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FRONT PAGE BRIEFS February 2009

Provincial Volunteer Awards nominations close on March 4th. Do you know a volunteer within your organization/group or community that deserves recognition? If so, Recreation Nova Scotia wants to hear from you. Recreation Nova Scotia is seeking nominations for the 36th Annual Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony. For more information go to: www.recreationns.ca/volunteerawards or contact Recreation Nova Scotia at 902-425-1128. Nominations are to be submitted to Recreation Nova Scotia on or before March 4th.

The Law Reform Commission of Nova Scotia has released its Final Report on Contaminated Sites in Nova Scotia. The report recommends several changes to provincial law, to encourage cleanup of contaminated properties. The Commission's publications are available on the Internet at www.lawreform.ns.ca. To obtain a print copy of any of publication, including the Final Report on Contaminated Sites, contact the Commission by: Ph: 902-423-2633; Fax: 902-423-0222; E-mail: info@lawreform.ns.ca or by mail: Law Reform Commission of Nova Scotia, 1484 Carlton Street, Halifax, NS B3H 3B7.

Nova Scotia's Progressive Conservatives will gather in Halifax in February for their 2010 Annual General Meeting. The convention will take place at the Westin Nova Scotia Hotel from February 5-7. Honourable Flora MacDonald will be guest speaker at the Saturday luncheon on February 6. The luncheon will commemorate the sixty years of service by the Nova Scotia PC Women's Association. For more information about the Annual General Meeting, go to www.pcparty.ns.ca.

It didn't take long for local citizens, who have formed the Lower Onslow Community Centre Society to get into the fund raising mode. They are sponsoring a FUNDRAISER CONCERT at the Lower Onslow Community Centre (former Lr. Onslow United Church) featuring Country Music & Old-time Fiddle on Sunday, February 7th from 2pm to 4pm. Free-will offering - Everyone Welcome. Light refreshments will be served after the show. For more information phone Elmer at 897-4553.

Student Registration for all Chignecto-Central Regional School Board elementary schools is happening until February 18, 2010. Registration is open to children who will be five on, or before, December 31, 2010. Parents are required to contact their local elementary school to arrange an appointment.

Registration will take place as follows:

January 28: Chiganois Elementary 662-4420; Cobequid Consolidated, 896-5560; Debert Elementary, 662-4400; Cobequid Consolidated 896-5560 and Parrsboro 254-5605.

January 29: Bass River Elementary, 647-3510; Advocate District School, 392-3400.

February 10: Great Village Elementary 668-6500.

Registration takes approximately 30 minutes, and parents must bring their child's birth certificate (proof of age) and provincial health card. Cumberland County also require immunization records for Public Health. If parents are unsure of their child's school, they should contact their local Family of Schools office: Cumberland County, 902-597-4207 and Colchester County, 902-896-5737.

A HELP 4 HAITI DIME AUCTION will be held at the Debert Elementary School Gym on Friday January 29th At 6:30 p.m. (draws begin at 7 :00 p.m.). The auction is being held to support the people of Haiti. A light lunch will be available

Young Lad Has Huge Heart

By Linda Harrington

Not many children would give up the chance to have their own Wii video game but one Debert youngster is happy he did.

Seven year old Canaan Hebb had been saving all his

money for months. Money he had received for his birthday and Christmas had all gone into his piggy bank, labelled with the word "Wii", as a reminder for what he was saving this money to purchase.

He had managed to save a

total of \$137.

On Wednesday, January 13th, Canaan heard about the terrible earthquake in Haiti. In his bedtime prayers that night, Canaan says he asked God how he might be able to help.



Canaan Hebb's piggy bank is empty, but he is happy! He heard about the earthquake in Haiti and decided to donate all his money to Samaritan's Purse, so they can help out the people in Haiti. (Harrington Photo)

The next morning, Canaan and his mother Sherri Stevenson, looked at pictures of the devastation in Haiti on the internet. They were both most touched by photos of rescue workers searching through rubble at a children's hospital, trying to find some little children alive.

Canaan asked his mother how everyone could help and Sherri told him that many people were donating money to Haiti. "He immediately decided he wanted to give all his money to help out," says Sherri.

"I saw there was lots of damage there and I thought \$137 would be a lot of money to help them get houses and clothes," says Canaan. "People losing their homes and getting hurt is a lot more important than having a Wii."

Canaan's mother is very proud of him and said she had tears in her eyes when he said he wanted to give all his money. "He had wanted a Wii for a long time and had been trying hard to save his money. I knew how much this must have meant to him. He just wanted to help as much as he could."

Canaan and Sherri took the

continued on page 3

Central Nova Scotia Civic Centre Construction to start this spring

By Maurice Rees

The final piece to the puzzle to proceed with construction of the new Central Nova Scotia Civic Centre on lands adjacent to the new hospital arrived in Truro on January 21st with Prime Minister Stephen Harper's visit and announcement the Federal Government will contribute \$10-million to the \$47.5-million facility.

Scott Armstrong, newly elected MP for the area, opened the public announcement in front of government, municipal and business leaders at the Holiday Inn, Truro. Securing final approvals of federal contribution for the new civic centre has been one of the highest priorities for the newly elected MP.

The Central Nova Scotia Civic Centre in Truro will house: an NHL-sized rink with fixed seating for 3,200 spectators; three-lane walking track; aquatic centre with an eight-lane competitive pool, a leisure pool; fitness centre and other multipurpose spaces.

Taking the podium, in addition to Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Scott Armstrong, MP, during the announcement were: Premier Darrell Dexter, Mayor Bill Mills, Truro, Mayor Bob Taylor, County of Colchester, and Peter MacKay, MP, and Minister of National Defence.

The project will be completed by mid-2012. It will generate construction and maintenance jobs as well as long-term recreational employment and sports revenues in the area.

As long as the projects meets the criteria of all three levels of government and community needs, funding will be as follows: Up to \$10 million from the Government of Canada and \$9.52 million from the Province of Nova Scotia. Approximately \$28 million provided by the Town of Truro, the Municipality of the County of Colchester and corporate and community fundraising will complete the project.

also, see photos on page 2



Prime Minister Stephen Harper addressing the audience gathered at the Holiday Inn to announce the Federal Governments contribution of \$10-Million for the new \$47.5-million civic centre. (Rees Photo).

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