

# Golden Age Club gives \$5,000 to new rec complex



Ron Giofu The Amherstburg Echo

The Golden Age Club donated \$5,000 to help fundraising efforts for the United Communities Credit Union Complex. Front row (from left): Theresa Bellefleur, Eve McCaffrey, Mayor Wayne Hurst, Stella Bondy and Golden Age Club president Fern Elliott. Back row (from left): Don McCaffrey, Mary Hulett and June McManemy.

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The Amherstburg Echo

AMHERSTBURG — The Golden Age Club will be calling the United Communities Credit Union Complex home and have donated \$5,000 towards fundraising.

Club president Fern Elliott, joined by various members of the club executive, handed over a \$5,000 cheque to Mayor Wayne Hurst and Amherstburg Community Foundation head Debi Croucher at the March 7 town council meeting.

Croucher noted that the foundation and club have shared the Amherstburg Recreation & Cultural Centre for 18 months and knows first-hand the Golden Age Club and an “active” and “energetic” club.

Originally, the club was scheduled to move to the new complex in February but delays have pushed that date back to the end of March. Elliott said she was pleased cupboards were recently installed.

“We’re anxious to move into our new home now that we’re going there,” she said.

Elliott added the club has roughly

200 members that counts card games, line dancing and bingo amongst their many activities.

“We’re a very active club,” she said.

Mayor Wayne Hurst thanked the club for their donation and assured them “it won’t be long now” before they can move

over there.

“This is really wonderful,” said Coun. Bart DiPasquale of the donation, adding the group now has additional room to expand.

“You will like it. There’s so much you can do,” added Coun. Bob Pillon.

# Making literacy fun at Stella Maris School

**Ron Giofu**  
The Amherstburg Echo

AMHERSTBURG — Students, staff and parents at Stella Maris School were given a new, fun way to look at literacy last night.

Author, illustrator and storyteller Dez Sargeant appeared twice at the local elementary school last week, once speaking to the students and another evening performance addressing students and their parents.

Sargeant, who has spent the last 20 years speaking with students, offered an energetic and upbeat approach to her presentation. The presentation included her telling stories and encouraging students and parents to write a story of their own.

“I can take 10 words and make up a story,” she said. “I’ll teach them to do that.”

The London-based Sargeant said she wants to encourage literacy not only in schools, but at home as well. She said she left resource material at Stella Maris School so her lessons can continue.

“It’s not just one flash in the pan. It can continue throughout the school year,” said Sargeant.

Principal Bridget Russo said she and parent council chair Jan Little found out about Sargeant through Sargeant’s web site and were able to bring her in. Russo said the school was pleased with the evening turnout, as approximately 50 people attended.

“It’s a way of inviting parents in and we like to do something with literacy involved. I’m happy with the turnout,” she said. “(Sargeant) is very creating and she is very captivating. We’re very pleased.”

Sargeant’s web site is [www.dezsargeant.com](http://www.dezsargeant.com).



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Dez Sargeant performs during a recent literacy event at Stella Maris School. Sargeant performed once for the students and once for families.

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**Nancy Greenaway**  
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243 Dalhousie St  
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Tel: 519-730-0695  
[nancy.greenaway@nbpcd.com](mailto:nancy.greenaway@nbpcd.com)

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