



# A Little Big News from Big Brothers & Sisters of Parry Sound

Mark your Calendars  
for these upcoming  
BIG events

**Sun Dec 20, 2009**

Big Brothers & Sister's  
Annual Christmas Party

**March 5, 2009**

1<sup>st</sup> Annual Bowl For Kids

## Congratulations to our Newest In School Mentor Matches

Jude & Destiny  
Sharon & Megan  
Lisa & John  
Janine & Julia  
Ashley & Linda  
Chuck & Justin

## Celebrating 2 yrs In School together

Ruth & Bryan  
Mike & Gab  
Kathy & Axenia  
Susan & Bailey  
Rob & Kyle  
Annemarie & Ashley  
Lloyd & Joseph  
Stephen & Tyler  
Jennifer & Linda  
Caroline & Shayla  
Tricia & Nina (almost 2)

## Big Brothers & Sisters of Parry Sound Gets a BIG Help from Trillium

With a little hard work, and great initiative, Rob Mens our current Board president was able to secure funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation over the next 3 years to help launch the In School Mentoring Program in area schools.

A total of \$92,000 was granted to Big Brothers and Sisters of Parry Sound. The money will also be used to help with much needed awareness. You may have noticed our banner across Bowes St in September,

our billboard on Hwy 124, or our new permanent sign on Church St.

These are just a few examples of how we hope to bring our message to the area.

**BIG** things are happening for Big Brothers and Sisters of Parry Sound.

Together we can make a difference.

Many thanks to Lynn Middaugh for her tremendous help with the Trillium application.

## Thank You to Rob Mens

After 3 dedicated years Rob Mens has stepped down as Executive Director. Rob has done an absolutely tremendous job. From grant writing to policy and procedures to recruitment, his commitment and dedication to Big Brothers & Sisters has been inspiring. Rob has accepted the position as President of Big Brothers & Sisters of Parry Sound. Many BIG thanks to Rob for his leadership.

## Welcome to our New Executive Director

Hi - just wanted to say hello - I am Ann Swallow the new Executive Director. The BBBS Board approached me about the position a couple of months ago and I was thrilled about the opportunity to work with such a great organization! Just to let you know a little about me - I live in Sundridge and am fairly new to the area - having arrived about 9 months ago. I have worked in social services for about 35 years. (I don't look that old - really!). Most of my experience has been with volunteer driven community-based organizations and more recently, at the provincial government level. I am presently the Executive Director of Victim Services VCARS (right across the hall from Joelle). I have an university education and don't bowl or play golf - but Joelle tells me that if I want to work with BBBS I will need to learn. I hope to meet many of you at the upcoming Christmas Party Until then - take care - Ann

**Please Welcome some our soon to be Big Sisters & Volunteers!**

☺Melissa Morgan      ☺Jennifer Schnitzev      ☺Evi Donevan  
☺Sarah denBoer      ☺Rachel Steckley      ☺Sarah Schmalz      ☺Jeff Vanzant



A total of 8 Little brothers and Sisters had the opportunity to attend Hidden Bay Leadership Camp this summer. This opportunity for our Littles was funded 100% by Hidden Bay Leadership Camp. This camp is always a huge hit with our Littles, and a highlight of their summer. Many Thanks to Hidden Bay for making this possible



**Big Brother & Sister Matches**

Please do not forget that your little has a YMCA membership. Together you can use the facility and its programs, call Joelle for further details!

**Its Our Anniversary in 2010**

- Denise & Samantha 2yrs
- Krystal & October 2yrs
- Rob, Ruth & Shar 2yrs
- Andrea & Myrikal 1 yr in June
- Jeff & A.J 4yrs
- Kristen & Samantha 1 yr Sept

**Thank You for the Memories**



- Katie
- Ethan
- Kara & Alison
- Tim & Riley
- Brandy & Shannon
- Jenn & Linda
- Susan & Jessie



**A Little BIG Christmas Party at the YMCA 3-6pm**

On Sunday December 20 we will be holding our annual Christmas party for ALL OF OUR, Bigs, littles and volunteers. (Parents are welcome to attend with their kids!) The evening features, pizza, snacks, games, prizes, activities and refreshments to name a few. Word is that Santa just may pay a visit as well.

This is also an evening where we thank our hard working and committed volunteers. We hope you can join us. The party will take place at the YMCA - 3-6pm, Please bring your Gym Shoes

**Saturday March 5<sup>th</sup> 2010**



Get ready to Bowl!! We are so pleased to bring the much anticipated Bowl for Kids to Parry Sound. Teams of up to 5 will get a chance to lace up and Bowl for a great cause. Pledge sheets and more Team info coming soon. For further details please contact Ashley West at 746-2101, our dedicated Bowl for Kids Organizer

**ON LINE FUNDRAISING**

Please visit our website

[www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/parrysound](http://www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/parrysound)

You can now donate On Line

**Please Welcome our New Board of Directors for 2009-2010**

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Rob Mens – President           | Sue Moir – Director         |
| Tricia Stuart – Vice president | Katie Garbett – Director    |
| Walter Tucker – Treasurer      | Stephen Parrick – Treasurer |
- Special BIG Thanks to Steve MacLennan our Past Board President for his commitment, time and service. Steve served for a year as president before leaving the area. We wish him the best in his future endeavors.

**The Hidden Bay Winter Olympic Village**

Monday Feb 15th 2010, is Family Day and Hidden Bay has partnered with Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the Town of Parry Sound to host:

**The Hidden Bay Winter Olympic Village!**

Grab your friends and family, and come on out to Hidden Bay Leadership Camp to participate in "mock" Olympic events, such as the decathlon, speed skating, luge and even a snow sculpture contest.

Opening Ceremonies: 9:30 am; Closing Ceremonies: 3 pm.

Shuttle bus from Parry Sound provided

Big Brothers & Sisters will be serving a warm lunch (donation



More details to follow... or call 342-7345

