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Southbridge Evening News ►

## A place to work and learn, a place to belong

Tradewinds offers work opportunities, community involvement

by Kevin Flanders

[write the author](#)

November 14, 2011

SOUTHBRIDGE – Members of Tradewinds Clubhouse don't let mental illnesses prevent them from achieving personal success and making meaningful contributions to their communities.

Each day they strive to take advantage of employment opportunities and participate in many volunteer and educational endeavors as well.

Tradewinds Clubhouse, which has served adults with mental illnesses from area communities since 1990, provides its nearly 600 members with the chance to increase their social, vocational, and learning skills. True to its name, the clubhouse offers members a place to belong, assisting them with determining their goals and helping them to achieve those goals.



Tradewinds Clubhouse program coordinator Lisa Thiel, left, poses with Sarah Chalk, of Southbridge, a member of the clubhouse. Kevin Flanders. (click for larger version)

"Tradewinds is among only a few hundred accredited clubhouses throughout the world that help their members search for work and educational opportunities," said Lisa Thiel, a program coordinator at Tradewinds Clubhouse. "We work hard to help ensure that all of our members are successful in their efforts to continue their educations and gain employment."

For more on this story, please see tomorrow's Southbridge Evening News.

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