

Woodslee Credit Union contributor in W.E. Care campaign

BY SARAH FISHER

The Woodslee Credit Union was among several organizations that celebrated the end of the 2006 fundraising campaign July 7 for Windsor Essex Care For Kids Foundation.

W.E. Care for Kids welcomed all of its major contributors for a ceremony Friday at the Fogolar Furlan Club in Windsor. The Woodslee Credit Union contributed \$30,000 to the 2006 campaign. The overall amount raised in the campaign was \$343,000. The money raised goes toward paediatric care programs at Hotel Dieu-Grace Hospital, Windsor Regional Hospital and Leamington District Memorial Hospital. This is the 10th year for the fundraising campaign.

"This is a wonderful organization driven by a dedicated group of volunteers and supported by a generous community," said Windsor Mayor Eddie Francis. "Recently this year a close friend of mine had a second baby girl who experienced a lot of difficulty with her heart and she had to leave Windsor for treatment. Moving their lives changed everything for their family. ..."

The goal of W.E. Care is to provide treatment locally. The ceremony Friday



Woodslee Credit Union Chief Executive Officer Dennis Wipp and Liz Arkininstall, the credit union's manager of community relations, hold a cheque July 7 for \$30,000 for the Windsor Essex Care for Kids Foundation. The W.E. Care for Kids 2006 fundraising campaign raised \$343,000.

included statements from parents who needed long-term paediatric care for their children.

"At a time when we needed our family the most we were forced to leave our home," Francis Hammond said about her 4-year-old son's treatment for leukemia in London, Ont. in 2004. "Eventually as the treatments became less demanding we were able to get treatment in Windsor."

The major contributors to the campaign were asked to participate in a cheque presentation in front of the audi-

ence. Woodslee Credit Union Chief Executive Officer Dennis Wipp and Liz Arkininstall, the manager of community relations, represented the company.

"It's a grassroots campaign that started in our area by a local doctor and it attempts to keep children in our area when they are receiving medical care," Arkininstall said Friday. "That's part of our corporate giving focus is youth and health and wellness, so this is a natural fit."

Family pioneer day at the Homestead

Enjoy a day from the past at John R. Park Homestead Tuesday, July 25 when the family pioneer program gets underway.

Dress in pioneer garb and spend a day the pioneer way by harvesting and preparing fruits and vegetables from the garden, helping to cook a meal on the kitchen hearth and enjoying a 19th century

lunch on-site. During your visit, you can play pioneer games like walking on stilts and crokinole. The day is designed as an educational experience for the entire family.

"The family pioneer program is a great way to get back to basics with your kids," says Homestead curator Janet Cobban.

Last year's program was a sell-out success, so register early. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Call 519-738-2029 or visit www.erca.org and click on 'Conservation Areas' for further details.

This event takes place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 25. Registration ends Thurs., July 20.

THANKS

Thanks for your great support of the 2006 Essex Fun Fest! Special thanks to Wally Tatomir for bringing the Stanley Cup to Essex! Thanks to all our volunteers.

A reminder that Fun Fest fireworks have been re-scheduled to Sunday July 14 due to weather conditions.

Morley Bowman, Mary Ellen Brown, Bill Gay, Ron Larivee, Diane O'Connor, Dianne Parr, Jim Proctor, Jason Pruy, Steven Richardson, Cheryl Skilton, Doug Sweet, Tracey Tobin, Joanne White, Barb Zochinsky

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