



Chiganois Elementary School students and staff celebrated the virtues of Respect, Thankfulness, Courage and Optimism during a holiday gathering that focused on the story, "The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Tooney". As the students entered the gathering a homeless person played by Amanda Gould was sleeping on the bench outside in the rain and cold. As the attendees sang holiday songs, they tried to use their virtues to get the homeless woman to come inside. Students were genuinely happy when the homeless woman joined in the singing of Silent Night to end the celebration. (Taken from Superintendent Gary Adams January Report to the CCRSB Board)

## Chiganois Elementary Notes

By Linda Harrington

Primary Registration for students beginning school in September 2016 will take place on Thursday, January 28th. If you have a child that will be 5 years old by December 31st, 2016, please contact the school at 662-4420 to make an appointment. If you know of any other families that have school aged children, please pass on this important information.

Virtue of the Month was Responsibility, with the message "I am responsible for my thoughts, words and actions. I am accountable for my choices. I admit my mistakes and work to correct them. People can depend on me to honour my commitments. I demonstrate active citizenship."

The school would like to

thank our anonymous donor for the bench that some of you may have noticed in the school foyer. The bench will be installed on the playground when the weather improves in the spring. The bench has a special purpose; it is intended for students who are looking for a buddy to play with during the recess and lunch breaks outside. If a student is sitting on the bench then others will know to approach and ask them to join their game; this way no one is excluded from having a buddy during playtime.

A big thank you to the Parent Teacher Group for all their ongoing hard work and commitment to the school community. Before the Holidays, the Parent Teacher Group organized a visit to the school by

none other than himself, Santa. The jolly guy visited the classrooms and talked to the students. There was a great deal of excitement as the students were able to shop at the Christmas store that day as well. Also, the PTG organized a cookie and water sale at the concert where all proceeds were donated to one of our Chiganois families in need; and a huge thank you for all the monetary donations made at the concert for the family too! There was \$1247.00 donated in which the family appreciated and put to good use for repairs to their home after the house fire. Your generosity and kindness was truly appreciated. The Parent Teacher Group has provided the school with \$2500 in order to purchase technology devices (netbooks and Ipads/tablets) to use for classroom instruction. This will be a great benefit to

students and their learning.

Over the next few months we will be working on gathering items to support our "loose parts" play initiative for the playground at Chiganois.

Loose parts are materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, and taken apart and put back together in multiple ways.

They include things like tires, containers, buckets, plastic pipes of various length, tarps, rope, tree cookies, sticks, old sheets etc. They allow the children to use their own creativity when using them.

There are no specific directions for how the children are to use them.

Looking Ahead To February, on Feb. 1st there will be a School Assembly on the Virtue of Kindness, Feb. 14th is Valentine's Day and there is no school on Family Day, Feb. 15th.

## "300 Felines" - Because Every Cat Matters

By Maurice Rees

Taylor Jacobs and Lindsay Russell, students at Dal's Ag campus in Bible Hill appeared before Colchester's Municipal council to explain their program deal with 300 feral cats in the area. Estimated to cost between \$25,000 and \$30,000,

the support group have already raised \$10,000 toward the project's overall cost.

A feral cast is described as: A domestic cat who survives outdoors with little to no human contact; may have been born in the wild or become homeless due to straying or abandon-

ment with an average lifespan of 2-3 years.

During their January 5th presentation Jacobs and Russell said the scope of the project includes: Provide preventative health care, medical treatment & spay/neuter to additional 300

feral cats; Serve the community by working with local animal welfare organizations to offer a no-cost, humane & effective means of addressing the region's feral cat population crisis; Foster community involvement & provide medical training opportunities for our future veterinarians & veterinary technicians;

Increase public awareness & understanding of feral cat issues and inspire citizens & other professionals in the veterinary community to "spay it forward".

Veterinaries have committed to donate their time to the project, but funds are needed for medical care, and other supplies. When a feral cat is delivered to the group, they take care of the spaying or neutering. Once the cat has gone through the process, it is then returned to the group or people who had

captured it in the beginning. The cat can then be adopted or returned to the feral community.

Jacobs and Russell estimate it may take up to three years to achieve the goal of processing 300 feral cats, but each year the size of the feral community will gradually be reduced by slowing the rate of population growth.

Residents of Colchester who wish to help, participate or donate can contact the group at: [www.facebook.com/300Felines](http://www.facebook.com/300Felines) or E-mail: [the300felinesproject@outlook.com](mailto:the300felinesproject@outlook.com)

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## Grand Opening of New Permanent Exhibit

By Dale Ells

In conjunction with Provincial Heritage Day, Monday, February 15th, the Colchester Historical Society invites everyone to the Historeum on Young Street, Truro, to celebrate our local heritage. This will be the grand opening of a new permanent exhibit.

As you enter the building and tour the first floor gallery, you will be in a new environment developed on the theme

Colchester: Life in the Heart of Nova Scotia. New wall and floor graphics, banners, wall displays, pictorial window screens, a sound scape, a mini theatre, and much more will be explained by guides wearing historic costumes. There are opportunities to learn and celebrate the landscape, people, industries and social life that have made Colchester an important hub in the heart of Nova Scotia which connects so well with others beyond this area.

Interpretative tours are planned from 10 am until 4 pm on the 15th. A social time with refreshments will be provided on the top floor.

This opening is important in the revitalization of the Colchester Historeum. The museum, the archives and related heritage programs are all important heritage features here in the civic square of downtown Truro, said Pauline Thomson, President of the Society.

Families are especially welcome. Admission will be free during this grand opening from 10 am until 4pm on February 15th.

For additional information you may contact: Pauline Thomson, (Ph: 902 895-6284)

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## Historic Sites

### "TRAMWAY WORK CREW - LONDONDERRY MINES/LORNEVALE AREA"



This wonderful photograph of a mine tramway work crew, including foreman in long coat, suit and tie, was no doubt taken in the Londonderry Mines/Lornevale area, along the lower slopes of the Cobequid Mountains. (General area pinpointed by the arrow pointer on Map # 303). The photo depicts a tramway "Y" and a switch point,



with a timber bridge over a small gully or brook below. Beyond that point, there are signs of debris on the track, with a tree trunk lying on the track, and rocks scattered about. In the background can be seen piles of either rail ties or pit-props. Pit-props were rough cut 6" x 6" timbers, used to shore up the tunnel roofs as the tunnel progressed into the mountain side. If these are pit props, the mine tunnel must be close by. In the early years of mining in this area, the 1850's, 60's and early 70's, the man powered trams were used to move the iron ore from the pithead to a wagon road below, from there to the smelter in the village. In the early 1870's the railroad came to service the mining operation and a narrow gauge rail system replaced the horse and cart in the movement of ore from the mines to the processing mill.

SOURCE: *History of Great Village - Women's Institute*  
Compiled by Dick Akerman.

### From the archives of the COLCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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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.

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