PASSAGES

THE LONG ISLAND, BRIER ISLAND AND DIGBY NECK NEWS

Volume 17, Issue 1 **$2.00** January 2015

Happy New Year!

Christmas on the Islands

INSIDE PASSAGES:

Heather Prime says farewll to her bird column

A Happy Ending: Little River Residents go out of their way to save a deer

Meet Mr. Manners: ICS has a king of etiquette

Birds of a Heather columnist hangs up her binoculars...sorry to see you go

Dear Readers,

At this time I have to inform you that I have to step down from the writing of my bird column in Passages..

It has been a fun and much enjoyed 14 yrs. (think it has been 14).

Writing my column was to tell you of people's sightings, stories, pictures etc. For some time now I have been finding myself trying to fill my column each month. Without getting info from readers, it's very hard to write a column.

Based on my column, back in 2002, I decided to do a bird contest for the kids. It has been a lot of fun. Thanks to all the kids and teachers who have made this such a great success. Thanks again to all my loyal sponsors I have had; cause without them I couldn't have done it. We have two Islands full of talented kids.

Hopefully the Freeport Development Centre will find a replacement for me to do the bird column, as I'm sure they will in time.

Thanks to the Passages group for letting me be part of this wonderful paper. And thank you to all my loyal readers over the years.

Yours truly,

Heather Prime

(Editor's note: We'd like to thank Heather for her wonderful contribution to Passages over the many years she did the column. We truly appreciate all the work she put into it and her wonderful bird contest for the kids. Heather taught us all a lot about this wonderful place we live in. So thanks Heather, from your many friends at Passages, and the readers who have enjoyed your column for all of these years.)

The volunteers at *Passages* would like to thank the many sponsors who are supporting this newspaper with their dollars.

We'd also like to thank the growing number of subscribers who are getting *Passages* by email as well as regular mail

Sponsorship costs $100.00 or sponsorship and an email subscription for one year is $120.00 (a $125.00 value). The online version of *Passages* costs $25.00 per year. Mail subscriptions are $45.00/year in Canada and $50.00/year to the USA.

For subscriptions and Sponsorships, call Brenda Teed at 839-2669 or e-mail: brendateed44@gmail.com.

Passages e-mail address is: 1passages@gmail.com or mail to: Passages, PO Box 39, Freeport, NS B0V 1B0.

To add an event to the Community Calendar, e-mail: 1passages@gmail.com.

Andy Moir was editor of this month's paper and Letitia Thimot will edit next month's issue.

Deadline for submissions for the February issue is January 25th.

Application for Citizen Appointment

The Digby Municipal Council is seeking one (1) citizen representative to sit on the Heritage Advisory Committee. Ideal candidate shall have a combination of attributes which address the needs of the committee including experience in serving on committees; an interest in local history and built heritage; experience in museums, historical societies.

Applications are invited from interested residents of the Municipality of the District of Digby to serve on this committee. The term of appointments will be for 2 years.

Applications can be picked up at the Municipal Building at 12548 Hwy 217, Seabrook, NS.

Applications will be received from residents of the Municipality of the District of Digby by the undersigned until 4:00 pm January 23, 2015.

Linda Fraser
Chief Administrative Officer
Municipality of the District of Digby
PO Box 429
Digby, Nova Scotia
B0V 1A0

Oh deer! A dramatic rescue at sea

By Anna-Marie MacKenzie Kelly
as told by Dorothy Tidd
Photos by Junior Taylor

What would you do if you were being chased by coyotes? It is presumed a deer, seen struggling on the rocks below Eastern Head, in Little River, plunged from the cliff to escape being chased by coyotes. The deer was observed faltering on the rocks for two days by staff at Fishermen's Market Lobster Pound. They tried contacting different agencies to get help for the 100 pound doe but were basically told to let nature take its course.

On the morning of Tuesday 16 December, Wanda Tidd decided to try one more time. She called Dorothy Tidd, a long-time resident and full-time volunteer in Little River and asked her if she had any connections to get help for this deer. Dorothy' response was, "Give me a few minutes." A few phone calls later and Dorothy was speaking with William Grover from the Department of Natural Resources in Cornwallis. Knowing her husband, Lauriston, was a long-time fisherman in Little River, he asked to speak with him to assess the situation before heading out. They decided approaching from the water in a small boat would be their best option.

It was 11:30 and low tide when Mr. Grover arrived. Dorothy's son, Christopher, provided the row boat which, due to the low tide, had to be lowered down from the end of the wharf with a hoist. Dorothy's youngest son, Gregory, manned the oars and rowed Mr. Glover out to the rocks where the deer lay tucked in a crevice. She remained calm as they observed her and made a further assessment.

Back at the wharf, another phone call, this time to the Natural Resource office in Lawrencetown to request support from personnel with a tranquilizer gun. At 1:30 pm, with tranquilizer in hand, Gregory outfitted the two men in life suits and once again, Gregory rowed out.

This time, the deer leapt from the crevice and plunged into the water, swimming towards Little River Harbour. A rowboat does not move as swiftly as a frightened deer! She tried a number of times to climb onto the embankment but was not successful. Luckily for the rescue team, she swam right between Little River's two wharves. Once again, she was unable to climb onto the rocks and they were able to successfully shoot her with two tranquilizers and lift her into the dory.

Gregory rowed right up Little River to the slip by the bridge. Again, they were in luck as the tide was at the perfect point to allow the dory to meet the truck. The doe was transported to the field behind Lauriston and Dorothy Tidd's home, covered in blankets warmed in the dryer by Dorothy and injected with a tranquilizer reversal.

Wait, watch, wait...90 minutes ticked by before she finally lifted her head and looked around and lowered her head again. There were a few more raises of her head before she slowly got to her feet. It seemed like her rescue team had all been holding their breath until this moment! Despite the excitement, everyone managed to keep very quiet as she slowly moved over to the thicket behind the neighbour's house where she lay back down. The men from DNR maintained a watch over her for another half hour before deciding she would be fine.

Dorothy has kept a lookout for her since but has not observed her. A few days after the rescue, I did see a lone deer standing on the lawn of a home overlooking the marsh across from where she sat out her recovery. Could this have been the lucky doe?

She did have a tag inserted in her ear so in Dorothy's words! "If anyone happens to bag a tagged doe during next year's season, you probably have Miracle from Little River Harbour." Dorothy also would like to say thanks to the women at the lobster pound who did not give up their determination to save the deer.

Letter to the editor:

The December issue of Passages was enough to bring tears to my eyes. To see deer shot and wasted should cause most people to become extremely angry and to try and bring prosecution to those who are responsible. The same is true for the folks who chose to drive their vehicle through signs owned by the community and through the ball yard built by volunteers.

There are very, very few secrets on these little islands. I am someone who spends days and days at a time without leaving my own yard. For me to be made aware of the names of those responsible tells those who hunted illegally and those who willingly destroyed community property that it is likely only a matter of time before someone with a warrant will come looking to have a chat with you. Because I learned of the two acts that were raised in Passages by way of "gossip", I haven't and won't repeat those names to anyone else because I have no proof of their actual responsibility. Gossip thrives in small villages everywhere, it is a very distasteful habit, but, in a case like this it can also be a help. Someone will eventually spread the word to someone else who might have direct knowledge and who might be willing to raise the issue with the authorities.

Most of this deer was left to rot

Destroyed interpretive sign in Freeport

I am not a hunter, never have been. I don't own a firearm and don't want one. People who own firearms and use them illegally are, in my mind, criminals and should be prosecuted.

I rarely participate in volunteer events in this community; I have no real vested interest in the cost of the destruction caused to community property, but, again, the folks that are responsible are criminals and should be prosecuted.

All I can say to those folks who are directly responsible for being the village idiots of the month is shame on you. The deer can't be brought back, they're gone, but, the signs and ball yard can be fixed. The gentlemen who destroyed the property can pony up the cash to have it repaired.

Thank you
Tom Frook
Central Grove

BRUCE auto group

Career Opportunity

Bruce Chevrolet Buick GMC is currently looking for a Sales Consultant to join our team in our Digby location! If you are an ambitious, reliable and motivated individual and would like to join our team we have a great opportunity for you!

Qualifications include:

- Self-motivated and have the drive to deliver results
- Possess a good work ethic and a positive attitude
- Have strong relationship building skills
- Strongly focused on customer service and customer retention
- Ability to concentrate on building a strong customer base to encourage repeat business
- Organizational ability and attention to detail to complete paperwork accurately and efficiently
- Experience would be an asset

Benefits include:

- Competitive compensation based on your achievements
- Extensive and continuous training opportunities
- Comprehensive benefits package
- Company RSP matching program
- A dynamic team environment, where you will be supported and given the tools you need to succeed.

This is a full time position.
Please submit your application to:
Stacey Brake - Human Resources
Reference Sales Consultant - Digby
Bruce Auto Group
394 Main Street
Middleton, NS
B0S 1P0
Confidential email: hr@bruceautogroup.com
Confidential fax: 902.825.3120

Freeport Out and About

By Brenda Teed
brendateed44@gmail.com
839-2669

Happy New Year to all of our subscribers! Hope the New Year is good to everyone and that our winter is a mild one!

I am afraid I don't have very much news for our column for this month.

The lobster fisherfolk (have to be 'politically correct' you know) have had some terrible weather this season so far. The wind just didn't seem to want to quit and as we all know nearly one week was lost to the weather. Since they finally got the traps in the water, it has still continued to blow. But our people are a hardy lot and they keep going anyway. Not too sure if the catch is good compared to last year or bad in comparison. Nobody tells!

The Freeport Super Seniors enjoyed a lovely turkey dinner at Lavena's Catch Cafe this month and the coconut cream pie was to die for!

Roger and I spent a couple of days in Bridgewater visiting with our son Stephen and his family. Our new grandson is growing so quickly and is now becoming very vocal! So cute at the 6 month age.

Jeff, Helen and Alyssa Teed spent overnight in Halifax this month while picking up their daughter Amanda who is a student at Mount Saint Vincent University. Amanda will spend Christmas with her family. On the way home they stopped in Bridgewater and visited with Jeff's brother Steve and family. It was the first time Amanda had met her cousin Tucker!

Visiting with Linda Elliott recently were her daughter Bev and husband Gary Roebuck of Dartmouth. Also visiting was her son Laurie Elliott of Halifax.

Walter and Diane Crocker have had a wonderful Christmas Holiday beginning with a Caribbean Cruise to celebrate their 50th Anniversary and then spending Christmas in Fort Lauderdale with their daughter Melanie and family from Digby

Kitchen Crew - Norma, Millie, April, Dianne, Nancy & Sheila

The Sunshine Bible Class of Tiverton celebrated their annual Christmas Dinner on the 13th with a ham dinner and all the fixin's. Home-made pies were the order of the evening for dessert and they were varied and delicious! Some of the girls from the group EPIC helped with the serving and cleaning up. I understand Bailey is quite the sweeper! Perhaps he should hire himself out!

Epic girls who served - Miranda Perry, Camryn Pyne, and Danielle Pyne

Get well wishes go out to Eugene Titus of Tiverton who underwent surgery in Yarmouth recently. I understand he is battling pneumonia at the time of writing. Also get well wishes for Donna Ossinger who underwent surgery in Halifax. Hope you're feeling much better now Donna!

David and Judy Teed spent Christmas in the valley with Judy's son Darrin and family and her daughter Lisa and her family.

Paula Outhouse of Tiverton is home recuperating after hip surgery in Kentville recently. Bet you're glad it's all behind you, Paula and you can enjoy Christmas pain free.

I would like to say hello to my cousin Maxine Major who is now a subscriber to Passages thanks to her daughter's Christmas gift! Maxine resides at St. Vincent's Guesthouse in Halifax, N.S.

Roger and Dorothy Outhouse spent Christmas with their son Stephen and family in Ottawa, Ontario.

Patsy Titus spent Christmas with her niece Cheynna and Peter Banks and family.

I guess that's about it for this month. I'm sure there is lots of other news out there, but I can't report it if I don't know it! Have a healthy and prosperous New Year everyone!

Members of the Freeport Fire Department would like to thank everyone for their support this year. We wish each and everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy and Safe New 2015 Year!

Islands Consolidated School Wraps Up Hunger!

From December 1st to December 19th, staff and students at Islands Consolidated School were challenged to meet specific food bank needs for twelve days. The food drive called *Wrap Up Hunger* was organized by the grade 10 and 11 O2 students at Islands Consolidated School. Students and staff collected: 21 hot drink items, 98 cans of soup, 33 packages of fruit and/or pudding, 36 juice items, 61 pantry staples, 24 spices, 8 bags of sugar, 40 packages of crackers/ cookies, 79 meal sides, 56 cans of vegetables or fruit, 60lbs of potatoes, 44 boxes/bags of cereal, 20 loaves of bread, 46 sandwich meats and/or condiment items. Over 626 items in total were collected by the 114 students and 24 staff members at Islands Consolidated School. The items will be distributed locally on Long Island and Brier Island and hopefully make the holidays a little more comfortable for families in need.

Alex Wentzell wins Mr. Manners!

All of the ICS elementary students participated in the manners exploratory taught by "Miss Mary" and "Miss Jenny" this month. During the course of the day, ten children were crowned king and queen of manners but at the end of the day, through judging and points, Alex was chosen as the student with the most manners, great job Alex. Congratulations!

Our Readers Write

Brenda and all volunteers – A Very Merry Christmas to you all. We look forward to Passages although being away from the Island we don't know most of the people but can relate to their parents. We look forward to Passages every month. Have a great New Years and carry on the excellent work. Paul and Yvonne Bailey – Newfoundland

Municipality of Digby

Joint RCMP Advisory Board Citizen Appointments

The Municipal Council is seeking three (3) individuals from the Municipality of the District of Digby in working with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, to develop a vision on how policing services are to be delivered to County residents. The Joint RCMP Advisory Board is created under the Authority of the Nova Scotia Police Act, and will also include three elected Municipal Council representatives and a member appointed by the Minister of Justice.

Letters of application will be received from residents of the Municipality by the undersigned until **12:00 PM (Noon) on January 23, 2015**. Letters of application should include a brief biography of the individual and information on skills or assets that will be useful to the committee. An applicant must supply three professional and/or volunteer related references. All applicants must consent to criminal and background checks.

Linda Fraser
Chief Administrative Officer
Municipality of the District of Digby
PO Box 429
Digby, NS
B0V 1A0
lfraser@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Westport Out and About

Julia Gaudet
deeputt@ns.sympatico.ca
902-839-2181

Happy New Year Everyone! It's hard to believe another year has gone by, another Christmas celebrated. I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season and that Santa was good to each and every one of you.

Congratulations to Heather Gass and Scott Maston of Westport on the birth of their son Robert Duncan Maston born at the Yarmouth Hospital on November 26.

November 29th, 2014 was a sad day for those of us who knew and loved Wilson Outhouse of Tiverton. Wilson left our world for a more beautiful place to be safe in the arms of the Lord. At the age of 97 Wilson lived a great life and was well known for his kindness, good nature and great stories of the past. He will be missed by his family, friends and his Super Senior buddies and the impact that he made on the community will live on forever. God Bless and take good care of our Special Friend!

Sympathy goes out to Ruth Verber and family of Rhode Island,on the passing of her husband Jim on November 30th. Jim was a wonderful friend to all those that had the pleasure of knowing him and will be greatly missed by his family, friends and the community of Brier Island.

On November 30th my friend Kim Handspiker of Digby became a grandmother. Grandson
Levi Alan was born at the IWK weighing 10lbs,10ozs. Proud parents are Anjelica and Alex Frankland of Halifax. Congratulations to the Happy Family!

The Westport Recreation Ladies Auxiliary held their annual Christmas Tea and Bazaar on December 6.Santa was able to stop by for a visit and have photos taken with the children. It was a great turnout and all tables were booked with a variety of local crafters, baked goods and much more. That night was the lighting of the memory tree; despite the rainy evening a good turnout of people arrived to hang their bows/balls in memory of their loved ones and to enjoy hot chocolate and sing Christmas carols.

Congratulations to the winners of the Christmas Raffles... Christmas Turkey Hamper won by Tamara Albright and Inflatable Snowman won by Penny Graham.

Westport Winter Wonderland contest was won by Penny Graham. Thanks to our judges Dean Robinson and Neil Green for judging the houses. It was so nice to see the star back up and lit at Penny Graham's residence during the Christmas season. I'm sure that Roy was smiling and happy to know his Star was shining once again.

Best Wishes go out to Lindsey Titus of Westport who had a fishing mishap aboard his boat the first of the lobster season. I hear he had a good check up on his fingers on December 16th, and hoping he won't be "on hold" much longer.

Sending out Best Wishes to Paula Outhouse of Tiverton, who had hip surgery on December 10th,at the Kentville Hospital. I'm sure that's the best Christmas present that Paula received.

Good to see Dan Norwood back home with his family during the holiday season and I'm sure that Sophie & Noah are glad that dad will be sticking around for a few months before heading back to Whitehorse. Enjoy your time with your family Dan.

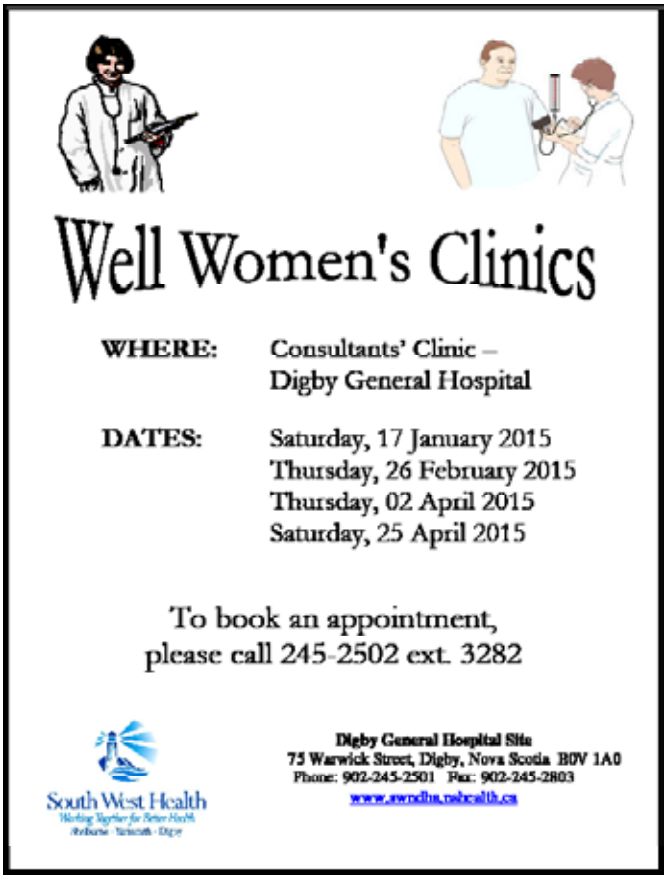
The residents of Brier Island would like to welcome Pastor Joe Chaisson, wife Nancy and their daughter Amelia to the community. They recently moved to the island from the Kingston area along with their dogs King and Sergeant. We hope you settle in and enjoy Island life.

Elda Titus and daughter Lana of Aylesford enjoyed a pre Christmas family visit at the home of Deborah Josey's in Cole Harbour.

I would like to wish my mom Muriel Guier a Happy **85th** Birthday on January 30th. Love and Happiness in the New Year! xoxo

Well that's all the news for this month. If you have any news you would like to share please call or e-mail me.

Thank You all for helping me in the past few months, without your help I wouldn't be able to report on what happens on our Island.



Birthday girls - Rikki Clements, Alva McDormand & Eleanor Bailey with Santa and his elfs

Westport Bazaar tradition continues

By Jessica Thimot

December 6th was the annual Christmas Tea and Bazaar at the Westport Fire Hall. Tables were sold out and a great crowd of folks came out to shop from local crafters/bakers, enjoy the tea and catch up with friends. The highlight for many of the children was the arrival of Santa; he visited with children and adults and passed out some treats to the little ones.

The lighting of the memory tree took place that night, bows and bulbs were hung in memory of loved ones. Christmas carols were sung and hot chocolate was enjoyed.

The light exchange took place as well, many people showed up to exchange old sets for new led lights, and we hope to keep this a yearly event.

The auxiliary would like to thank everyone who baked for the tea and to the communities for your continued support.

Alva McDormand and Madilynn Thimot
The youngest and eldest ladies of Westport
(Alva is Madilynn's great great aunt)

Christmas sweater contest winners - Kelly Albright, Brooke Swift, Tamara Albright, Tegan Theriault and Jackson Kenney

Westport Christmas bazaar photos

Heather Gass and baby Duncan with Santa. Duncan is Westport's newest arrival on November 26

Brier Tudor youngest Christmas caroler...Fa,la,la,la,la

What a deal...bring in your old, inefficient Christmas bulbs and exchange them for energy efficient LED strings. Now that's a gift.

Placing bows on the Memory Tree in memory of loved ones

Christmas at Islands Consolidated School

Elementary students eagerly open their Secret Santa gifts. The gift exchange is the grand finale of our Secret Santa week which included giving cards, ornaments and sweet treats along with a gift on Friday when everyone got to try to guess who their Secret Santa was and say thank you for a week of treats and fun

Emma Delaney waits patiently to open her Secret Santa gift. We all opened them together once the last present was delivered.

It's always nice to have a hand to hold on to--especially when you are a beginning skater!

Clara Allbright and Lauren Sollows--skating buddies

Adam Lee helps Lucas Stanton and Sophia Moore make Christmas gingerbread cookies--yum, yum!

Demeka Tudor really got into cookie making (notice the flour on her cheeks)

Ian Perry adds the decorative touches to his cookies just before baking

Primary student, Jayden Outhouse and Grade 9 Child Study student, Brett Allbright team up to make a batch of delicious Christmas cookies

Alyssa Teed helping to wrap the many gifts purchased at the Annual Home and School Shopping Spree

Jayden Balser making a Ninja Turtle ornament for the P-1 Christmas tree

Cassidy Frost helps Hannah VanTassel wrap all her Christmas presents

Sierra Lunn strings a beaded icicle

Tegan Theriault listens as his Grade 4/5 book buddy shares a Christmas book

Emily Crocker's K'nex Christmas Tree

Book Buddies Madison Crocker and Stephanie Lombard enjoy a story together

Christmas at Islands Consolidated School

All our little angels. . . . .

...and snowmen want to thank everyone for coming to our Christmas Concert and we hope you all had a peaceful and joyous holiday

See all the stories that go with these photos on Page 14...

Christmas at Islands Consolidated School

Nova Tudor's K'nex snowflake, made at the K'nex Challenge Exploratory

Emma Perry is excited to mail her letter to Santa

The Primary-1 class made their annual pilgrimage to the post office to mail their letters to Santa

Sarah helps Primary-1 children make decorations for their Christmas tree

Post Mistress Lorraine Gillis with Emma Delaney, Hannah VanTassel and granddaughter, Sierra Lunn. Thanks Lorraine for letting us come to visit and thank you Santa and Jingles for writing to us; we are always excited to hear from you both

News from Islands Consolidated School

Christmas Shopping Spree

Islands Home and School Annual Christmas Shopping Spree was held on December 15th. There were lots of gifts to choose from and the children had fun shopping for friends and family. Our thanks go to everyone who donated gift items and to the student and community volunteers who helped wrap all the presents so there was no chance of peeking when they arrived home. The shopping spree was a great success and there were even a few items left over for the secondary students to browse through at lunch time.

Christmas Skate

On December 17th the elementary students had the opportunity to practice their skating skills at the Digby Arena. Our weather has not been cold enough to freeze our ponds, but the children were excited to try out their skates. There were a lot of ups and downs, but most skaters took it all in stride and got right back up and kept on gliding along. It is amazing to see how they improve with just a little practice. Our thanks go to the school board for paying for our ice time, to the curling club for allowing us to have lunch there and to the many parents who came to help lend a helping hand both on and off the ice!

Gingerbread Cooking

On December 15th Ms. Kinney's Child Study class helped the Primary-1 class bake gingerbread cookies. Baking buddies are becoming a Christmas Tradition for these classes and one which they both seem to enjoy. There was a lot of mixing and measuring going on as well as some flour flying as they worked together to make the dough and then roll, cut and decorate an assortment of gingerbread shapes. The highlight was sampling them the next day. They made a yummy recess snack.

Tree Trimming Party

Each year the Primary-1 class makes decorations to trim their tree. This year they did a wonderful job making Ninja Turtle and Snowman ornaments, sparkling pipe cleaner chains and styrofoam beaded icicles. They also iced and decorated cookies so they could have cookies and milk once the tree was complete. A big thank you goes to Jenny Lombard and David Tudor for helping the children create a beautiful Christmas tree.

Exploratories

On December 11th the students at ICS had an opportunity to try something new. Elementary children made various Christmas crafts, practiced their manners and took part in the Christmas K'nex Challenge. Secondary students had the chance to choose from various options ranging from making chocolates, guitar lessons, Christmas crafts, outdoor survival and Christmas decorating. It was a fun day when everyone gets to do something different and perhaps discover a hidden talent or a new hobby. We would like to thank community members who helped with the Exploratories for sharing their talents with us.

Yes Virginia, there is a Christmas!

Virginia Crocker has been keeping herself very busy with Christmas preparations in her role as Great-Grandma. She celebrated Christmas Day with 5 out of 17 of her great children this year so she created this beautiful Gingerbread Village for her special little guests.

She also spent close to a month creating this beautiful Christmas stocking for her 17th great grandchild, Emily, born in October to Jillian and her partner, Noah Lane. Emily is a fortunate little sister to have two wonderful, loving big brothers, Joshua and Archer.

Province says it plans to pave more of Highway 217 this year

There was some good news for those of us who have to drive on Highway 217.

The province has announced in plans to pave 7.5 km of the Digby Neck highway from Seawall to Trout Cove Road in Centreville.

7.4 km were paved from Middle Cross Road to Seawall in 2014.

There is no word on when the area from East Ferry to Trout Cove Road might be paved.

No Progress on Nurse Practitioner

Southwest Health says it is still working on finding a Nurse Practitioner for the Islands...but they don't have anyone lined up for the position yet.

In an email, Fraser Mooney of Southwest Health says: "Our recruitment efforts are ongoing. We have had some interest, which has been encouraging, but nothing to report at this time.

"In the New Year, people who attended universities that offer Nurse Practitioner training will begin seeing our advertisement show up on their Facebook pages. We have generated a bit of interest through this advertising method in the past. Hopefully we will have something to report early in the New Year."

In the meantime, Melissa Stoddart will continue to see patients at the clinic on some Saturdays. Check the clinic calendar for dates. You should make an appointment.

Hold the donuts:

Healthy Eating on the Menu for Municipal Units in Digby County

Choosing a healthy snack at a municipal facility or event will start getting easier in the communities of Digby County.

South West Health is pleased the Municipality and Town of Digby have accepted a recommendation from the Digby Clare Healthy Eating in Municipal Settings committee to adopt a Municipal Healthy Eating Policy. The policy aims to make healthy foods and beverages available, appealing and accessible within municipally operated places and activities including facilities, programs, meetings and events. In the Municipality of Clare, council members chose to adapt healthy eating guidelines.

"Creating a healthy environment by making healthy foods available and affordable within Municipal settings will allow people greater access to healthier foods in their community," says Heather Baillie, South West Health Public Health Nutritionist. "We are thrilled the councillors in these areas have taken a leadership role by adopting healthy eating policies."

This policy was developed in partnership with the Recreation Director for the Municipality of Clare, the Municipal Physical Activity Leader for the Digby Area Recreation Commission, South West Health Public Health Services, the Department of Health & Wellness as well as the dedicated support provided by several municipal councillors from the Town and Municipality of Digby as well as the Municipality of Clare.

During the first two years of policy implementation, the focus will be on increasing offerings of healthy foods and beverages and decreasing less healthy options. The policy will be re-evaluated in September 2015.

South West Health is encouraged by this positive step towards promoting healthy food, and hopes other municipal units will consider and adopt similar policies. Any municipal unit in Digby, Shelburne or Yarmouth counties interested in developing their own health eating initiatives are welcome to contact Public Health Services.

Volunteering isn't just good for your community: Report

With one of the highest volunteer rates in the developed world, Canada has a lot of people eager to donate their time. And many of them experience benefits above and beyond feeling good about themselves.

A report released in December by TD Economics suggests that Canadians over 15 gave the equivalent of $51.1 billion in unpaid hours in 2010 (the most recent year for which Statistics Canada has data). Our charitable giving, though an impressive $10 billion, was only one-fifth of that. Canada's volunteer rate has continued to rise since 2004, with 47 per cent of Canadians now doing some kind of volunteering.

"That surprised me because in other countries like the US, during a recession, people tend to give less, they don't give as much of their time, maybe because they have other priorities," says Brian DePratto, the economist who worked on the report. "But that's not what we found in Canada. It speaks to the Canadian character. We're not the kind of people to give up on a commitment for any reason at all."

Hard-core volunteers give a disproportionate number of hours. Just 10 per cent of volunteers dedicate more than 390 hours per year, yet these volunteers are responsible for 53 per cent of the total hours.

Although "wanting to make a contribution" was the motivator for 93 per cent of those surveyed, some people do see more tangible benefits from their volunteer efforts. About 22 per cent of volunteers surveyed cited improving job opportunities, which lines up with a US study that suggests that volunteering is associated with a 27 per cent higher probability of employment.

"For the many currently unemployed or underemployed Canadians, volunteering can help keep skills sharp while helping to get them back to work," states the TD report.

Balser's Pharmachoice

Phone (902) 245-4071 Fax (902) 245-4076
83 Warwick St.
Digby
Free Delivery to the Islands

Digby's Only Locally Owned
Independent Pharmacy

LEST WE FORGET

MCpl Winsor (Doug) Crocker (left)
Canadian Army
(Weapons Technician)
Joined 2001

Doug has spent two deployments as part of "ISAF Afghanistan" in 2006 and 2009;

This photo was taken at the Air Canada Centre on December 9, 2014 at a game between Calgary and Toronto. Doug and several other soldiers were honoured that night on "Forces Appreciation Night." He is currently posted at CFG Borden, Ontario.

Legion News

We would like to take this opportunity to say Happy New Year to everyone and say thank you to all members and guests who supported our organization this past year. To all members who volunteered and worked hard to make this past year a success....Thank You.

January 1, 2015: New Year's Levee. Happy Hour 1 pm to 4 pm. Light snacks. Finger food.

NOTE: Friday night cribbage at the Legion will begin again January 9th. 2015. For the winter months the group will meet every second Friday. Don't forget to mark your calendar.

Historical Society News

Greetings! The Islands' Historical Society hosted a display of Kathy Prime's paintings and many items from Christmases past, on Dec. 13th at the Museum.

There were about 35-40 people who attended and all seemed to enjoy the displays and the cookies! Thanks to all who came and all those who contributed. Joyce and Wally have about 32 of Kathy's paintings in the Icehouse Gift Shop, so keep that in mind if you need a special gift for someone!

We are also pleased to announce that Roger Outhouse won the gift basket and that $220 was raised for our Fish House Fund. Thanks to all those who bought tickets!.

All for now! May you all have a Happy New Year!

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone who had been so kind and generous during the loss of a dear and special friend Wilson. Your thoughtful prayers, cards, food and visits have been truly appreciated.

God Bless You All!

Muriel Guier

THANK YOU

I would like to thank WVFD first responders and paramedics Gordon and Jim for their quick response and help the night I fell. Special thanks to Jim, my family and friends for calls, prayers, food and concern since my little tumble. Also thanks to Dr. Ron and the ER nurses at the DGH. Everything is greatly appreciated. God bless you all. Patricia Outhouse

NOTICE

Mark your calendars. The annual Freeport Masonic Lodge merchandise bingo will be held on February 28 in the Tiverton Community Hall; the storm date will be March 7. This is our main fundraiser for the two $1500.00 ICHS graduate bursaries that we have been able to give each year. Please come out, win some prizes and support us in this endeavour. More information will follow in the February edition of Passages.

Our Readers Write

Thank you for Passages – it's wonderful. Betty Shea

We love getting the Passages. It keeps us up on what's going on. Keep up the good work! Joanne Crocker

BRUCE
Chevrolet Buick GMC
BRUCE GM
398 Highway 303, Digby,
Nova Scotia B0V 1A0
Ed Hankinson, BBA, Manager.
Cell - 902-245-8007

Obituaries

The Rev. James L. Verber, 89, of North Kingstown, passed away on Sunday, November 30, 2014 in the care of loving family. He is survived by his wife Ruth G.(Beatty) Verber, sister Yvonne Klueskens of Green Bay, WI, stepsons David Blatt of Sandusky, OH, Barry Blatt of Coventry, RI and son Eric Verber of Wausau, WI. Reverend Verber is survived by 14 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great grandchildren. He was predeceased by son Marc James Verber, daughter Sharon Verber Whelan, granddaughter Jennifer Whelan Schmidt, granddaughter Christiane Verber, step-grandson Jimmy Scribner, brother Robert Verber and sister Marion Verber Anderson.

Reverend Verber was a WWII veteran serving in China and India. He served in the US Public Health Service where he was commanding officer of their NE Technical Services facility in Davisville, RI retiring in 1985 having achieved the rank of Captain. Reverend Verber was ordained in the Episcopal Church in 1988 and served in various parishes in Rhode Island until his retirement in 1995.

His Requiem Eucharist was held on Friday, December 5, 2014 at 11:00 AM in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 55 Main Street, Wickford. Burial in the RI Veterans Gifts in Rev. Verber's memory to The Fisher House Foundation, 111 Rockville Pike, Suite 420, Rockville, MD 20850-5168 or to a charity of your choice will be appreciated.

OUTHOUSE, Wilson Bryant – age 97 of Tiverton, NS passed away Saturday, November 29, 2014 in Yarmouth Regional Hospital. Born in Tiverton, he was a son of the late Heber and Annise Outhouse. Wilson was in the Canadian Army for a brief period before being medically discharged.

Later he went to work fishing, driving truck for Small Brothers and Digby County Power Board. Wilson retired as Captain of the Joe Casey after 28 years of service. In his retirement he loved playing cards with the Super Seniors and motoring around on his scooter. He loved his home in the cozy village of Tiverton for 97 years. He is survived by his sons, David (Angela) Outhouse, Grand Manan, NB, and Dwight (Angela) Outhouse, Digby; his grandchildren, Bub, Julie, Annise, Hayley, Jocelyn and Michael; 10 great grandchildren; one great great-grandchild and his good friend, Muriel Guier, Tiverton. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his wife of 51 years, Ruth Murphy; brother, David and two children in infancy.

Donations in Wilson's memory may be made to the Tiverton United Baptist Church.

Tradewinds
A Nova Scotia Real Estate Company
Andy Moir
839-2337
245-8571
Your REALTOR here on
The Islands and Digby Neck
www.fundyislandsrealty.com

Audrey Weir is proud to sponsor Passages in Memory of her husband Dr. Donald Weir

Proud to sponsor Passages
Gary Stanton Carpentry and Snow Removal
839-2158

Busy Bees' Salon 245-6775
Three Master Hairstylist:
Heather, Aralee, and Debbie
Walk-ins Welcome. Evening and Sunday appointments available
134 King Street, Digby

DARC DIGBY AREA RECREATION
Digby and Area Recreation Commission
is proud to
sponsor Passages

D.B.KENNEY FISHERIES (2014) LTD.
Westport, Digby County, Nova Scotia, B0V 1H0 CANADA
Bus: (902) 839-2023 ~ Res: (902) 839-2096 ~ Fax: (902) 839-2070

RAM COMPUTER SYSTEMS
62 Water Street, Digby
245-4606
sales@ramcomputers.ca
www/ramcomputers.ca

CPAWS
CANADIAN PARKS AND WILDERNESS SOCIETY
NOVA SCOTIA CHAPTER
CPAWS NS is a non-governmental organization working collaboratively with stakeholders, to protect Nova Scotia's natural land and ocean enviroments www.cpawns.org
1-902-446-4155

Digby and Area Early Intervention Program
Provides various services and supports to children with, or at risk of developmental delays from birth to school entry in the Digby County area. Free of charge and service is provided in your home. If you have concerns about how your child is developing, please call (902) 837-7315

Digby Denture Clinic
John D. Lilly, D.D.
21 Warwick Street
245-2587
Most Dental Plans Accepted
Complete Denture Service Directly To The Public
•Complete and Partial
•Upper & Lower Dentures
•Same Day Relines & Repairs
Mon. - Thurs: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Fri: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

THANK YOU TO THE SPONSORS OF PASSAGES

Nature Conservancy Canada Protecting over 1,200 acres of land on Brier Island www.natureconservancy.ca (902) 405-4334	**Brier Island Lodge** *Nova Scotia's* *Eco Tourism Destination* 1-800-662-8355 *www.brierisland.com* *4-Star Canada Select*	**Brier Island Whale and Seabird Cruises** *Whale Watching since 1984* **Westport 839-2995** ***www.brierislandwhalewatch.com***
FREEPORT SUPER SENIORS **ARE PLEASED TO SPONSOR PASSAGES.** Meeting every Wednesday At 1 p.m. at Islands Manor	**The Village of Freeport** is proud to sponsor Passages	**Pirate's Cove Whale Cruises** *Established 1990* **839-2242** **Toll Free: 1-888-480-0004** **Tiverton**
Wilson's Home Hardware **103 Warwick Street, Digby** **Tel: 245-4731 Fax: 245-2203** *Delivery to the Islands*	**PIER II REALTY LTD.** 121 - 1st Avenue Digby (902) 245-4711 (Bus) 245-4712 (Fax) pier@ns.aliantzinc.ca	**The Fieramosca Family** *Pleased to sponsor Passages*
Come and Enjoy St. Mary's Bay at... **Bayside Farm & Cottages** 580 Fort Point Road Weymouth North, NS B0W 3T0 www.baysidefarm.com Tel.: (902) 837-5353 or Toll Free: 1-866-940-6700 *"Keeping up the Bayside Vacation Tradition"*	Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Assoc. ***Our Fundy, Our Future!*** Roger Outhouse (902) 839-2068 routhouse51@gmail.com	**Alvah Titus** *Pleased to be a sponsor of Passages*
Providing support and employment counselling for persons with disabilities/barriers to employment 1 Birch Street, Digby. Phone 245-1830 Employment Opportunities Partnership	**Freeport Lodge #65 AF/AM** **Meets 3rd Thursday of every month.** **Contact John Small**	**The Municipality of the District of Digby** ***Proud to sponsor Passages*** **245-4777**
Barbara McAlpine-Nicholas of Hillsboro, Oregon is proud to sponsor Passages	**Darrell Newton** ***Pleased to sponsor Passages*** **Halifax, NS**	**DIGBY EYECARE CENTER** 245-1010 Dr. Yves Levesque Dr. Sara Wilkinson www.eyecarecenter.ca
THE TWELFTH FRET **Guitars - Mandolins - Banjos** **Amps - Strings - Effects** **Special prices for Islanders** **Grant MacNeill** 1 - 416 - 423-2132 *www.12fret.com* *sales@12fret.com*	Sanford & Associates CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS *Jeremy Sanford, CA, CFP* 9a Water Street P.O. Box 2410 Digby, NS, B0V-1A0 Phone 902-245-6400 Cell 902-308-9466 Fax: 902-245-6406 jeremy@sanfordfinancial.ca	Four books of nostalgia, humour, local history, and personal experiences: FERRY TALES ($15); FOGBURN ($15); FACT AND FANCY ($15); and TATTLE TALES ($20), plus postage and packaging. Contact the author: Blair MacNeill, RR#2, Guelph, Ontario. N1H 6H8. Email: blair.macneill@sympatico.ca

THANK YOU TO THE SPONSORS OF PASSAGES

Connell's **Septic Services Ltd.** Septic tank pumping/Portable toilet rentals **902 532 5045** **1-888-709-0005** (Toll-free for long distance)	**Clare Dodge Chrysler Jeep** **3640 Hwy # 1 St. Bernard, NS** **www.claredodge.com** **902-837-5171 (phone)** **902-837-5946 (fax)**	Mainland Telecom Integrated Communications. Powerful Solutions. Providing high speed internet to the Islands. 902 365 3132
J.L. Brooke Fisheries *A proud sponsor of Passages*	**Northeast Cove Fisheries Ltd.** C/O Tony & Laurie Thurber 902-839-2732 Proud to sponsor Passages	**Jim and Kaye Watt** *Pleased to be sponsors of Passages*
Myron Garron *Pleased to sponsor Passages*	**Jim Thurber** *Pleased to sponsor Passages*	**TIVERTON SUPER SENIORS** **Tue (1-4) Thurs (10:30-4) Sat (1-4)** *Don't stay home alone-COME!* **New Members 55 years and Better - Welcome 839-2866**
James L. Outhouse, QC **Lawyer and Notary Public** **Tel: 245-2551 Fax: 245-6622** **Digby**	**Small Ideas Crafts and Gifts** **77 Overcove Road, Freeport** **Open by Chance or Appointment only** **839-2539**	**Lavena's Catch Café** *Recommended in "Where to Eat in Canada"* *"Good Coffee, Company & Conversation"* **Freeport 839-2517**
MV Lady Taylor Proud to sponsor Passages	**Cynthia Carver** *Pleased to sponsor Passages*	**THE SOCIETY OF THE DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT AND SARAH OUTHOUSE is proud to sponsor Passages**
Digby Neck Firewood **full cord bagged will deliver** **Bruce McCullogh 834-2777** **Sandy Cove bruce@mccullogh.ca**	Ford **Belliveau Motors Ltd** PO Box 190 Church Point, NS B0W 1M0 **Darren McWhinne** Quality Certified Specialist 13 years of Service **Bus.902-245-6565** **Toll-free 1-877-601-6565**	**Virginia Crocker and Family** *Are proud to sponsor Passages*
Noah Richler, Sarah MacLachlan and Sophie and Nathalie Marsh, on the Neck & Islands whenever they can be, are pleased to sponsor Passages. We are in fact, delighted.	**Straight from the Hearth** Mon - Sat: 8:30 am - 8 pm Sun: 1 - 5 pm **839-2053 Freeport**	**Westport Baptist Church** **Tiverton United Baptist Church** Rick Small **Freeport United Baptist Church**
R. E. ROBICHEAU LTD 839-2273 www.brierislandhostel.com store@brierislandhostel.com	**Sissiboo Veterinary Services Ltd.** **Siegmar Doelle, D.V.M.** *"House calls to the Islands"* **(902) 837-1009** **5 French Road, Plympton**	**Eugene Finigan** Cleveland, Tennessee *is a proud sponsor of Passages*

Stormwater Engagement Program Meeting

By Roger Outhouse

On December 9th I was invited as chairperson of the Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association and a Gulf of Maine Institute youth leader to a meeting at Islands Consolidated School by Options and Opportunities (O2) instructor Joan O'Neil. Clean Foundation has hired water management specialist Alex Lynch who is based out of Yarmouth to be a Project Coordinator for Stormwater Projects in our region. The O2 students in Grades 10 and 11 were involved in the presentation which consisted of a power point explaining the value of controlling runoff from stormwater that might cause problems ranging from erosion to contamination of streams, rivers and harbours. A range of strategies to help control these problems were also reviewed. One such project involves creating Rainwater Gardens which can collect runoff and use it to grow gardens to slow the movement of water though its journey to streams and rivers. Mr. Lynch also took time to talk about the kinds of career professions that are involved in water quality issues.

The second half of the meeting involved the students taking a field trip outside on the school grounds to determine where a model garden or two could be created and constructed to improve habitats around the property. Everyone involved seemed to think positively about considering such a project and communications will be ongoing with the hope that this spring will see implementation. The issue of massive water runoff in light of climate change and more intense storms makes this a very important issue for all of us!

Just using plants and some creative ditching can save a lot of headaches...and make everything look better...such as this project at Dalhousie. Photos by Stephen Cushing.

It's Raining Plants

Rain gardens are designed to collect stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces like roofs, driveways, compacted lawns and parking lots. Stormwater runoff often carries a number of harmful pollutants such as oil, sediment and fertilizers. Rain gardens work by slowing down stormwater runoff, allowing it to percolate into the garden and surrounding soils, and naturally filtering out pollutants. Water-loving plants that are native to the region should be used whenever possible because they're already adapted to the local climate. Rain gardens not only help to control and slow down stormwater, but they also look great and provide habitat for a number of insects. Rain gardens vary in size and shape depending on the amount of stormwater runoff you are looking to treat.

These photos were taken from a rain garden construction at Dalhousie University in November 2014. The garden features a channel that takes water from the road and channels it to a settling bed, filled with gravel. The soil that was removed from the garden was moved to the edges to create berms, which help to keep standing water in, and also help the water to percolate through the garden. Native plants to Eastern Canada were used in the garden, which, once grown-in, will remove a number of harmful pollutants that might otherwise be directed into storm drains.

Here are a few great links for anyone interested in constructing or learning more about rain gardens:

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's guide for constructing a rain garden

http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/co/grho/grho_007.cfm

Rain Gardens – A how-to manual for homeowners

http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs/pdf/rgmanual.pdf