

# Your Role as a citizen at emergency scenes.

As a citizen there are ways you can assist firefighters and other emergency personnel at a scene.

Often, by-standers ask if they can help in any way. That is always appreciated.

There are several basic rules you can follow to help firefighters at an emergency scene.

In most cases when we first arrive at an incident, there is confusion at the scene. If it is a fire you may be able to help by stopping or directing traffic, but usually

the fire police will soon be taking care of that. They are trained in traffic control and qualified to stop traffic. If you are the person who calls in the fire, be sure to give clear and concise directions and a description of the emergency and make sure you or some one you can rely on, is waiting at the roadside for the first fire truck. In many situations staying clear of the scene is the best help you can give. It is important that fire trucks have un-interrupted access to the area.

When you make a 911 call, there are several steps that take place. First the 911dispatcher answers and asks the nature of your emergency. The dispatcher then decides whom to call. The call will then be put out to the dispatcher in Truro. If it is a Medical call, Truro dispatch then calls EMC (the ambulance), which is immediately sent out. Then if needed the, Fire Brigade for the area is called. In the case of Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade, we usually get called to all medical emergencies. We will probably arrive on the scene before the ambulance, due to our close proximity to the scene.

If you are at the scene and have called in the emergency for a family member, you can help by being at the roadside to identify the location. If it is at night, park a car at the road-

side with four way flashers on. Make sure the driveway is clear so emergency vehicles can get in. There are several firefighters in The Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade trained as "First Responders". They provide first aid & preliminary life support, with oxygen, defibrillator etc until paramedics arrive on the scene. Those first few minutes are often critical to the victim's survival. Sometimes getting oxygen to a person makes a major difference in their chance for survival and future quality of life.

You can also assist here by providing details of the victim's age, medical history and just answering any questions asked. Health cards need to be ready and any drugs or a list of the drugs the victim is using should be made available

When firefighters arrive at any scene, they are instructed to follow certain procedures. Reckless driving and speeding are prohibited. The firefighters plates do not give them any special privileges. If you see a firefighter coming with four way flashers, please pull over and let them by. Also if you see any firefighter disobeying the rules of the road you are welcome to report him/her.

If you do stop to help out at a motor vehicle accident or

any emergency scene, do not block emergency flashing lights by parking behind emergency vehicles. Firefighters are supposed to all try to park on the same side of the road, so do the same if you stop. In most cases at fires and motor vehicle accidents, if emergency personnel are already on the scene, the best help you can be, is to keep moving. One of the biggest hazards at traffic accidents is people who just want to see what is going on.

## 2009 Officers

The following is the list of officers and Lieutenants as elected for the 2009 year.

Chief - Greg Muise Deputy Chief - Darrell Currie Deputy Chief #2 - John MacKay Captain - Leo Morrow Captain - Ryan Crowell

#### Lieutenants

Belmont - Sean Foley
Lower Onslow - Ron Llewellyn
Central Onslow - Tony Baird
Crowe's Mills — Hazen Gamblin
Masstown - Clint Verheul
Building - Charles Mackenzie
Police - Bob Fredericks
Training - Bill MacKinnon
Clothing - Tom Shreve
Accountability - Bill MacKinnon
Equipment — Marty Woodward
Driver Lieut.- Brad Fiddes
Fire Prevention - Steven Neil

#### Other offices

Treasurer-Walter McElhinney Secretary -Charles Parlee Asst. Secretary -Wayne Onda Auditors - Chester Sabean, Lee Higgins Chaplin - Rev. Scott Penner

#### Committee Chair's

Sports—Vaughan Dickie Steward - Stan Hampton Radio & Alarms - Fred Newcombe Boat - John Dornan Membership - Trevor Livingston Sick & Vis. - Lee Higgins Asst. Steward - Russell Jennings Publicity - Clair Peers MFR First Aid - Derek Richard Fire Prevention - Ryan Crowell Scott Air - Tony Baird

#### Annual Awards

Officer of The Year - Greg Muise Fireman of the year-John MacKay Most Improved - John Dornan Sportsman - Walter McElhinney Fellowship - Walter McElhinney

## **Londonderry Community Council News**

By Sally Richard

March definitely came in like a lion. Spring has sprung as the saying goes so lets all pray for warmer temperatures with lots of sunshine. It really is a good feeling to put winter behind with positive thoughts of Spring ahead. The sap is starting to run, although very slow due to the cold northerly winds. We were lucky to have missed that awful ice storm a few weeks ago.

Apparently it wiped out or severely damaged sugar camp operations in parts of Cumberland County. Another sign of Spring nearing occurred March 7 when many from the community converged on the Community Centre with mops, pails and lots of cleaning items to do a thorough cleaning of the facility.

Thanks to all who supported that worthy project.

Our condolences are sent to Winnie Davidson and family on the passing of her husband Lawrence (Ted) Davidson, East Village in his 92nd year. Ted appreciated his life and property as a given gift and had great affection for his family. Our sympathy is extended to the family of the late Ivan Boyd, Highland Village. Ivan's ties to Londonderry were strong as he was score keeper for the famous Londonderry Iron Clads baseball team for many seasons.

On March 11, Mrs. Nellie Ripley, formerly Londonderry, moved into Cedarstone Enhanced Care facility in Truro. Mrs. Ripley is 97 years young. On March 14, a bridal shower was held at the Community Centre for Robbin Linds. Robbin will marry Christopher Spencer, son of Anne and David, in Cuba on March 25. Several of Robbin's friends attended the shower with gifts and a money tree.

This is birthday month for some of our well known seniors. Margaret Barnes and Ruth Casey, Londonderry Station both celebrated their special day with family. Shep Scott, Sutherland's Lake recently celebrated his 95th with family and Eva Langille, now residing at the Mira long term care facility in Truro will celebrate her 101st year with an open house followed by a family dinner.

The open house is planned for March 31 at the Mira from 2-4 pm in the main lobby. Drop by for some cake. Best wishes only. Congratulations and happy birthday to all four who have showed us how to stay young at heart. It seems March is also travel/vacation month.

Vacationing in Cuba recently were Debbie Mattix, her Aunt Georgina, Debbie's daughter Jen and husband, Cal and Lori Matheson, Shelly and Greg Mattix, Eric and Karen O'Brien. Also in Cuba at the same time for Chris and Robbin's wedding were Chris' parents Anne and David Spencer, bestman Bryce Dobson and Nick and Lori Spencer.

If possible the first group will attend the wedding.

Vacationing in Dominican Republic are Sally and John Richard and daughter Carole Landry along with Eddie Langille and friend Carlotta Priest. Soon, Cindy and Wade Smith, Betty and Dennis Gamble, Dan and Peggy Mattix and their friends Burton and Linda Roberts, Kevin and Margaret will take to the sky for the Dominican. That gives a good idea of our harsh winter.

The first breakfast brunch was a success. Debbie McMullen and Cindy Smith and their helpers did an excellent job of putting out a great brunch. Brunch is planned again for March 28 – 8:30 – 11 am. Drop by – it is really worth the trip.

Our monthly meetings are held on the first Sunday evening of the month at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. Card parties are held on Monday evenings at 7 pm. Donuts, cheese, tea and coffee is served. Contact Fred Gamble for hall rental inquiries.

## **Debert Elementary School Notes**

By Linda Harrington

The Debert Elementary PTG is going to be starting a fundraiser involving Barnhill's Superette and their Pizza Partito. Students will be selling 12" pizzas and 12" garlic fingers of which the PTG will get to keep a certain amount of each sale. The top selling class will get a pizza party and the top selling student of each class will receive a free 12" pizza. Thanks in advance to Barnhill's for offering us the chance to do this.

The school has been invited by the IWK to join in again with fundraising for their telethon. Last year was a huge success with \$2500 being raised for this worthwhile cause. The goal is to meet or even beat that total this year. Watch for details at a later date.

April 22 is Earth Day. Debert Elementary is hoping to recognize this day by organizing a school yard clean up and encouraging students and staff to dress in green that day. Plans are also in the works to plant a new tree in the school yard as well. More details to follow.

The next PTG meeting is set for April 23rd at 6:30pm. All are welcome to attend and bring forth any concerns or new ideas.

### Good News From your Member of the Legislative Assembly - Colchester-North MLA Karen Casey

February 9 – meeting with Dr. Howlett, Emergency Department Colchester Regional Hospital to discuss overcrowding/wait times within that department.

Delivered keynote address at Chronic and Complex Care Convention in Halifax

February 10 – meeting with Doctors Nova Scotia regarding recruitment/retention of physicians

February 11 – toured South Shore District Health Authority facilities and met with board members

February 14 – presented Great Village Historical Society with financial assistance (\$10 000)

February 16 – toured Guysborough Antigonish Strait Health Authority facilities and met with board members toured Cumberland District Health Authority facilities and met with board members

February 17 – toured Pictou District Health Authority facilities and met with board members

February 18 – toured IWK Health Authority facilities and met with board members

February 21 – guest speaker at the Pictou West nominating meeting attended the Tatamagouche Fire Department awards/banquet

March 1 - 89<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for Bob Ripley

March 21 - presentation of financial assistance to the Creamery Square project - attended the Debert Fire Department awards/banquet

Karen Casey, MLA Colchester North

30 Duke Street, Truro, N. S. B2N 2A1

Phone 893-2180 Fax 893-3064



Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 - 4:30 pm

Email: karencasey@ns.aliantzinc.ca www.karencasey.ca

"Support our Local Farmers, Buy Local, Eat Fresh"