

By Barbara Baer Pillay

Our many fun and fundraising events are profiled elsewhere in this newsletter so I thought that I would share the stories of two remarkable young women who haven't come to NABIS for service, but instead, to serve.

Chelsea is a young lawyer who after living in Vancouver for some time relocated back to Edmonton to be closer to her mom who suffered a cerebral hemorrhage at the young age of 57. Chelsea wasn't back in the city for long before one of her colleagues, Fran Zinger, also a lawyer at Cummings Andrews MacKay LLP and a NABIS Board Director asked Chelsea if she would like to be on the GALA committee. Chelsea said, "Yes," and then before you know it, Chelsea found herself on the marketing committee as well. We welcome Chelsea and thank her for her commitment to serve.



The WEB brought us another young woman, Sarah, who found the NABIS website when she was looking to get connected into the brain injury world so that she too could help

out. Her mother, as well, suffered a brain injury at a young age due to chronic untreated ear infections so that now she lives with the symptoms of stroke. Sarah, a first year student at Grant MacEwan, made up her mind that she was going to bring the issue of brain injury to the public all by herself, if need be, and she was going to do it by shaving her head! Since people can shave their heads for cancer and call attention to the effects of cancer treatment, she could do the same and show the world her mom's own experience as 'a close shave' because her mom almost didn't survive the brain injury. Sarah is busy collecting pledges and the grand ceremony of the cutting of the hair will happen sometime during Brain Injury Awareness Week, details still to be

worked out as I write this.

As NABIS Volunteer and Fund Development Manager, I wanted you to learn about these two young women who so inspire and humble me, although I don't think I will be shaving off my newly-coloured doo anytime soon.

And let's not forget Curtis Anderson and his trail ride around his hometown of Innisfree which he and his family are organizing for the third year in a row. These are all individuals who have been impacted by brain injury and instead of feeling powerless, have turned their situation into a reason for reaching out to others in a similar situation. If you would like to know more about any of our events, or how you can help, you can always call me at the NABIS office, 479-1757.

**COURAGE CANADA  
TRAIL RIDE with  
CURTIS ANDERSON**  
May 31 & June 01, 2008  
Saturday & Sunday




- 10 am start with different routes each day around the **Innisfree Area**
- bring your snacks
- approximately 10 mile ride
- wagon ride available
- camping available in the area

**Dinner 7:00 pm  
Saturday evening -  
Minburn Community Hall  
provided by  
Tammy & Tony Freimark**

**For more details call:**  
(780) 678-2368, (780)592-2268,  
(780)853-7253 or 853-0966

*Donations will be shared equally:*  
a) to support the information services at  
NABIS Brain Injury Society (NABIS) and  
b) to help with the transportation costs of people who have  
family at Ponoka's Halvar Jonson Centre for Brain Injury.