

IN THE LIMELIGHT... FRED SANDESKI

by Jen Andrews

Fred is a very gentle, soft-spoken fellow. He exudes a quiet confidence, an asset sorely needed in his line of work. He is the director of CLIC - the Community Low Income Center, a not-for-profit organization he has personally raised and nurtured from its infancy.

Fred was born in Ontario the son of a paratrooper in the armed forces. He told me about life on the base, where his



mother worked as a nurse while his father continued in the Army. They soon moved west to Calgary with the rest of the large family, seven siblings in total.

By the time Fred was 12 he had moved again with his family, this time to Weyburn for his mother's job. She had secured a position at Souris Valley as a nurse, and his father then did electrical and maintenance work around town.

Like so many good, solid, small-town folk, Fred learned early the values of hard work and perseverance. His keen love of information, his curiosity about the world he lived in, and his easy-going manner all prepared him for working in the restaurant industry. He excelled there as well, moving to different towns and climbing the

corporate ladder the whole time.

But Weyburn was always home, and to Weyburn he returned. In the intervening years he met and married Theresa, who had two sons by a previous marriage, and Fred ended up adopting them. They have since been blessed by adopting two more children, Faith (who is now eight), and Josiah (a toddler).

Capable Fred saw a hole in our little community, and decided to go ahead and fill it. He created the Community Low Income Center, and did it without government funding. Only through the generosity of the community has he been able to turn his idea into reality, thereby affecting literally hundreds of lives.

"I like to think that I have an open heart and ensure people get what

they need," he told me. Like any small-town man, he also likes to help those who can help themselves, for there are some people out there who would expect help but offer nothing in return.

He credits his family as being the most calming influence in his life, his shelter from the storm of the outside world. Even at home he has an insatiable curiosity, constantly researching the topics that interest him the most. "I like information. I like to be well-informed. I like to ask questions."

He certainly gets results. I can think of no one more qualified to turn to when times are bad. He'll let you cry on his shoulder, then he'll get to work.

For more information on the Community Low Income Center, please read the 411 located below.

Solving the gopher problem at A.P.E.S.



Assiniboia Park Elementary School has seen an invasion of the little ground squirrels, their holes almost causing hazards for children playing nearby. So, they started working with representatives from Sask Power, Conservation Officer Gord Smoliak and Neil and Dianne Eddy, who farm near the school, on a project to install a nesting platform for Ferruginous Hawks. Mr. Eddy agreed to let Sask Power install the platform on his land which is just northeast of the school. Grade 6 student Alex Huard built the nest for the hawks, which was then placed on the platform built and erected by Sask Power.

Ferruginous Hawks are native to this region, often flying south to winter in the southern states. They are identified by rust coloured legs, with white breasts and wings. A nesting pair of Ferruginous Hawks will each eat approximately 450 gophers in a season while raising their young. Assiniboia Park's playground would be in the hawk's hunting range. Hopefully, the hawks will hunt the gophers on Assiniboia Park's playground resulting in fewer gopher holes on the sports fields.

Assiniboia Park Elementary School would like to thank those who helped with this project. The photo of the hawk perch is courtesy of Bev Rumpel.

THE 411 ON... THE COMMUNITY LOW INCOME CENTER (CLIC)

by Jen Andrews

Many of us have, at one point in our lives, dipped below the poverty line. Whether through the loss of a job, the birth of a child, the illness or death of a family member, there are a thousand reasons to set us back financially. Low income often leads to fewer opportunities and poorer health. For people who have suddenly found themselves in a bad situation, or for people who just can't seem to climb out of the black hole of low income, there is a resource in town. It's the Community Low Income Center, and we're blessed to have it.

The Community Low Income Center's mandate is to make available the social, cultural, and economic opportunities to those citizens who might not otherwise have those opportunities.

Think of it as the hub on a wheel. It does not intend to duplicate the services of other government agencies; instead it acts as a catalyst, finding out the needs of each client, then referring them to the correct agencies. It provides access to the avenues of help needed by these low income families.

Because low income is a situation that almost anyone can fall into, it is a blessing to know that this agency exists. The Centre can provide assistance on any number of problems to help you get back on your feet. Such as employment counseling, helping refine interview skills, polishing a resume, and how to perform job searches.

The Community Low Income Center also offers budget counseling, and

training on how to make and keep a successful budget for any given household. If housing is needed, CLIC is there to help in finding affordable housing, and can help documenting the conditions when moving in or moving out.

Basically, CLIC is the first step to make when you are in a low income situation.

The Community Low Income Center is not a government mandated organization. It was actually formed by a local man, Fred Sandeski, who saw a need in the community and decided to fill it. They receive no government funding, and exists only by the generous donations of Weyburn citizens and other local companies such as Human Resource Development Canada, Canadian Mental Health Association Weyburn Branch, Canadian Labour Congress (Prairie Region),

Weyburn Ministerial Association, Community Resources and Employment, and SaskTel. If you are able to make donations, please do so.

To find out what the Community Low Income Center can do for you,

drop in at their office at 404 Ashford Street, Weyburn, or check out their webpage at www.weyburnclic.com. Office hours at from 8 to 5, Monday through Friday, and their phone number is 842-7959.



Residents enjoyed ...

Weyburn Comprehensive's STARS choir performed at the Weyburn Special Care Home last Monday night. The YF Wives hired them to perform in exchange for a \$500 donation to go towards the air conditioning in the Comp's cafetorium.

— Photo by Penny Tochor

DRINKING ALCOHOL DURING PREGNANCY CAN CAUSE FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER

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For More Information Contact:
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