

# Sport Fest Windsor News

www.sport-fest.ca

May.2008 Issue 2



SPECIAL THANKS to **WINDSOR CROSSING!!**



**“Gift of Life”  
Dinner/Silent Auction  
May 24th. 2008  
Caboto Club  
Come one come all!!  
6:30 p.m.  
Tickets \$35.00ea.  
Tables of (8) \$280.00 or (10) \$350.00  
Contact: Tom at [tawad@cogeco.ca](mailto:tawad@cogeco.ca) 519-944-5760  
Roger at [rawad@cogeco.net](mailto:rawad@cogeco.net) 519-776-1473  
For tickets  
MC Percy Hatfield**

If you were not there... you missed a fantastic experience!!

### “Run Under the Sun” 1k,5k & 10k Walk /Run

sponsored in part by **Sun Life Financial, WRACE and Sport Fest Windsor** Jr best Walk/Run event yet! In excess of 400 walkers and runners all paying tribute to donor families across Canada were present.

prior to the WRACE event, Tom Awad, wife Carol, brother Roger walked with a group of donor families, organ recipients and friends on a “Gift of Life” relay walk from London to Windsor which was culminated by a controlled walk into the Sun Life Financial grounds led by a bag piper and being greeted with applause and fanfare by all the participants waiting to take part in the 1k,5k & 10k “Run Under the Sun” event.

**Special Thanks** to all the Sport Fest Windsor volunteers for their continued hard work, our sponsors, WRACE officials and Sun Life Financial for their financing and financial support, in particular Jim Augerman & Laura Sachs.

We were also blessed with food donations & gifts from The Penalty Box, Dirty Jerseys, Starbucks, Joseph’s Produce Market, Little Caesars Pizza, McDonald’s, Pepsi, Vitale Produce, Pure Water Brand, Platinum Professional, Store, Complete Chiropractic, Refine Fitness, Sobeys, Kathy Menard Massage and Caboto Club.

Tom & Kim from The Mix 96.7 provided the MC duties, entertainment came from Jen Knight’s Angelzwatching and Ecole Secondary L’Essor and artwork from ARTIST MARIE PREVOST. The Windsor Fire & Rescue Services along with Lisa Van Boven & Dawn Casey provided the children with excitement and face painting. Last but not least bag piper Mr. Bob Stafford gave us a thrill leading the “Gift of Life” walkers into the grounds prior to the WRACE event.

### The “ Gift of Life “ Relay Walk

From London to Windsor was another great experience for all the participants. It started at the London Health Sciences University Hospital where we met with transplant friends, the TGLN President Dr. Markel, CTA executives Heather Fisher and Janet Brady, Multi-Organ Transplant Program Co-Director Dr. Tony Jevnikar, Dr. Wm. Wall and the media for an exciting kick off session. We then started our journey along Highway #2 through many small towns where the excitement had gathered. Our two vans which were



**Windsor Crossing Outlet Mall** has agreed to sponsor our 1st. Annual High School Girls Slo Pitch Tournament coinciding with the 4th. Annual International Slo Pitch Tournament at Mic Mac Park June 6th. 7th. and 8th.

We are extremely grateful to General Manager Ms. Colleen Gosr for her commitment. The tourney includes teams from the GECD & WECDSB Secondary Schools. High School Slo Pitch Convenor Ms. Christine Johnston was instrumental in encouraging teams from her league to participate. The ball players will be accumulating pledges to help raise funds for the 2008 CTA Canadian Transplant Games being held in Windsor Aug. 4th-9th.

These young ladies are not only playing for pleasure and a good cause, but for Sport Fest Windsor’s High School \$500.00 bursaries being awarded to the winning school team and most valuable player.

Check out [www.sport-fest.ca](http://www.sport-fest.ca) for the schedule and come out and support these young ladies as they give their time and energy to a wonderful cause.

#### Participating schools and coaches:

Walkerville Collegiate	Kim Baker Coach
Leamington District High School	Charlene Johnston Coach
Cardinal Carter	Mark Esping Coach
J.L. Forster	Robert Adlam Coach
General Amherst	Terris Buchanan Coach

Special note received from Janet Brady CTA Past President

Hi Tom:



We were delighted to participate in the kick off from London to Windsor relay walk. Congratulations to you and Sports Fest Windsor organizers for your significant contribution to organ donation awareness as well as raising funds for the Canadian Transplant Games in Windsor. Your contribution to date for these games alone exceeds \$40,000. You and your committee are recognized for your dedication and commitment to saving lives.

On behalf of the CTA, sincere thanks for raising funds to further promote the success of organ donation and transplantation, and supporting Canada’s largest organ donor awareness event – the 2008 Canadian Transplant Games, where transplant recipients demonstrate the active, healthy lifestyle that can be achieved by many, following transplantation.

Best Regards,

Janet Brady CTA Past President

Proceeds to benefit  
2008 CTA Canadian Transplant Games  
being held in Windsor Aug. 4th.-9th.



hail towns where the excitement had gathered . Our two vans which were **onated by Chrysler/CAW Local 444**, displayed messages of organ donation awareness caused many passer bys to honk and stop to make donations.

cluded in the walking group were donor families Jim & Pat Bially (Belle River) friends, Lucille Soulliere (Windsor), Anita Ouellette (Windsor) Anita Zahn & her 12 year old daughter Julianna (Grand Bend), organ recipients Kurt Penner (Double Lung) & wife Lila (Dorchester), Debbie Cobby (Liver) & husband Ken Vheatley, Lynn Tetler (Liver) & husband Roy (Windsor) with friends Donna Amlis, Dianne York, Ann Simard & Dave Butler, Dennis Segatto (Kidney) & wife Niva (Windsor), Vlad Krndija (Kidney) with his fiancé Sonya & mother Mira (Windsor) , Cory Spooner (Heart), Jim Alliet (Liver) & wife Janice (Windsor) Paul Schooley (Heart) & wife Shirley (London), Heather Fisher, Janet Brady & Josie McHugh CTA Executives and Karen Rocheleau with her running buddies. **SPECIAL THANKS TO ADAM PRODAN FOR DRIVING.**

Coinciding with our walk from London, another group led by the Dan Lavis donor family & friends, walked from London to Toronto General Hospital for the same cause. This kind gesture was the brainchild of Dan Lavis who lost his mother in an industrial accident and their family made the courageous and arduous decision to donate his organs. A third group from Grand Bend led by Anita Zahn and her 12 year old daughter Julianna received pledges and walked from London to Windsor in honor of their father who died after three liver transplants. Ms. Kim Bossy Director of Communications at the Chatham Kent Health Alliance Hospital organized a media reception to promote our cause with local donor family Jim & Nancy Smith joining the procedures. Finally, the Colborne Fire Dept. held a small gathering to celebrate our walk & Mayor Mel Sale greeted us and praised our efforts.



### Sport Fest Windsor DONOR FAMILY TRIBUTE Jim & Pat Bially family.

Chris was born on August 31st, 1970, the first son of Jim and Pat Bially. We had waited five long years for this beautiful 7 lb. 4 oz. baby boy.

Chris Bially

His brother Andrew was born November 13th, 1972 and our family was complete. We were so pleased and lucky to be the parents of two fine young boys and our journey became filled with sports, school, friends and many enjoyable times.

In December, 2004, our lives took a very serious turn in the other direction. On December 21st, 2004, our son Chris was taken to Hotel Dieu Hospital and as administered a drug, which caused him irreparable harm. He had a Code Blue and when the doctors were able to revive him, serious damage had been done to his brain. The doctors in ICD advised that there was considerable brain damage and, if he recovered, they could not predict what form his life would take. There was the possibility that he may become a vegetable.

We spent the next three days and nights at the hospital with a prayer to God to give us a miracle, either restore Chris to his previous self or let us know that there was no hope and help us to make the right decision. His first MRI showed signs of a possible bleeding in his brain and by the third day, the second MRI showed his head had filled with blood and there were no visible signs of brain activity. Through the guidance of the Gift of Life representative, Addi White, we made the decision that if there was no hope of saving Chris, through organ donation, other people might be given a second chance at life.

We were able to donate his liver, kidneys and heart to four recipients. We received word through Gift of Life Network that all four of the recipients had received the organs and were doing well. We have also been given updates to the condition of each recipient. This reassures us that we made the right decision in donating Chris' organs. This was not a good Christmas for our family, but we were comforted by the knowledge that it was the best gift the recipients and their families could receive that Christmas.

At the time of his death, Chris was 34 years of age and in good physical condition. He was a father, had a step-son age 10 and a daughter age 5 at the time. His brother and his wife were expecting their first child and when she was born in May, 2005, they paid us the ultimate compliment by naming her Kristina after her uncle.

Of course the ultimate wish would be that Chris was still with us and enjoying his children and his niece, but knowing that other lives have been touched by his gift brings us comfort. We were in a position to let Chris give the Gift of Life and that helps our family to continue without him in our lives.

[www.ctawindsor.org](http://www.ctawindsor.org)

Tax receipt minimum \$20.00 donation

Cheque payable to CTA Windsor Games

Mail to: 5165 Colbourne Dr. Windsor ON N8T 1T6

If you haven't already made your donation please consider sending your contribution to help promote this worthy cause and give many waiting Canadians.....

**A SECOND CHANCE at LIFE**

**Coming Soon!!!**



Watch for **Jane's Fitness Corner.**

Jane Awad Certified Personal Trainer , Nutritionist and Sport Fest Windsor spokesperson will share her knowledge and expertise with us on how to stay fit and live a healthier lifestyle. Whether your young, middle aged or a senior you can look forward to nutritional advice, weight training, cardiovascular tips and more. For more information on Jane check out her two websites.

[www.trainwjane.com](http://www.trainwjane.com) and [www.janeawad.com](http://www.janeawad.com)



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Commit to Yourself

Commit to be Fit

**Recent News Release:** ...In Part..Toronto Board of Rabbis & Trillium Gift of Life Network are working together to promote organ donation awareness by delivering sermons from Toronto pulpits and distribute information pamphlets to hospital chaplains illustrating the support for organ donation within the **Jewish religion**. "It is so important that **all religions** understand that organ donation is a positive decision", said Frank Markel President & CEO of TGLN. This is the second year Toronto area Rabbis have collectively delivered "inspirational" sermons supporting organ donation. Last year the sermons helped correct a misconception that Judaism does not support organ donation & congregants across the city were inspired to make their donation wishes known by talking with their families.

For complete News Release go to [www.giftoflife.on.ca](http://www.giftoflife.on.ca)

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