my daughter married someone like her Patrick. What more can I say, life is great for both of us!

*Big Sister Donna*





# PORT HOPE STORE



We welcome new volunteers Cheryl and Iris, who are contributing their excellent organizational skills and lots of hard work. Emma, our new student, has also been learning all about our store.

### *From behind the counter:*

We are busy creating and renting costumes for Hallowe'en.

You can rent something that we have already created, and will surely be a hit with the trick-or-treaters or at that upcoming party! Or come to us for that special piece to complete an almost-perfect costume you already have.

As the leaves start falling, autumn and winter clothing is being displayed in anticipation of colder weather ahead. And remember, our great deals happen year round! Come in to see what we have to offer.

Remember us when cleaning out your closets. Gently used items are always appreciated, especially with the **My Big Sister's Closet sale** coming up **January 20, 21 and 22** at Susan Dewhurst's in Port Hope. Those classy dresses you've hardly worn, the fur coat you may never put on again — these items are perfect for Susan's sale!

*Ethel*, Store Manager



Congratulations to all our store volunteers for their work with students doing their Community Service Hours — we have been awarded with the Ross Rundle Memorial Award in appreciation of our outstanding placement participation. Good job ladies!

Frankie is off on a cruise to Hawaii! Too bad we all couldn't join her, but we are definitely with her in spirit!

A big thanks to all our volunteers and customers who, like us, have been putting up with our ongoing "overhead building maintenance" issue. We appreciate your patience and are looking forward to some permanent repairs.



# COLBORNE STORE



We've had lots of changes at the store — some good and others not so good. We said farewell to store manager *extraordinaire*, Janet Taft, this summer after 22 years of dedicated service. The Board of Directors had thought that we would have to close our Colborne store because revenues had been declining. But a group of loyal volunteers, spearheaded by Shauna, came forward and divvied the many store manager tasks between them, determined to keep the store open. They have organized themselves, and have formed a committee that ensures the store is always staffed, looking good and offering new seasonal merchandise. Their enthusiasm and determination to keep the store running smoothly is really appreciated, since it provides much-needed funding for our programs.



*From behind the counter:* Some Hallowe'en costumes have found their way back onto the racks, so be sure to check them out... they're glitzy & glam! The Hallowe'en loonie bin is back to help you find pieces to create your own costume.

The committee is looking for people with time on their hands; spares are needed as both Rose-Marie and Caroline are heading south for the winter, and Barbara Reid moved out of the area. Give the store cell a call at **905-269-4233**, and we'll be happy to slot you in.

Connie is back on board, Joey Hatt and Carolyn Rawn have joined the ranks... we welcome them all. Helen has been experiencing some health problems, and everyone wishes her well.



Dr. Tovi Luong, our landlord, also deserves a round of applause for being so understanding about our circumstances, and "going with the flow" to help us keep the doors of the store open.

If you can donate a delicious stew to this year's **Harvest Stew** fundraiser for the United Way (**October 21, 11:30 to 1:30 at the Colborne Legion**), please call Sophie at the office: 1-888-278-1484.

We were sad to note the passing of long-time volunteer Cynthia Angus and were very touched by her legacy to the store. It was a wonderful gift to the organization.

**Shauna's Cooking Tip 101:** you'll never cry chopping onions again if you take a sip of water and hold it in your mouth. Try it... it really works!



## BOARD BUZZ

# What's *your* big idea?

The Board of Directors has been busy welcoming new members Dick Algera, Kelly Childerhose, Cheryl Langdon and Marguerite McCarron, who come with many talents and are ready to help us tackle a challenging time for the organization. The new energy and expertise they bring has already made a difference in the dynamics of the board and we are better equipped to face the upcoming year.

The fundraising committee, ever in search of money-making opportunities, would like to issue a challenge to all our readers. We've been hearing from other agencies about successful monster fundraisers, like three agencies getting together to build a house (using mainly volunteer labour and donated time and materials from trades people), and each making about \$100,000 on the sale. Or how about BBBS of Sarnia, where the executive director brought a few climbing friends together to get sponsors for a Kilimanjaro ascent. They paid their own way to base camp, *and* put \$100,000 in the agency's coffers, just by doing something they had always wanted to do!



We know there's a BIG IDEA out there that's perfect for us, and is just waiting to be discovered. We're on the lookout for it but we can use some help. So keep your eyes and ears open, the brain buzzing and let us know what you come up with (contact Sophie at the office - [sophiebsbb@eagle.ca](mailto:sophiebsbb@eagle.ca)). Remember "NO IDEA IS TOO BIG" and no "notion too small" — any idea can be built upon. **GO BIG!**

## **UNITED WE CAN!**

**Holy Cow!! \$900,00 +++** is the United Way's fundraising goal for 2011. How can you help to make sure that they go the distance and reach their goal? This is what we're doing at the agency: our staff participates in the payroll deduction and members of the Board of Directors contribute as well, to guarantee that we come in on target. We have surpassed our agency's UW fundraising goal for the past two years.

Northumberland Big Sisters Big Brothers **absolutely** relies on the UW funds we receive, which is approximately 28% of our annual operating budget. That means a lot — a lot less fundraising for us; a lot more programming offered to youth in our county! There are so many different ways for you to support our UW: come to an event, challenge your colleagues at work to make payroll deductions, hold a raffle for something amazing (how about a night out or a paid day off?) or just put aside \$1 each week. Just think if everyone did that how quickly the UW would reach their 900,000+++ goal!



# Thank you ... Thank you ... Thank you ... Thank you...

**Thanks for the U.G.L.Yness** to all of Northumberland's U.G.L.Y. servers, participating restaurants, volunteers & the public who supported our 2010 campaign. A special thanks to Jim's Pizza Palace, Swiss Chalet, Cat and the Fiddle and MacGregor's for putting in post-U.G.L.Y. efforts to raise funds. And congratulations to our top three establishments, Great Farini, Casey's and Capone's!

**Thanks fore putting us first** to Chris Waller of Casey's Bar & Grill for co-ordinating the 18th Annual Golf For Kids Sake for us, to our sponsors, new and continuing, for their much-needed support, and to the many golfers, volunteers and staff who made this event fun and successful. Little Sisters and Little Brothers enjoyed this year's co-ed camp-out weekend at Emily Park, as well as our summer day camp programs, thanks to the funds raised.

**Thanks for painting our face!** The Second Helpings store window and our front door in Port Hope got a face lift from the Days of Caring volunteers, organized by Northumberland United Way & local industries. Thanks to them, Malynda and Jane also had nice new light fixtures installed, and our building is sporting fresh heritage blue and khaki colours on its front!

**A green thumbs up...** to the incredibly tireless Garden Tour Committee. With the addition of the Garden Speakers Series, their fundraising total grew substantially. And the 10th annual tour itself was the best ever, even causing country road traffic jams! Thanks to all the sponsors, gardeners, donors, volunteers and participants who helped make this a signature event for the agency.

**Just a Little thanks...** to the United Way and all the backpack program contributors. Sixty-seven happy kids were able to start their new school year in style, with knapsacks stuffed with the tools they need to succeed.

**Go Girls! ... go!** Our wonderful Go Girls! facilitators help 12 to 14-year-old girls interested in learning about healthy lifestyles, boosting self esteem and dealing with the emotional issues that arise during the early teen years. Thanks to these young women for taking the time to train and run the program and to the girls for participating and in turn, providing inspiration to their teachers.

**An on-going thanks to...** B&D Liquidation and A-Plus convenience for selling Nevada tickets on our behalf. This is a vital source of income for us, and if anyone out there can think of an outlet somewhere in the county that might be interested in carrying our Nevada tickets, we'd love to hear from you!

**A rockin' thanks** to Doug Bates and Matt Williams for hosting a band night at The Great Farini, in support of NBSBB and Milk for Moms. We're glad it went well, and we're looking forward to working with you again in the future.

**A speedy standing ovation...** to all our Soap Box Derby helpers: John and Morris for hauling the straw; Gracie the Jack Russell for keeping the streets of Port Hope vermin-free; BB Wayne and LB Desmond for helping to cook (and eat!) hot dogs, fixing trucks, throwing bales along with Anne and Dave (who also arrived nice and early to help haul out the small cars), BB Mike and Christine and Larry. As ever, Morrow Transport was very supportive, storing the cars all year and moving the trailer for car pick-up and return. Thanks to "super" Thomas and St. Lawrence Apartments for storing our small cars. Thanks to the Big & Little racers who braved the course, Peter from Community Policing who clocked their speeds and the St. John's Ambulance volunteers who watched out for them at the bottom! Special thanks to BB Scott for applying his mechanical skills to several cars in need. And last but not least, *thanks to David Houston* (whom we are not allowed to thank in any way that isn't free, so here goes!) for once again picking up and delivering the big cars, endless trips up the hill and finishing the day blowing straw off the street.

**BINGO! YOU'RE ALL WINNERS!** To all our bingo volunteers, newbies and veterans alike, thanks for donating precious hours to keep those bingo dollars flowing in. We really appreciate this steady source of funds, and without you, it wouldn't happen.

**An educated vote of appreciation** to Cobourg Police Services (and all the golfers!) for their generous donation to our scholarship fund through the annual Chris Garrett Classic Golf Tournament.

**Thanks a Million! Merci! Dankeschön! Graças!**

## Some great Big thoughts from Big Brother Al

Bigs yearly meeting: I think it might be beneficial to have an annual meeting of Bigs to discuss concerns, share activity ideas, and plan group events. I am not thinking about concerns specific to a child, but problems that we might all be having for which we could all help find a solution.

Finding ideas for weekly activities is challenging. I want to keep it fresh and interesting for both of us. We tend to do the same activities over and over again. That's all right because they are things we enjoy, but it is fun to do and experience new things together as well. Others might be interested in what we do every week, or may like to go to/do some of the other things we have done. I know I would be interested in hearing what others are up to.



Bigs group events: You guys do a great job planning group events such as fishing, cooking, and the soap box racing. I think we all enjoy interacting with other Bigs and Littles and I would like to do it more often. At these meetings we could brainstorm ideas for events and do the initial planning by setting up the scope for each event. Perhaps each match could sponsor/host one event a year. That would provide many events for the year and give the Bigs and Littles projects to work on together.

Big/Little euchre night: I was wondering if people would be interested in having a euchre night with a round robin kind of tournament with three other sets of Bigs and Littles (if we can find three). Some inexpensive prizes could be provided for high score, low score, and the last lone hand. The last lone hand is a fun one, because every time a person gets a loner, the wrapped prize gets tossed to them to hold until someone else gets a loner.



Thanks a lot, Al, for these insightful ideas. We would really like to know what other Bigs and Littles think of them, because we would be happy to put them into practice **if enough people are interested**. Please phone or e-mail your caseworker to let them know what you think of these suggestions.

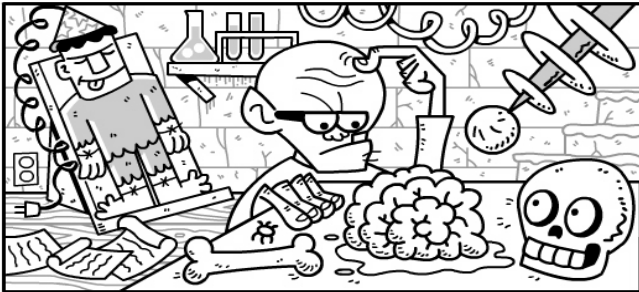
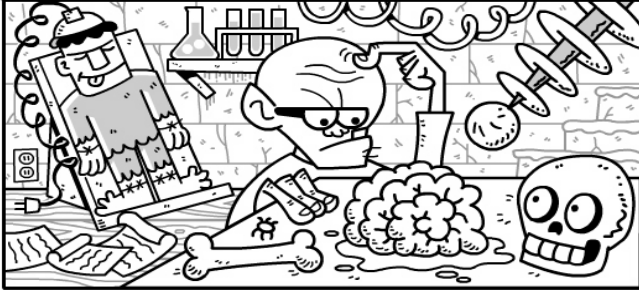
A big THANKS  
to our Presenting, Gold & Silver  
sponsors for their support:



# BRAIN TWISTERS

## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Look at the two pictures and find seven differences between them.



## SNOW, SNOW, SNOW

Try to unscramble the words below.

Good Luck!

1. ohseowsns \_\_\_\_\_
2. biomwoesln \_\_\_\_\_
3. rbowlnose \_\_\_\_\_
4. fanowksel \_\_\_\_\_
5. nkaonwbs \_\_\_\_\_
6. wasonnm \_\_\_\_\_
7. neohsswo \_\_\_\_\_
8. lsbawonl \_\_\_\_\_

## MAKING CANDY SPARKS

### What You'll Need:

- Help from an adult
- Wint-O-Green Lifesavers
- A clear sandwich bag
- Pliers
- A dark room, such as a windowless bathroom where the air is dry not humid



### What to do:

- Put a Lifesaver into the sandwich bag (so you don't get hit with flying candy)
- Make the room as dark a possible
- Wait a couple of minutes for your eyes to adjust to the darkness.
- Put the Lifesaver between the jaws of the pliers & squeeze pliers and crush Lifesaver. The candy should give a flash of blue-green light.

### How it works:

When a sugar crystal cracks, it releases energy in the form of an electrical spark. Like a tiny lightning bolt, this spark is made up of electrons moving through the air. In the air, the electrons hit nitrogen molecules and give them some of their energy. Scientists say the nitrogen molecules become excited. The nitrogen can't keep that energy. Just as it does in lightning, the nitrogen releases the energy as light. We see only part of the light. Most of it is invisible ultraviolet light. The ultraviolet light give some of its energy to wintergreen molecules in the candy. Like the nitrogen, the wintergreen molecules release the energy as blue-green light.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Fundraisers

October 21  
11:30 - 1:30



**HARVEST STEW** for Northumberland United Way: Sample delicious stews & desserts at the Colborne Legion. \$7 per person includes stew, dessert, and drinks. Raffle ticket sales and all proceeds to the Northumberland United Way.

December 1 - 24



**GIFT WRAPPING** at Northumberland Mall: Get in the Christmas spirit by creating festive gifts with all the bows, ribbons and fancy wrapping paper your heart desires! This is a great volunteer opportunity for families or a group of friends. Please call the office, 905-885-6422 to sign up for a shift at the booth.

January 20, 21, 22



**MY BIG SISTER'S CLOSET SALE** has upscale clothing for every season at great prices. Donations of high-end, quality clothing (washed or dry cleaned, under 10 years old) for Susan Dewhurst's annual sale can be taken to Susan Dewhurst's on Walton St.

February 19, 2011



**BOWL FOR KIDS SAKE** kick off at Northshore Lanes brings together families, friends, students and co-workers to share some fun while helping children and youth in our community. So challenge your co-workers or your business competitors, or just grab five friends and call our office (885-6422) to register, collect pledges and come out to bowl. Events will also be held in Brighton and Campbellford, and we are always looking for volunteers for the day of the event.

## Big & Little Group Events

October 28  
7:00 - 8:30

**HALLOWE'EN PARTY** at Trinity College School: Wear your costume or create a one-of-a-kind outfit at the school. Enjoy **HAIR-RAISING** games, **SLIMY** snacks and have lots of fun with old friends and **SCARY** new ones. Be sure to contact the office to let us know if you are coming.

Date TBA: Late  
Nov. or early Dec.

**WHAT'S COOKIN' GOOD LOOKIN'?** at a location to be announced. This is our third What's Cookin' event, where Bigs and Littles get together in the kitchen and learn how to whip up some nutritious meals. Let us know as soon as possible if you want to attend, because space is limited! We're also looking to host this event again in Campbellford — call us if you're interested at **1-888-278-2484**.

December 6  
6:00 p.m.



**CHRISTMAS PARTY** at the Church On the Hill in Cobourg (across from the mall and just west of Blockbuster): Celebrate the season with a festive pot-luck feast for Bigs, Littles, volunteers and staff. Remember to phone to let us know if you can come and what you're bringing. And we're always on the lookout for chefs to roast our turkeys, as well as people

 United Way Member Agency

If you would prefer to receive your newsletter via email or have recently changed emails, please email [sophiebsbb@eagle.ca](mailto:sophiebsbb@eagle.ca) to make sure that we have your updated information.