

# Green Sun to help Oakland University

By Dave Hall, The Windsor Star January 14, 2010

Windsor-based [Green Sun Rising](#) is partnering with Michigan's Oakland University to design a large-scale thermal solar energy system.

Green Sun president Klaus Dohring is a design consultant for the university's project, which also involves Solid, an Austrian company already well known in the renewable energy sector. Solid operates a large solar thermal systems in Europe, the United States and Asia.

"This project is just the beginning of our partnership," said Dohring.

In the future, it is expected to involve Green Sun in development of several commercial-scale solar thermal systems in Canada and the Great Lakes region of the United States.

The system at Oakland University, now in the planning stages, will use the most advanced renewable technology available, Dohring said.

A solar thermal system can typically provide 30 to 80 per cent of the energy needed for domestic water heating. It can also be used for cooling in the summer when combined with cooling absorption systems.

Green Sun, which specializes in residential and commercial thermal systems, has a Windsor plant located in the Renewable Energy Technology Centre, at 1680 Kildare Rd.

## ADVICE OFFERED FOR TOUGH TIMES

The University of Windsor's entrepreneur in residence is giving a free public presentation on remaining resilient in tough times.

Karen Behune Plunkett, a principal with Pinpoint Strategic Direction, will be talking about strengthening personal and business resilience Jan. 27 at the Coffee Office, 1361 Ouellette Ave.

The session runs 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and a continental breakfast is included.

PinPoint is a coaching and consulting firm, encouraging entrepreneurs and small business owners to effectively identify goals and priorities. The company offers strategic support for all stages of small business, including startups, expansion and repositioning.

Over her years in business, Behune Plunkett owned Caterings, Chez Vins, Plunkett's Bistro and Walkerville Brewery, some in partnership with husband Michael Plunkett.

To register for the seminar, call 519-567-9911 and for information on PinPoint, call 519-567-4117.

## GIFT ASSOCIATION HONOURS EDWARDS

Julie Edwards of Cottam has been named sales rep of the year by the Canadian Gift and Tableware Association, just three years after receiving an honourable mention in the same category.

"I worked in retail and banking for a number of years and just wanted an opportunity to do something different," said Edwards.

"It's a fun, light business with fairly flexible hours. I'm on the road virtually every day but it's always something different and I guess that's what I enjoy most about it."

Among the local customers serviced by Edwards are Cameron's Book Store, Brisebois Christian Book Store and Gift Shoppe, and Ziter Pharmacy.

Edwards, who won the prize while working for giftware distributor Cherison Enterprises Inc., will receive her award at the spring gift show in Toronto Jan. 31 to Feb. 4.

Edwards has been serving retailers in the area for the past 12 years and was rewarded based on votes from retailers across the country.

"Dealing with Julie is like dealing with a friend," said Karen Walker, of D.S. Walker Jewellers, which voted for Edwards and cited her positive, cheerful attitude.

#### ALVAREZ TO SPEAK AT SOFTECH MEETING

The Softech Alliance Network will be holding a general meeting Jan. 21 in tandem with a presentation by Gene Alvarez, vice-president of research for the Gartner Group.

Alvarez will speak about how relationship management technologies drive growth and the necessity of leveraging these new technologies in an ever-expanding market.

Registration begins at 5 p.m. at the Caboto Club with dinner at 5:30 p.m. and Alvarez to follow at 6:15 p.m.

Following Alvarez, there will be a presentation by Mark Meldrum, a professor of entrepreneurship at the University of Windsor.

To register, visit [www.softechalliance.ca](http://www.softechalliance.ca).

#### REVENUE AGENCY PLANNING WORKSHOP

Canada Revenue Agency will be holding a workshop Jan. 27 on the federal government's scientific research and experimental development program.

It will cover eligibility criteria, qualifying expenditures, how to prepare and file a claim and supporting documentation required.

There is no charge to attend the session, which is designed for those new to the program, those planning to file a claim and is suitable for both technical and financial staff. It will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the CRA offices at 185 Ouellette Ave. Pre-registration is required by visiting [www.cra.gc.ca](http://www.cra.gc.ca) and clicking on "events and seminars."

#### BONDY TO ADDRESS WOMEN'S FORUM

Renee Bondy, an instructor in the women's studies program at the University of Windsor, is scheduled to be guest speaker Jan. 26 at a meeting of the Women's Economic Forum of Windsor.

Bondy is a Canadian historian whose current research examines the lives of women in the Vatican II and post-Vatican II years. She teaches courses on the history of women's activism, women's sexuality and women and friendship.

She's expected to speak on association for intellectual culture and women's book clubs, past and present.

Registration and networking begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Other Place Catering at 1395 Walker Rd. Dinner is at 6:30 followed by the speaker at 7:30 p.m.

Cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for guests. Tickets can be obtained by calling 519-992-5993 or by visiting [www.womenseconomicforum.com](http://www.womenseconomicforum.com).

#### FOCUS ON THE FUTURE SEMINAR JAN. 26

A Focus on the Future seminar for families supporting and planning with a family member who has a disability will be held Jan. 26 at Place Concorde, 7515 Forest Glade Dr.

Presenters include lawyer Karl Gerstheimer, tax expert Carolyn Castellano, of Canada Revenue Agency, and financial planners Roger Pattenaude and Diane Brown, of BMO Bank of Montreal. Topics to be covered include wills, estate planning, disability tax credits, discretionary trusts and child disability benefits.

The session runs from 6:15 p.m. to 9 p.m. and costs \$5 for pre-registered participants and \$10 for others.

It's sponsored by the Windsor-Essex Family Network, the Windsor Essex Brokerage of Personal Supports and Autism Services Incorporated of Windsor and Essex County. To register, call 519-974-1008 or by email to

[info@windsoressexfamnet.ca](mailto:info@windsoressexfamnet.ca).

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