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Weather



PERIODS OF **RAIN**

HIGH OF 13 LOW OF 6



TUESDAY: MIX OF SUN AND CLOUD

HIGH OF 22 LOW OF 10



WEDNESDAY: **SUNNY**

HIGH OF 26 LOW OF 12



THURSDAY: **CLOUDY**

HIGH OF 23 LOW OF 14



FRIDAY: 60 PER CENT OF SHOWERS

HIGH OF 25 LOW OF 14

The Record | The Ken Jones Respite Program has room for new clients



THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

The Ken Jones Respite-KJC (a program of the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre-CABMN) in Mansonville has room available for new clients who meet the criteria of the program. The program provides a day of respite for caregivers of persons with intellectual and physical disabilities and gives the clients a group of friends to join for a day of fun and activities. Activities include: crafts, games, in house bowling, leaning activities, socializing and

While the group has had to adjust its weekly gatherings during the Covid pandemic in following government directives, it normally takes place from morning until afternoon in the Youth Centre building located at 282 Principale in Mansonville in an atmosphere of friendship and caring. Coordinated and animated by CABMN staff, Sheila Samborsky and Eszter Csiszer, who have long animated the respite day, the program is a highlight for clients and admittedly both animators feel that they get a lot from their time spent with the group

"It's a win/win situation," said Samborsky. "We look forward to our Thursday spent in the company of the clients and they always arrive eager and happy to partake in the



activities."

Working with this clientele base sometimes results in clients being hospitalized, or due to an increase in needs they sometimes have to be $moved \ to \ other homes \ or \ care \ facilities$ outside of the MRC Memphremagog West, and this results in their having to leave the group.

"It is always difficult when we lose a member of our group," shared Csiszer, who animates with Samborsky. "There is a hole that is difficult to fill as each of our clients is special in many ways."

The group is presently attended by 6 persons and there is room for two or three more. The KJC organizers are encouraging people to share this information and to encourage those who may be caregivers to potential clients to get in touch with the animators, who are willing to welcome a new client on a trial basis providing he or she meet the requirements of the program.

For more information about the Ken Jones Respite program visit the CABMN website at: www.cabmn. org or call the CAB at 450-292-3114. Calling on a Thursday at 450-292-4886 will mean reaching the animators of the KJC respite directly, as they are at the centre every week on Thursdays only. If caregivers call the CAB office, all calls regarding this program will be referred to Samborsky and Csiszer, who will be happy to explain the program and the requirements once they joining receive the message.

I believe the sentiment and opinion regarding the program is best conveyed by group member, Tom Peacock. When asked how he feels about participating in the Ken Jones Respite day, he simply answered, "I



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Ben by Daniel Shelton





