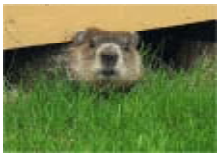

PASSAGES

THE LONG ISLAND, BRIER ISLAND AND DIGBY NECK NEWS

Volume 17, Issue 2 **$2.00** February 2015

Arts and Adventures in the Cove Looking forward to 2015

2014 was a busy year for Arts and Adventures. With an increase in visitors from outside the province, the establishment of a gift shop, and renovation of the house to make it accessible, it seemed like the summer flew by.

It was part of the Warner House Committee's mandate to create educational opportunities for our local schools at no cost. The last event that took place at the Warner House in September saw the entire Islands Consolidated Elementary School visit us. The students were divided into groups and rotated to different stations, creating paintings, harvesting our heritage crops, dressed in period clothes and met many "critters" from North East Cove. Everyone had a wonderful time and the house certainly came alive with all the participating students and teachers.

Do we have the right thing? A scavenger hunt with clues about historical elements within the house saw the students looking for special items both inside and outside the house.

Harvesting the Warner House garden was lots of fun. Everyone had a carrot or a handful of peas to munch on.

We are pleased to say that during 2014 we developed two partnerships for the 2015 season. We will be working with the Experiential Coordinator at the Digby Pines to make unique workshops available to their guests, and the Warner House will be a stop on their "Island Experience Tour" available from their hotel. A bus tour company, Classic Journeys has also been working with us to show the plant

Continued on next page....

Inside Passages

Damage from the Nor'easter

Benefit for local fireman

Blue Route

and seashore life to their clients. We have appreciated other local businessesmaking their customers aware of our programs and the fun that can be had! It is our belief that

Cove "critters" created a lot of interest

if our visitors can be shown a variety of activities to do between the two islands, they will stay longer and create more economic benefits for all.

Young artists expressed their creativity with lots of paint. Mrs. Ivens' paint shirts took a lot of use.

It is now February and planning has to commence for Arts and Adventures' summer programs. Are there particular programs or workshops that as a resident of Long or Brier Island you would like to see offered? Non-residents, is there something we could offer that would entice you to come to our islands, and after enjoying an Arts and Adventure experience, stay for a while and enjoy the many other things offered here? If you are unfamiliar with the workshops previously offered, check out our page on Facebook or our website: http://www.artsnadventuresinthecove.com/

If you have a talent you would like to share with the world (or our corner of it), Arts and Adventures is looking for workshop presenters. Contact us through artsnadventuresinthecove@yahoo.ca or call either Ann Schweitzer at 247-4527 or Dorothy Outhouse at 839-2068.

Pour for the Cure

The Women's Institute will be holding our Annual Pour for the Cure in support of Breast Cancer on Monday February 23rd in the Freeport Fire Hall at 7pm. Come join in the fun and play Backward Bingo and have a light lunch.
All donations will go to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.
Everyone welcome! Come and bring a friend.

Coming Soon

Women's Institute will be holding our Annual Swap Day at Islands Consolidated School on Saturday April 11th at 11 a.m.
Donations accepted must be clean and in good working condition (for electronics); clean out your closets and cubby holes and get ready for the swap.

Lunch will be sold by the Women's Institute.
Bring a friend and join us.

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.**

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

Deadline for submissions for the March issue is February 22nd.

Blue Route, What's That?

By Anna-Marie MacKenzie Kelly

Have you ever been to a meeting where most of the other 40 or so participants have similar ideas to your own? It is certainly welcoming and energizing! I had just that opportunity on December 8, 2014 in Berwick. As a member of the Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association, I was invited to participate in one of seven Nova Scotia Active Transportation Policy Framework Stakeholder Engagement Workshops. I was the lone representative from Digby County participating with a diverse collection of people from Bicycle Nova Scotia, municipal councils, Active Living representatives from valley counties, Ecology Action Centre representatives, the Department of Health and Wellness, Tourism, small business owners, and avid cyclists and active transportation advocates.

In August 2011, my friend Cindy and I completed a 1200 km bicycle ride from Montréal to Digby Neck. The Québec portion of the journey followed La Route Verte, part of Québec's over 4000 km of cycling routes throughout the province. The routes are well mapped and signage is easy to follow. The trails took us through picturesque villages, along riverside vistas and through forested trails. Québec has been recognized worldwide for its contribution to active transportation. That wonderful experience has kept me dreaming that someday, Nova Scotia would have similar mapped routes for cyclists to enjoy.

Introducing Nova Scotia's Blue Route! Yes, there are people in Nova Scotia actively working with the province to establish mapped bicycle routes throughout the province. Research has already been completed to establish which roads have an average fewer than and greater than 1000 motorized vehicles per day, which roads have paved shoulders, which counties have established rails to trails along the old rail beds and where the province hopes to complete paving projects over the next five years. Our role during this workshop was to take a close look at the maps and, with our personal knowledge of the areas, discuss which roads and trails would be the best routes so that all stakeholders including towns, businesses, residents and tourists would benefit.

A few facts I learned at this meeting:

- Statistics show that tourists spend 80% of their money in pedestrian-friendly areas, while residents make 45% of daily trips for shopping and errands (Active Living Research 2010).
- Nova Scotians commute some of the longest distances in Canada, and mostly alone in a car (Statistics Canada, 2006).
- From 1987 to 2010, the total number of bicycles more than doubled in Québec, and the number of regular cyclists has increased by 50%. At the same time, there was a 58% decline in cycling accident deaths. Moreover, serious injuries fell by 72% and minor injuries, by 52% (Vélo Québec, 2010).
- Getting just 10% of Canadian adults to sit less and move more would reduce Canada's health care costs by $2.6 billion and inject $7.5 billion into the Canadian economy by 2040 (Conference Board of Canada, 2014).

This is what the road signage will look like

If anyone is interested in a magnetic bumper sticker, please contact Anna-Marie at: anna-marie.mackenzie-kelly@mail.mcgill.ca

Anna-Marie MacKenzie Kelly
46 Denton Road, Little River, NS
B0V 1C0

I could go on with many more facts supporting the benefits of active transportation and cycling routes in Nova Scotia but as we all agreed to in the meeting, enough discussing, let's get building. We need to get active, now! And so, the first demonstration Blue Route should be completed by summer 2015. The first signed route will be 50 km along the Aspotogan Peninsula, outside Halifax, along St. Margaret's Bay and Mahone Bay. Representatives from the valley hope the next phase will include the Annapolis Valley. Valley municipalities have already started building their own active transportation routes for cyclists and walkers so it makes sense these established trails become part of the province's Blue Route.

We know that Digby Neck and Islands were, not too long ago, a popular destination for bicycle tours. Let's hope the establishment of the Blue Route and the completion of desperately needed paving along Digby Neck will once again bring cyclists and hikers to this beautiful community. I encourage everyone to pay attention to where paving projects need to happen, to use our current trails scattered along Digby Neck and Islands, share our knowledge of the beautiful spots to visit with tourists and newcomers and make sure our local politicians know how important it is to keep our communities welcoming and active.

Where Is The Salt For Our Roads?

I attended a meeting in early fall at the Freeport Fire hall with Island residents and Department of Transportation and the subject was salting Islands roads again. The Department of Transportation assured us we would have salt brine on most of our roads this winter and it would be better than just sanding the roads. It is now nearing the end of January and all we have had on our roads is sand with lots of rocks in it so far. I think it is time to have the salt brought in soon! Winter is here!

Linda Elliott
Village Commissioner

Digby Hospital Parking Gates Re-Installed and Fully Functional

While landscaping still needs to be done in the spring, much of the exterior work on the new Digby & Area Health Services Centre is nearing completion. Work on the inside, such as plumbing and electrical, and preparing the rooms to receive furniture and equipment continues through the winter months.

The initial excavation and construction caused some disruption to parking in the hospital parking lots.

The expansion of the parking area in front of the hospital and creation of a new driveway led to the parking pay gates being temporarily removed several months ago. The work to relocate and re-install the pay gates is now complete and they will be fully functional on Friday, January 23rd.

This means people will continue to have to pay for hospital parking.

This includes the parking area behind the hospital. The parking gates leading to the parking area behind the hospital were temporarily not operational due to the heavy traffic from trucks and construction equipment.

Hospital visitors are reminded the lower level entrance to the Consultant Clinic area remains blocked. This door can still be used as an emergency exit only. Patients going to appointments in the lower level must continue to use the front main entrance to the hospital during this time.

We apologize for any inconvenience and thank everyone for their patience.

Bring your Valentine to the Wild Wild West Dance at the RCL # 92 on February 14th from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Councilor David Tudor

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to everyone who has expressed such kindness to first my wife and I when we moved back to the Islands and then my daughters. I had very high hopes upon moving back to the area from Hong Kong and wondrously my expectations were met. It was very fulfilling to move back home and to be so warmly greeted by our friendly and kind communities. I could never imagine living anywhere else.

Whereas I'm offering up thanks I would like to thank the school and the churches for all their support in maintaining a food bank in the area. There is no way that this could operate without all the enthusiastic support it gets. I would also like to single out Kenzie Crocker for an extra special thanks for both her Halloween Food drive and her successful toy drive for Christmas Daddies. This area should be extra thankful for our outstanding young people.

I know people are worried about the Peter's and Brier Island Lighthouses. I have been looking for someone to take the lead in a community group to deal with this situation. I expect that I will have someone soon and a meeting on the subject will be called this month.

Sadly the meeting council had with Transportation was called off due to unforeseen circumstances. However I have passed on a good sized list of work that needs to be done none the less. I expect that the meeting will be rescheduled shortly.

I will be contacting several local groups to discuss some of the grants and programs that the Province is offering. There are numerous valuable programs out there that we should be taking advantage of and we don't get 100% of the programs we don't apply to. If your group wants to see if they can get any funding or assistance for your plans please let me know.

Just to let Tiddville know, Mainland Telecom intends to hook that area up with internet access. My suggestion is for locals who want to be hooked up to contact the company directly and let them know that you want them.

Remember if you have thoughts about starting a business please get in touch with me, both the Province and the Municipality are able to offer you organizational assistance.

Tiverton may be getting a "Comfort Station" for their Harbour. The Municipality is hopeful that a deal can be made in regards to sustainability. I think that this building would go a long way as an anchor for the further development of the Tiverton waterfront.

It has become apparent that the Island Manor is in need of a chair lift. I have been exploring some options but one thing is for sure, people aren't getting any younger and the addition of a chair lift would do much to fill the second floor vacancies.

If you are getting low on fire wood let me know and I can help arrange a delivery.

As always a great deal of my time is spent helping individuals who are in need for various issues. If you or someone you know could use some assistance please contact me.

Thank you,
Councilor David Tudor
902-839-2630

Community Drum Circle

There will be a Community Drum Circle at the Freeport Community Development Centre on **February 1st from 2 – 3:30 p.m.** and on **February 22nd from 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

Drumming is a great way to connect, let go of stress and worries, heal and have fun.
Community drum circles are open for everyone young and old.
Absolutely no experience needed.
Bring a drum or rattle if you've got one. Don't worry if you don't, some will be provided.
Come experience the relaxing and energizing power of drumming together.
For more info call Kai 902-247-5071

Creature of the Cove – Common Razor Clam (Ensis directus)

By Roger Outhouse

For several years I have known that a small population of this specie exists in Freeport's Northeast Cove but had been unable to locate a living specimen even though their empty shells are strewn here and there along the beach.

Photo shows a razor clam with a small section of the snow white foot extending from the shell.

Little did I know that this is no ordinary clam and there are good reasons as to why I had not been successful. This amazing creature is fast, elusive, a good swimmer and potentially dangerous under the right conditions!

The name "directus" means straight and "ensis" means sword. The clam can grow about 25 cm (10 inches) in length and about 2.5 cm (1 inch) wide. They can live up to 20 years and show annual growth rings on their shell. This bi-valve mollusc has some really great characteristics that one might not attribute to a clam that we often think of as slow and mostly inactive. The razor clam is aptly named because its shell is long and slightly curved resembling an old fashioned straight razor case used by men in the 1920's and 30's. Other nick names also include Atlantic jack-knife clam or bamboo clam.

Originally I tried to find these creatures in the mud near low water but later learned they most often reside in mud, sand or even gravel below low tide just under the surface. Only the lowest tides will get you near their natural habitat. They feed through a very short siphon drawing microorganisms into the body by hair like cilia on their gills. The organic mix of food is then funnelled into the mouth for digestion. One might expect that feeding so close to the surface would leave them exposed and easily captured by their natural predators such as green crabs, moon snails, milky ribbon worms, a variety of shorebirds and humans looking for a nice meal. However the slightest predator vibration can set off an immediate defence reaction during which they rapidly sink their very large digging foot (which can almost equal the length of their body) deep into the mud. Next they swell the tip of the foot into an anchor shape and then contract the length of the whole foot muscle drawing the razor clam deep under the mud up to half a metre in only a few seconds, thus evading the enemy. It was also impressive to learn that the clam is a remarkable swimmer. This is achieved by retracting the whole foot into the shell and ejecting water in a repeated pumping action.

A young Islands Consolidated elementary student gets a hands on experience with the first large razor clam from Northeast Cove. Thanks go to the Gulf of Maine Institute youth who carried out a collection of sea life during an extremely low tide in Sept. the night before all the elementary students came to the Freeport Village's Warner House to experience marine life on the mudflats. This experience along with several other offerings from Arts n Adventures in the Cove proved very popular and the children from Primary to Grade Six had a fabulous time!

Their life in the mud is a challenging one. While it provides protection it is also tough on their thin shells and so they adapt by growing a protective shiny olive brown greenish shell covering called a periostracum. The diet of this clam consists of straining micro-organisms out of the water and for an unknown reason they are more likely to concentrate the poisonous algal chemicals (such as those found in "red tide") than other types of clams making them a greater danger to consume. Despite that factor they are considered to be a good clam to eat but mostly are harvested on a non-commercial basis. Between 1951 and 1954 there was an attempt in Saint Mary's Bay, Nova Scotia to harvest razor clams to supplement a depressed clamming industry. It involved mechanical pressure washers to get at the deeply located razor clams as manually digging for them was a difficult process. Essentially this attempt met with poor results and was discontinued. While there is interest in the clam, it turns out that it does not ship live as well as other types of clams making it less desirable for markets. Despite the lack of commercial benefits there have been some interests in raising them in an aquaculture type of operation much like mussels. These have been mostly confined to some experimental research efforts.

Even though these coastal creatures are found in a broad habitat ranging from Labrador to Georgia they have not become commercially important. While the razor clam population seems stable, other more easily accessed and desirable species such as the soft shell clam have been heavily harvested and struggle to maintain their numbers.

Pot Luck Benefit for Gerald Moore! February 7th at 5 pm

Pretty much everyone knows Gerald Moore, and everyone knows that for the past 40 plus years, he has been a dedicated firefighter to this community. If there has been a call, a need or a request, Gerald was always there. For over 30 yrs he served as a fire chief. This village has been blessed with such dedication!

Before Christmas, Gerald started having bad pain in his back…..few short weeks later, he would learn that he had cancer spots on his spine, a tumour and a spot on his kidney. The doctors are optimistic that all can be treated but this is a painful time for both Gerald and Mary. To help offset the expenses, we, the Freeport Fire Dept are asking the communities to come together and help them out.

Supper is a freewill donation and any food brought to the potluck is appreciated. We will be calling people but if you don't receive a call, you're still needed to help if you can.

Thanking all in advance!

We wish Gerald a speedy recovery.
We miss and need you back home with all of us!

MERCHANDISE BINGO

The Annual Masonic Merchandise Bingo will be held on the 28th of February in the Tiverton Community Hall. Doors open at 6pm and Bingo is at 7pm. Lots of neat prizes such as a flat screen TV,

furnace oil and gift cards, etc., plus hotdogs, donuts, tea, coffee and pop will be available.

As a reminder all the proceeds from this bingo go toward the bursaries that the Freeport Masonic Lodge award to deserving Islands Consolidated School graduates. Since the start of this annual bingo the Lodge has been able to award two $1500.00 bursaries each year to help graduates further their secondary education. This has been done with your support and is very much appreciated by the Lodge and the students who benefited from the bursaries.

So, come on out for an evening of fun and community fellowship and a chance to take home some goodies. The alternate storm date will be March 7th.

National Volunteer Week is April 12-18, 2015

Volunteers are performing outstanding service every day in our community; take the time to recognize one! On behalf of the Town of Digby and the Municipality of the District of Digby, Digby Area Recreation Commission is accepting nominations for the following four awards;

- Representative Volunteer Award
- Youth Volunteer Award
- Family Award
- Building Healthier Futures Corporate Award

Deadline is February 13, 2015, to be considered for the Provincial Volunteer Awards. For more information contact Cindy @ 902-245-1949.

Tiverton Out & About

By: Jessica Balser

In this month's "Out and About", Justin Sollows , Rebecca Trimper and their beautiful four month old baby girl, Isabelle Coralee Rose of Kerrobert, SK spent a week with Justin's grandparents Alger and Gail Sollows over the Christmas holiday. Isabelle is the first great grandchild for Alger and Gail and the first grandchild of Darren Sollows.

Heritage Association Receives Funding

Submitted by Craig Buckman

The Tiverton and Central Grove Heritage Assoc. (T.C.G.H.A.) are pleased to announce that it has been approved for funding through the Runciman Fund for Heritage conservation in the amount of $22,000.

This funding which is administered by Heritage Canada - the National Trust of Ottawa, Ont. will be used to do restoration work on Boar's Head Lighthouse in Tiverton.

The work will include painting of the lighthouse, replacing rotting wood on some of the windows, as well as replacement of the soil surrounding the lighthouse foundation.

The Runciman Fund for Heritage Conservation was established by the Runciman family of Annapolis Royal, N.S. to assist the community organizations with the preservation of eligible historic lighthouses located in Digby, Annapolis, and Kings Counties.

The T.C.G.H.A. gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance provided by the fund.

There will be a Firemen's Breakfast in the Tiverton Community Hall on February 1st from 8 – 10:30 a.m.

Freeport Out & About

By Brenda Teed

brendateed44@gmail.com

839-2669

Happy Valentine's Day everyone! Hope you all have a great time with your loved ones! I understand there is a dance at the Legion so all those lucky enough to attend will certainly have a great night!

Again, I really don't know much news to tell you all for this month. Nobody has sent me anything! (Must qualify that now – Thanks Tom and Loretta!)

Visitors at the home of Linda Elliott over the Christmas holidays were daughter Bev and Gary Roebuck, Aunt Beulah Thimot, Paulette and Scott Flynn. Maurice Soucie spent New Years with Linda and Laurie visited in early January for three days. Granddaughter Paige Barnaby also visited for a weekend.

Roger and I visited with our son Stephen and Denice Teed in Bridgewater recently. I keep having these "Tucker attacks!" Have to keep an eye on our Grandson Tucker, he is growing so quick!

Jeff and Helen Teed had a road trip to Halifax to take their daughter Amanda back to university after the Christmas holidays.

Our best get well wishes go out to Olivia Small and Gerald Moore who have both been in hospital. Olivia is home now and we are all hoping that Gerald will be back home within the next week or so.

A get well quick wish to Kelly Pyne who is also a patient in hospital in Halifax.

Good to see Donna Ossinger out to church again. I understand she still has some procedures to have done as yet, but its good to see her improving. Also we are pleased to report that Gene Titus is back home after a lengthy stay in hospital.

Another get well soon wish goes out to George Robbins who underwent surgery recently. Hope you are out and about by now George and feeling well.

Laurence Outhouse has also been in Halifax undergoing radiation treatments – hopefully you'll be "right as rain" before long Laurence!

Get well wishes go out to William Allbright who had surgery recently and is spending some time with his sister Hattie Allbright until he is able to return to his apartment at the Islands Manor.

There have been several "Pot Luck Suppers" recently. The students who are going to Ecuador held their last fund raisers on the weekend of the 16th and 17th. The ICS Junior Boys Basketball team is hosting one on the 30th and there is a benefit for Gerald Moore on the 7th of February. More information on the benefit will be found in this issue.

I understand the "surprise" Birthday Party for Brenda Leeman at Lavena's Catch went over very well last weekend. Lavena was open for supper that evening. Roger and I took advantage of the opening and had supper there which was, as usual, delicious!

Melissa and Brian Neil and their adopted boxer, Bailey, spent a week over Christmas with Loretta and Tom Frook. Also visiting before the holidays were Don and Sharron Vacon of Belleville, Yarmouth County. Tom and Loretta visited the Vacons in late January. Tom's sister, Gladys Robertson of Edmonton, recently passed away in hospital after a short illness.

I'm afraid that's about it for this month. Everybody seems to be staying close to home and not visiting or having visitors due to the winter weather!

Hi to my cousin Maxine in St. Vincent's Guest Home in Halifax. Hope you're doing well and that you had a good holiday. See you sometime soon.

Don't forget – I cannot be everywhere so please send me your news for next month!

Westport Out & About

Julia Gaudet
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Hello from Brier Island!

Well here we are into February already! The month of January was a mixture of snow, minus temperatures, rain and wind. That's a lot of weather ingredients for starting off 2015!

The milder winter weather we had in December spoiled us while we had it. The countdown is on, only seven more weeks until **SPRING!**

Those "Home for Christmas" were Holly (Kenney) & Danny Zevon, children Daniel and Hannah visiting with parents Danny and Theresa Kenney.

Rosalind (Graham) and Glenn Hussey and daughters Tameka, Danaka, Sykora and Glenn's parents Jean and Melvin Hussey of NL spent the holidays with Penny Graham and family. Also home during Christmas was Greta Ann (Kenney) Thurber, daughter Cheryl & Dan Wilken, children Ashton and Bethany.

Madeline Dixon and daughter Mya of Maine visited with her grandmother Caroline Norwood, enjoying time with family and friends during her Christmas on the island.

Danny and I enjoyed the company of my mom Muriel Guier who spent Christmas with us, along with Daniel and Caitlyn Gaudet and Jason Weir of Digby.

Wally and Joyce DeVries and son Ben spent their Christmas holidays in Hawaii.

The Christmas holidays were a festive time at the home of Lindsay and Cindy Titus. Spending a week with the family were Shane & Bridget Titus and baby Siena of Hong Kong. Meeting Siena for the first time were grandparents Lindsay

Searching for the pickle ornament

and Cindy, great grandmothers Lorraine Bezant and Hazel Titus, Auntie Laura and Uncle Seanie, great aunts and uncles Marilyn and Ron, Clifton and LaReta, Diane and Emile, Randy, and other relatives and friends. The annual Christmas Eve get together was held with all welcome to drop by for some socializing, food and merriment. A highlight of the evening is the hunt for the hidden pickle ornament. Some years have seen children, and even adults, under and practically in the tree in their search. The one who finds the pickle first receives a present.

On December 27th, a baby shower was held for Bridget and baby Siena with the theme of keepsakes and memories. Visiting with Cindy for a few days after the holidays was Janelle Clayton and son Kyrell of Halifax.

Before Christmas, Cindy Titus was blessed to join Rotary friends for an hour of service at the Salvation Army kettle at Costco in Halifax, where she met several islanders - times sure have changed since Westporter's did their Christmas shopping at "Louie's".

"Ringing in the New Year" at the Bay of Fundy Inn was Edward and Ellen Welch of Halifax along with Richard, Deborah and their son Graham, Andrew and wife Rachel.

Nice to see the Chaisson family settled in the Baptist parsonage. An open house was hosted on New Year's Eve. An evening of socializing was enjoyed before the ringing in "2015".

It is nice to see the kids out enjoying the winter snow building snowmen, sliding and skating on the ponds. Lillie Thimot and Sophie Norwood have been having lots of skating fun with noses and cheeks rosy pink. A tumble and fall for these two first time skaters. It's an exciting winter time treat for these two adorable girls.

An expression of deepest sympathy is sent to Donnie Moore of Cold Lake, Alberta and daughter Taylor on the

recent death of his wife Rachel.

Congratulations to Eunice (Guier) Mailman of Bridgewater on the safe arrival of her third great grandson Finley Sheldon on January 21st. Proud parents are granddaughter Allison and Blair Joudrey. I'm sure Landon is super excited to be a big brother.

Wishing everyone a ***Happy Valentine's Day***!

Here's a special Valentine's recipe for all of you.

1/2 cup Hugs
4 tsp Kisses
4 cups Love
1 cup Special Holiday Cheer
1/2 cup Sweetheart Hugs
3 tsp Cinnamon Hearts
2 cups of Love and Kindness
1 bag of Valentines
1 medium-size bag of great big red Hearts
(The regular kind won't do)
Blend all and Sprinkle with lots of Love!

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.

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4H Islands Seabreeze Annual Valentine Tea

Sunday, February 8th
1:30-3:00 P.M.

Tiverton Community Hall

Free Will Offering

Cakewalk
Homemade animal treats for Sale

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ICS Home and School

By Helen Ivens

A Little Reminder

If you are anything like me, sometimes you forget things. Last month I forgot to include this little reminder from our Home and School about our playground project in memory of Norma Langdale (Prime). If you would like to donate towards this project, it is not too late. We have extended our timeline from the end of January to the end of February. We will then decide on what the addition to the playground will be. You can send your donation to Yvonne Howard or to the school, c/o Islands Home and School. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

BOFDC SUMMARY PRESENTATION AGM: NOV. 21, 2014

The past year since our last AGM has been a busy one and we were busier than ever in working with other organizations and groups to achieve remarkable results. Highlights include:

- Bringing the Balancing Rock Trail to World Class Trail status. O2 (Options and Opportunities) students from three schools worked on trail construction and the GOMI youth team groomed the trail. Our association's script writing, proofing, and coordinating a host of wonderful professionals resulted in five great new interpretive panels plus twelve redesigned panels and location signs. The Municipality also had numerous work days and directed the whole project. We received $1,800 for our work on the panels and the Municipality has already issued us a thank you for it.

- We have involved GOMI youth in the Brier Island NCC nature trail work at Pond Cove and protecting the Eastern Mountain Avens.

- Currently the Islands Consolidated O2 classes are developing a trail behind the school leading to the old Fundy Shore Road and the Freeport Brook. This is a first step which could hook up with future trail efforts leading across the brook, and through the old Village Park.

- Organizing the GOMI Team and affiliating with O2 classes and instructor Joan O'Neil have accomplished great projects and more importantly represent vital investments in our youth and the future of our communities.

- Conducting mudflat nature tours in Northeast Cove, educational work with students, and three bus tours to Brier Island's NCC Trail. This is important work done in support of Arts n Adventures, an enthusiastic group of volunteers leading programs that reflect local culture and nature.

- Networking with others is vital to creating sustainable communities and we are no exception. This past year we have worked with the Municipality of Digby, Digby Area Recreation Commission, Islands Home &School, Cobequid Trails Consulting, Arts n' Adventures in the Cove, Freeport Community Development Association, Friends of Islands Trails, Gulf of Maine Institute, Islands Consolidated School, NSCC Annapolis Campus, Applied Geomatics Research Group, Atlantic Geo-science Society, N. S. Dept. of Fisheries, Nature Conservancy Canada, Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership, Digby Area Tourism Association, Bay of Fundy Experience Group, researchers Rob Fensome, Frances Anderson, Tim Webster, photographers Scott Leslie, Karla Kelly, and the Digby Courier.

- Preparation and participation in the week-long summer environmental GOMI Conference in Lowell, Mass. USA.

PLANNING FOR 2015

1. Financial contribution towards work on the Gulliver's Cove High Cliff Cove Trail area.

2. Establish a minimum of three Digby Neck & Islands Ecotour Maps in large scale to be mounted at the Westport (R. E. Robicheau's deck) and Islands VIC (Tiverton) kiosks, and one other area to be determined.

3. Reach out to interested parties to reassign the eight plant panels and supports which will be removed from the Balancing Rock Trail in favour of the new ones.

4. Continue to publish our In With the Tide e-newsletter and increase both our circulation and contributors to the publication.

5. Work on planning and preparing our Digby Neck / Islands GOMI youth for the spring Mini Conference and international Summer Conference at Acadia University.

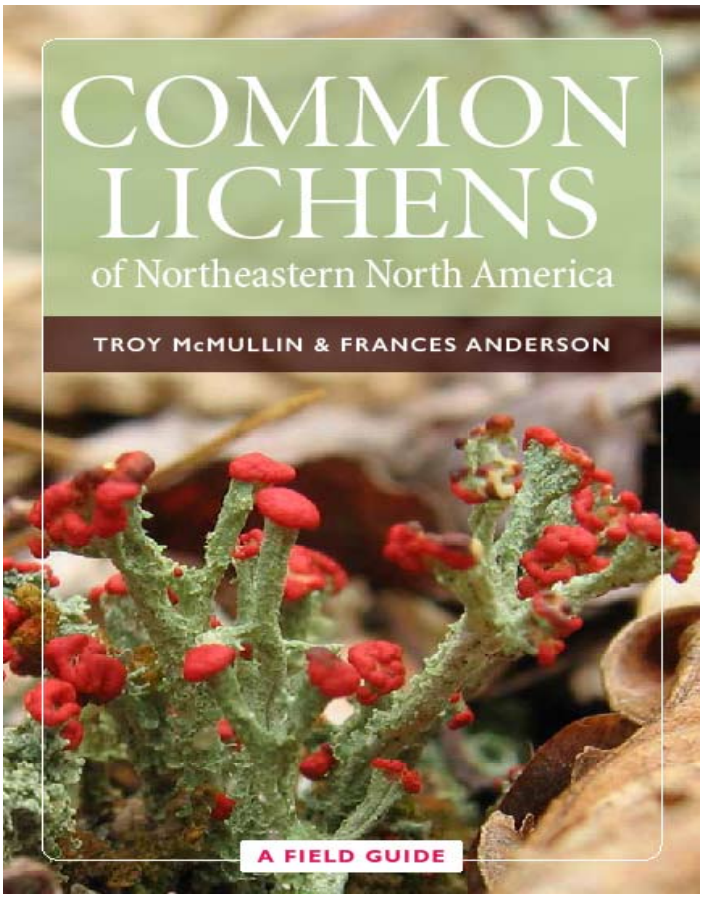
6. Continue our involvements with Fundy View Trail, Balancing Rock Trail, Loyalist Park, Islands Consolidated Trail, Nature Conservancy Canada, O2 Projects, and Arts n' Adventures in the Cove.

7. Opportunities arising for Board consideration.

8. Blue Route Participation for enhancing Bicycling.

The Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association had the amazing privilege to work with lichenologist Frances Anderson to assist designer Jim Todd in the creation of an interpretive panel entitled "Those Mysterious Lichens" for the Balancing Rock Trail. This is included in the twelve additional new panel designs that are currently being fabricated for installation in the spring. Her volunteer work with the Gulf of Maine Institute Barrington Team on their lichen walk is where our own GOMI Team from Digby Neck / Islands got the idea to contact Frances. Currently we are in the process of arranging to have her lead all our Maritime GOMI teams on a lichen field trip this spring. Even more exciting is that Frances has produced a new field guide to the beautiful world of lichens that the ordinary person can relate to. Congratulations Frances!

At last, a light and easy-to-use field guide to the rich lichen flora of Northeastern North America!



This user-friendly guide was designed for amateur naturalists, nature interpreters, forestry workers, land surveyors, researchers, and the general public. It will fit in a pocket or backpack, requires no previous botanical experience and is written in non-technical language.

The 138 lichens in this guide are seen mostly in the Canadian Atlantic provinces, New England, Québec and eastern Ontario. The guide is formatted so that each page is arranged by the surface each lichen grows on in the field, its shape or growth form, then by its color. Full colour photographs and black and white drawings for each species also aid in identification.

Use this guide to get tuned into the ancient, fascinating and beautiful world of lichens—you can start in your own backyard!

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ICS UPDATE

By Helen Ivens

Latasha Gillis and Ariana Callum practice basic first aid in Grade 8 Health class

Ben Dixon practices bandaging Sawyer Burns' "injured" leg.

Caitlynn Small and Claudia Crocker practice emergency first aid. The grade 10 class took the St. John Ambulance First Aid course with instructor Emily Carman.

Jr. Boys Basketball

By Laurie Thurber

This year ICS has 12 boys from grades 6 – 9 that make up the Jr. Boys Basketball team.

Back row L-R: Ben Dixon, Noah Norwood, Sawyer Thurber, Elijah McMullen, Brett Allbright and Matthew Thurber
Front row L-R: Connor Pyne, Adam Le, Hunter Swift, Harry Gillis, Lindsay Crocker and Dawson Thurber.

The team has played regulation games against SMBA and Clare and has two more games against Digby. They have also played against Bridgetown B Team. The team is working really well together and have played close games and are very evenly matched.

The Jr. Boys Basketball team will be holding a Potluck Supper on Friday, Jan 30th at 5 pm in the Freeport Fire Hall. Freewill offering.

January 27th - 28th Nor'easter

The Nor'easter brought high winds, snow and freezing rain. Schools were cancelled and businesses closed early. Petit Passage and Grand Passage ferries were not crossing for a few hours on Jan. 27th due to the high winds and tide.

Wellington Street in Westport Jan. 28th, 2015
Photo by Jessica Thimot

Shingles torn off a roof in Westport
Photo by Jessica Thimot

Looking up Crocker's Hill

Fish Point

and more snow...

Islands Historical Society Update

By Dorothy Outhouse

Every volunteer organization has its ebbs and flows. Sometimes the amount of work to be done and the small number of people to do it becomes problematic and you wonder if anyone out there feels what you are doing is important. And then, when a month like December 2014 comes along, an organization knows for sure that they are right to keep working on the projects at hand.

In mid-December I received a phone call from a descendant of a lady about whom I've done a lot of research. He has never lived on Brier or Long Island but his family roots are here and he has an interest in local history. Because of that he wanted to give a large financial donation to our Society. After profusely thanking him, I floated back to the phone to let other members know. Within the week, the Society received another phone call from a lady whose parents had a connection to the "Lent House". She had been told of our hopes to create a fish house on the concrete pad behind the house. It was her desire to help do this and gave a substantial donation towards the project. We rarely have had donations of this type given to us and to receive them without any solicitation might be almost considered a Christmas miracle.

And then there are other unsung heroes who have a passion and use years of their free time (and their spouse's) to research a subject they are interested in. Instead of benefiting themselves by publishing and selling their finished work, the work is given to others to use. Such a person is Brian McDormand, grandson of Ernest and Marguerite (Haines) McDormand of Brier Island. Always interested in genealogy, Brian spent time over the past 36 years researching families who have lived on our two islands. This was mostly done in a time when the resources that we have on the internet were not available and many visits to the Nova Scotia Public Archives, graveyards and older residents were his sources for information. In the late 1990s he produced a one inch binder of information and gave it to various museums and libraries. Continuing to gather information he eventually produced a larger binder of genealogical information which was the "bible" for those wanting to start on their islands' family research. Late in December, it was announced that he had finished his project and was gifting it to Islands Historical Society for our use. It consists of 4 binders of genealogical information and an index. In August and September, use of the information Brian had gathered helped two families break through their "brick wall" of unknown ancestors.

These five binders represent 36 years of research into the genealogy of Long and Brier Islands by Brian McDormand of Wileville N.S.

To say "Thank You" to all those who give large and small donations, or gift time and information to our volunteer organization seems so inadequate. It is a lift to be acknowledged by people outside our group. Because of that, we chose to highlight these wonderful December happenings. Next month I'll be talking about some of the artifacts which have been donated to the Museum and Archives and how we go through the process of accessioning them.

RCL # 92News

Saturday, February 14th
Wild Wild West Dance
9 pm to 1 am
Bring your Valentine (for more info see flyers)
Members $6.00
Non Members $7.00

Saturday, February 21st
General Meeting 2 pm

Thank You

Hannah Allbright, Taylor Barnaby and Carter Thurber would like to give a big Thank you to everyone who supported them over the past year in their "Me to We" fundraisers. We leave in March for our journey to Ecuador. While we are there we will be building a school and changing the lives of many people; including our own. We are very excited to share our experience with everyone when we return. Thank you all!

In Loving Memory

In loving memory of my son Steven
who passed away January 20th, 2014.

It's not supposed to be this way
That you're the one to go.
Why you had to leave so soon
I guess God only knows;
I feel so lost just knowing
You are no longer here,
I find my days are filled
With memories and tears;
I remember how I watched you
Grow from a child to a man
How when you believed in something
You always took a stand,
If only I could hold that boy
In my arms once more,
Or see the smile on your face
As you walk through the door.
You always knew just what to do
To brighten up my day,
Those memories I'll cherish
In a very special way.
You are missed by one and all
More than you can know,
But the love within a mother's heart
Will never let you go.
Loved and missed every day.

Mom

In loving memory of our brother Steven
who passed away January 20th 2014.

We've asked God a thousand times
Awake and in our beds,
And in our dreams he answer us,
And this is what he said:
"I knew the hills were hard to climb
So I did what I thought best
I whispered in Steven's ear that morning
Come home with me and rest."
Your end was very sudden Steve,
You made us weep and cry,
But the saddest port of all
You never said goodbye:
But God is great, he gives us strength
To bear our heavy loss.
Honourable and true in all your ways
Loving and faithful to the end of your days.
Loved by your friends
And all whom you knew
One in a million that brother was you.

Love and never forgotten
Karen and Butch, Keven and Cheryl, Perry and Annette

LEST WE FORGET

Cpl Glendon Stanley Small
Royal Canadian Air Force
1942 -1943
Royal Canadian Army Service Corps
1943 - 1946

Glen was the son of Karl Small and Hilda (Denton) Small who lived in East Ferry, NS. He enjoyed his time in uniform and was proud to have been able to serve his country.

There is Love
And will live forever,
And there are Memories that will
Shine through the Sorrow

Wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and sister, Marline Thurber (Rudge) passed away suddenly on August 3, 2014. Thank you to family and friends who helped us get through this sad time. Thank you for the calls, cards and food. Thank you to the Paramedics and First Responders. Your kindness and support was greatly appreciated. May God bless every one of you.

The Thurber Family

OBITUARIES

Elma Tidd, November 18 , 1924 – December 26, 2014
Elma passed away at the Digby General Hospital on Monday December 26, 2014. She had recently celebrated her 90th birthday. Born in Little River, Digby Co. she was a daughter of the late Otto Avery and Jesse Marguerite Frost. Elma was a member of the Little River Baptist Church for over 75 years. She served as the church clerk; a Sunday School teacher, and enjoyed singing in the Choir. She was the president for WMS (ABW) ladies group for several years. Recently she had been involved and so much enjoyed her time at "Sizzling Seniors" at the Digby Neck Firehall. She loved her family dearly and was so much involved in things she loved and was active until the past 10 weeks of her life. Her smart wit and humor was the joy of all who knew her and loved her. God and her life's best friend Avis Gidney were her pillars of strength this side of heaven. Their love for each other was a true testament to what friendship truly is. She is survived by her daughter Claudia J. (James W.); her son, Gerry L. (Tina) Tidd; brother Edgar (Deanna) Frost all of Little River; 7 grandchildren Jacqueline (Lloyd) Jolimore, Canning; Juanita (Todd) Amero, Alberta; Joy (Brian) Walker, Waterford, Digby Co. Jana (Royce) Elderkin, Little River; James Allen (Krista) Tidd, Bridgewater; Brandon L. Tidd, Bear River; Phillip A. Tidd, Halifax; 8 great grandchildren, Brianna , Meghan, Nickolas , Karly, Todd James, Autumn, Emma, Gavin, and great great granddaughter Sierra Grace , also her many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband Ainsley and eldest daughter Judith M. Visitation was Sunday from the Little River Baptist Church and where funeral service was held at 1:30 pm Monday. Pastor Noel Facey officiated with burial in Hillcrest Cemetery, Little River. Donations in memory can be made to the Little River Baptist Church. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Jaynes Funeral Home 7 Birch St. Digby.

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OBITUARIES

Kathleen Outhouse, age 83, of Fredericton, New Brunswick passed away January 17, 2015 at Thomas Hall Shannex in Fredericton. Born on April 2, 1931 in Emerson, Manitoba, Kathy was a daughter of the late Dymtro and Nellie (Godomsky) Krul. She is survived by sisters Millie Bayliss, Rose Rogers and Doris Ross; nieces Norma Sanders, June Scott and Johanna Nickerson; nephews David Ross, Brian Gordon and James Outhouse; brother-in-law Don Campbell; sister-in-law Nancy Turner. Kathy was predeceased by her husband Delbert Outhouse in 1996; sisters Helen Bondi, Ann Pretty, Polly Gordon, Isabel Campbell and Margaret Kelner; brother Bill Turner; brothers-in-law Lawrence Bayliss, Carl Bondi, Bill Pretty, Frank Rogers, Dave Kelner and Glen Gordon and Dr. Perley C. Outhouse; niece Diane (Ross) Robertson; nephews Michael Saunders and Marc Campbell. Shortly after graduating from Emerson High School, Kathy joined her sister Margaret in Morris, Manitoba where she worked as a telephone operator for the Manitoba Telephone System. Kathy, her sister Margaret and others manned the Morris switchboard during the Red River flood of 1950. The operators stayed at the job until high waters forced their evacuation to Winnipeg. The operators all received a Certificate of Merit for "loyal and faithful service under trying conditions during the flood period in 1950". Kathy graduated from nursing at St. Boniface Hospital and took a nursing position at the Emerson Hospital before joining Trans Canada Airlines as a stewardess. Kathy enjoyed skiing, golf, sewing and needlepoint. Cremation has taken place. A graveside service will be held in Forest Hill Cemetery in the spring. For those who wish, donations in Kathy's memory can be made to the charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences can be made at www.mcadamsfh.com

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ICS UPDATE

By Helen Ivens

Co-operative Learning

One of the benefits of a consolidated school is that children of all ages can interact in a positive way through co-operative or "buddy" learning. Recently Ms. Kinney's Grade 9 child study class planned a short theme lesson for the P/1 class. The topics were weather, owls and magnification. Each group had a short lesson about their topic, did an action song or rhyme and then made a craft related to the topic. The younger children enjoyed the lessons and having the older students work with them and the older students learned about child development and how to work with younger children.

Mackenzie Allbright helps Cohen Crocker and Tegan Theriault make their binoculars. The lesson was about magnification

Ruby, P/1's amazing amaryllis.

Some of the grade 8 Health students also chose to present safety lessons to the P/1 class--winter safety, beach safety and playground. Once again the older students had an opportunity to prepare materials and present to an audience and the P-1 learned about how to stay safe in their environment. Co-operative lessons are beneficial to all the students involved.

Adam Le and Jayden Outhouse work on making his owl. Adam's group taught the children some interesting facts about owls.

Miranda Perry helps Hannah VanTassel make wind chimes to go with their lesson about weather.