



Congratulations to Maria Wood of Great Village and Felicia Rushton of Bass River on their recent dancing success. Maria passed her 14 Step and European Waltz and Felicia passed her Keats Foxtrot and American Waltz. Both girls were partnered by Ed Bahoric on his recent trip to the area from the Toronto Cricket Skating Club. Above is Felicia, Ed and Maria. Both girls train at the Debert Skating Club and shall be attending the National Training Seminar in Barrie Ontario this coming June. (Submitted Photo)



The grade seven's from Central Colchester Junior High recently received awards from the Royal Canadian Legion for their 2009 Remembrance Day Literacy contest. The winners were (l to r) Marla McNutt (poetry, also winner 2nd place of the Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command advancing to the Dominion Command in Ottawa); Racheal Van Gestal (poetry); Courtney Shortt (poster); Mrs. Jennifer Lindsay-Pond (teacher); Aliah Wilson (poster); Josh Gamblin (poster) and Mellisa Currie (poster). (Submitted Photo)

## Oxley Hall at McLennan Camp to be replaced

By Chris Urquhart

The United Church summer camp, McLennan Camp, is located at Chance Harbour in Pictou County. It is shared by both Truro and Pictou Presbyteries and we support this camp in many ways. One way is by saving our pennies, another way is by saving our Canadian Tire money.

We also can help out with expenses by providing items on their "wish list", such as paper towels, Kleenex, garbage and blue bags, rubber gloves, cleaning supplies, art supplies and any other items you can think of!

If you wish to donate items to our camp they can be dropped off at the Church on Sunday's, at any of our Coffee

Parties or you can call me 662-3550 for pick up. All items are appreciated and every item donated saves on the cost of running the camp.

For an application to attend camp you can either pick one up at Church or contact the Church Manse 662-2617 to get one. The children have a great time at camp, between the beach, the swimming pool and the hiking trails as well as the camp fires, arts and crafts and good meals.

This year they plan to replace Oxley hall if they can as it is very old and a bit "shaky" in places. All donations appreciated for this as well.

# Nature Notes

By Fran Spalding • 647-2837

These notes cover the last month of winter and the first days of spring. Actually February appeared to be so spring-like, with robins all over the place, several people were speculating perhaps the fiercer weather south of us had caused an early migration.

Another possibility is a small over-wintering population used the open weather to move around more. Either way, their presence took a lot of people by surprise.

Red-winged blackbirds also appeared in February, but they're hardy (Anita McLellan reminds me a pair overwintered at her place a few years ago). The Meredith's saw a large bird approach the Truro osprey nest on the Salmon River flats February 27, too far away to identify properly, but quite possibly the early arrival of the owner, to be accounted for by milder ice conditions.

They also saw an early kestrel in mid-March survey-

ing the fields from a power-line; the fields were bare of snow but doubtless offered slim pickings in the way of food. Now that spring is officially here so are the song sparrows and grackles as well as geese passing overhead.

A surprise was the three cedar waxwings checking out our window feeder; they're birds one normally expects at apple blossom time. They took a brief look at the offering of seeds and departed.

The cardinals, I hear, are still at their winter havens. As for flowers, our snowdrops are out, and some gardens must have crocuses, too. But these are gifts from Asia (via Holland) that have never managed to get a foothold in the wild here.

Our only wild flower to have shown itself is the pussy willow ("small ones", says Anita McLellan, who found some). Though it wasn't a severe winter the combina-



tion of its winds and tides have cut severely into the low

shoreline west of Jacob's Lane in Economy.

Not only that, but the Chimney Rocks have lost their chimney, and that was harder rock, basalt, than the sandstone "teapots", like the one at Thomas's Cove that disappeared over thirty years ago.

Add the collapse of the Economy Falls a few years ago and one is reminded that some of the events to be recorded here are more than seasonal.



The West Nova Night Hawks took part in a Volleyball Tournament at Great Village Elementary School on March 13th. Pictured are (front left to right) Melissa Wile, Brooke Vance, Nicole Smith; (back left to right) Kristen Spencer, Hiliary Cox, Rebecca Dodsworth-Lush. Waiting their turn on the court are team members Michelle Kline, Madison Rushton, Julie Cooke and Hailey Eagles. The team is coached by Peter Christensen. (Harrington Photo)

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