

## Beryl Putnam Celebrates 95!



Beryl Putnam is looking lovely in her new red cape, a recent Christmas gift. She celebrated her 95th birthday on Dec. 27th. (Harrington Photo)

By Linda Harrington

Beryl Putnam celebrated her 95th birthday on Dec. 27th. It is quite possible she is the oldest resident of Debert. "My sister used to be the oldest but since she passed away in 2009, I think I might be the oldest now," says Beryl.

A celebration was planned to be held at the Debert United Church but a snow storm resulted in the cancellation of those plans. When the snow cleared, family and friends dropped by her home, as no one wanted to miss such an important occasion.

Beryl is the daughter of

the late Everett and May (Withrow) McCully. She has lived the past 76 years in the Soley House, on Soley Factory Road, Debert.

Her husband Albert passed away 14 years ago. They had four children, Ralph (now deceased), Glen (Masstown), Grant (Truro) and Marie (Ontario).

Many of Beryl's family have lived to be over 90. Her mother lived a very healthy life until her passing at 102 years of age and she also had three aunts who lived to be over 100. Her sister, Evelyn Simpson, lived to be 95, and her brother, Gordon

McCully, recently celebrated his 90th birthday.

Beryl is proud of her 10 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great grandchildren.

Turning 95 is not about to slow Beryl down any. She still drives her own car in the day time and often gets out to community events. She belongs to the Truro Senior's Club, The Debert Garden Club and Debert UCW. She says she has some help with her cleaning but still does most of her own baking and helps out when baking is needed for Church suppers.

Perhaps her secret to long life is keeping active. "My favorite past time is dancing," says Beryl, who had just returned from a dance in Middle Stewiacke when interviewed. "I love to dance and go out at least once a week."

Many local people will remember seeing Beryl in the Debert Field Day parade; she always road a decorated bicycle. For seventeen years she came up with unique and colorful ways to decorate her bicycle and even made her own costume for every year but one!

## Economy & Five Islands Area News

By Ruth Thompson  
261-2933

The Christmas Eve Service at Peniel United Church was well attended. A lot of the credit goes to Valerie Pugsley for teaching us new music along with some old favourites. A big thanks goes out to Valarie. Our MC for the evening was Jerry Roberts, job well done Jerry.

The Economy U.C.W. had a

very nice Christmas party at the Recreation Centre with a full Turkey dinner. Rev. Florence and Paul's daughter and Son-in law were there as well as friends of Carole and Ray Dibbon. Everyone had a great time.

Hello to Denny and Marilyn Cock who live in B.C. for the winter. Can't wait for you to get home for the summer. Hope all is well.

The Economy U.C.W. are holding A book, bake and bottle sale on February 12 at the Economy Recreation Centre. Come for a good read, good baking and whatever the bottles may contain.

If I do not get any news for next month, this will be my last report. I am working on getting a member from the Economy area to be your new reporter. I can be reached at foxy40@bellaliant.net or at 647-2933.

## Baptist Girls' Choir Annual Gala



Stevie Gass (pictured), Katelyn MacKenzie and Rhianon Crowe of Crowes Mills will perform with the Baptist Girls' Choir at the annual fund raising Gala on March 7th. The Choir will be travelling to New York City in June. (submitted)

Treat yourself to a delightful evening hosted by the Baptist Girls' Choir, featuring "Songs By The Sea".

The Gala will be held at the Best Western Glengarry on March 7th. Tickets are \$40 per person and include a three course meal, with

entertainment throughout out the evening provided by the Choir, under the direction of Jeff Joudrey. Song selections will include tunes by the Rankin Family, as part of the Maritime flavour.

A Silent Auction will be held during the Gala, thanks to the generous support of local businesses. Eric Storr will once again act as MC.

Three young ladies from Crowes Mills are members of the Baptist Girls' Choir; Stevie Gass; Katelyn MacKenzie and Rhianon Crowe.

The Gala is the main fund raiser in support of the Choir's trip to New York City and area at the end of June.

Angela Saunders, Stevie's mom, says she is very proud of these local girls and hopes the public will come out and show their support. "Stevie has been a member of the choir for the past three years and it has been a wonderful experience for her and the

other girls. A recent highlight was singing in Ottawa at the Rotunda in the Parliament Buildings. Funds raised at this year's Gala will assist the Choir as they travel to New York in June."

**Tickets for the Gala are available at Sandy's Fashion for Men, 25 Inglis Place, Truro. For more information on the choir visit.**

## Historic Sites

### Along The Shore - SIMPSON BARREL FACTORY

The Shoreline Journal, in collaboration with the Colchester Historical Society Archives, have inaugurated an ongoing feature utilizing a combination of the digital "A. F. Church Maps" to pin point the circa 1875 location of a Colchester site of historical importance, and connect it to an archival photograph of that site, in that frame.



By Dick Akerman

On Map # 318, the arrow points out the carpenter shop of William Simpson in Carr's Brook, which by 1879 had developed into the barrel factory pictured. The export of salt shad fish had developed into a thriving industry by this time and barrels were in great demand. This shop also produced



### From the archives of the COLCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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doors and windows and was powered by a steam engine, which was manufactured by Robb Engineering of Amherst.

The shad fishery was carried out both by boat and weir (trap). The two man shad boats of this era were generally 6 m to 7.2 m long, with a beam of 2m to 2.4m. Drift nets were 350m to 550m. long. Sails and oars were used to get the boat out into the bay, and then the ebb and flow of the tide provided the locomotion. Weir fishing is still carried on in the Economy and Five Islands area. In 1870 some 3729 barrels of shad were shipped to market from West Colchester, generally in the Eastern United States.

Be sure to see next month's "Historic Sights" feature in the Shoreline, and if you have a suggestion for future "sights", submit it to the editor or the Archives, at 895-9530.

**Dick Akerman has been compiling information on behalf of the Colchester Historical Museum Archives, which will be published as a monthly column in the Shoreline Journal.**

## Onslow Belmont Notes

By Debbie Weatherby

Well it seems everyone has gotten past Christmas and New Years and if you are all like me have eaten way too much over the holidays. Just to say many thanks to all my customers for their thoughtfulness and greatly appreciate it. I have the best route and truly enjoy my job and it is my customers who make it all worthwhile. Another year has started and the weather has been great so far but old man winter has just decided to let

us know he is still around.

Belmont Baptist Church services are held every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. with Sunday School held at 9:30 a.m. Prayer meeting is held Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Services are held at the Trinity United Church every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. There is also card playing of 45's every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. with lunch and prizes provided. All are welcome to come out for an enjoyable evening

Condolences go out to

Geordie Shearer and families on the loss of his son, Jamie Peter Shearer, on Dec. 5, 2010; to Patricia (Richard) Dennis and families on the loss of her father, George Aubrey Fields, on Dec. 14, 2010 and Arthur Hill, Upper Onslow and families on the loss of his partner, Ellen Ruth Leamont on Dec. 14, 2010.

If anyone has something they would like to see written please give me a call and until next time take care and drive carefully on the snowy and icy roads.

Happy Valentines to everyone out there.

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*Bass River United Baptist Church*

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Sunday Worship Service ..... 11 a.m.  
Bible Study - Mondays ..... 10 a.m.

Gospel Coffee House  
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