

The youngest performer at the Debert & Area Kitchen Party is Haley Smith. In this photo she is accompanied by Bill Hill on guitar and her proud Grampie, Bob Smith. (Lynn Strong Photo)

Masstown Community News

By Chris Urqubart

Spring is really here. There are robins on every lawn you pass as you walk and drive around our community. The red winged blackbirds and grackles are also around in large numbers and not only are the tulips and daffodils poking their heads out of the ground but the crocus and snow drops are in bloom in some of our gardens. Somehow it is always refreshing to have the season change from winter to spring. As with Easter, it is a sign of new birth and resurrection. As the time changed recently I hope you remembered to change the batteries in your smoke alarm and your emergency kits!

The DGM Men's Club will hold their usual Saturday morning breakfast meeting on April 2nd at the Double C Restaurant. All men are welcome. An interesting program is usually offered as well.

The Masstown UCW will meet on Thursday April 7th, 7pm at the Masstown United Church. Program - Blind Auction! All ladies from our three communities are invited to join us for this fun evening. Bring a wrapped item which will be bid on at the auction. See what you can bid for! Lunch to follow.

Coffee Party's for the month of April will be the 13th and 27th. These are always held on Wednesday afternoons at 2pm. There are tables to sit at and enjoy sandwiches and sweets, a play room for the children and a bake table where you can buy some goodies to take home. Hope to see you there!

The Masstown Stewards & Trustees which is now called the Management Committee would like to thank everyone who helped out in any way with our recent St. Patrick's Day Pot Luck Supper. We raised over \$800.00!

Mark this date on your calendar! We will be having a Variety Concert at the Masstown United Church on May 15th from 1pm to 4pm. A light lunch will be provided during intermission. The line up for entertainers will be listed in next month's Shoreline. We are trying to raise money to fix our Church roof which has a hole in it. Please come out and support our worthy cause.

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There will be a Refundable Drive on June 4th so please keep saving your refundables for our Masstown Church. We always need help with pick ups and sorting so if you are available don't hesitate to join us!

We have had some travelers enjoying the more southern climates over the past few weeks. Doug and Tracey Jardine spent a week in the Dominican Republic. Doug's sister Bev came to Masstown to stay with the boys and the dog while they were gone. Darrell and Margaret Currie spent a week in Cuba. Noel and Geraldine Gratto spent a week in Florida.

Condolences go out this month to: Kay Maxwell and family on the death of her son, Kelly; Richard Wenham and family on the death of his mother, Dorothy Wenham and Carl Green and family on the death of his brother, Roy Green.

May the songs of the birds and the scents on the breezes enter you hearts and grant you peace.

Atlantic Horse Fair APRIL 23 & 24

By Diane Daniels

The 4th Atlantic Horse Fair held annually at the Exhibition grounds in Truro, N.S. will be held April 23 & 24. Driven by the love of the horse, this yearly event focuses directly on the promotion of the horse industry in Nova Scotia to its full potential. Through the use of demonstrations, breed showcases, lectures, trade show and clinics, the Atlantic Horse Fair is becoming recognized as one of the premiere horse events in Nova Scotia assisting to create marketing opportunities for all facets in the world of horses.

Clinicians for 2011 include the internationally acclaimed Don Adams of Moncton, N. B. with Reining, back by popular demand, Professional Barrel Racing Champion, Marci Powell, Alberta along with, Angela Covert Lawrence who made her debut as a member of the Canadian Show Jumping Team this year in the Nations Cup Competition held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Canada's team delivered a strong second place finish in the November contest.

Gaining in popularity the Clinician segment has attracted support through such businesses and associations including Greenhawk Nova Scotia, Clarence Farm Services Ltd., MacLeods Farm Machinery Ltd., Nova Scotia Equine Federation, Shur Gain Feeds & Needs, Fiske's Animal Care Products, Antigonish Mutual, N. S. 4-H Clubs and Wayne's Saddlery Boot & Harness.

Further information may be obtained by visiting the www.agridome.ca/AHF/ or by contacting the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition office at 893-9222/ nspe@eastlink.ca

Bass River Fire Brigade Notes

By Pete Christensen

Happy spring time from the fire hall. Yes spring has arrived, and with it the loss of snow, cold nights and wood stoves blazing. Yep, I'm going to miss the fire side chats with the old guitar. But time to move on. And what better place to move on to than a Pancake and Sausage WITH Maple Syrup Brunch. That is taking place at the fire hall in Bass River on April 3rd from 10 am till 12 noon.

Everything will be fresh cooked and really great to taste. And you get to see folks you haven't seen all winter, cause of that darn old snow on the roads. Hope to see you all there.

Things at the hall are going along quite well, with all trucks ready to go at the moments call. I think a fire truck has a lonely existence, always ready to go somewhere, but never getting a chance to spin its wheels, not that, you know that would ever happen. Reminds me of when i was a lad, and always looking to go to town, but always almost never got to go,

to much work to do. But the trucks are always ready to respond.

And with the spring time sun comes that constant urge in some humans to throw a match on any piece of ground that looks like it has grass on it and it looks old and crappy. Yes I'm talking about the springtime ritual of setting grass fires to spruce up the look of mother nature's floor plan. Well today when I came home there were three folks burning the grasses round the

I am looking into a spring dance at the hall in May as another fund raiser for the hall. Will keep you posted. Now is a great time of year to order your hardwood for the next burning season, least that sounded better than next winter.

Well that about wraps up another month at the hall. With spring sunshine and the warm days, remember to be aware of fire hazards outside and if you see smoke where it should not be, give us a call. Check your flues soon and keep your pipes clean.

Debert Elementary Notes

By Linda Harrington

A Family Dance held in February was well attended. Thank you to all who supported this event and to all who purchased tickets on the Ipod, over \$1400 was raised. Sherry Lockhart was the lucky winner of the IPod.

The second "Mug & Muffin" event was held on March 7th, and DES students showcased their talents.

Thank you to all those who brought treats to the staff during Staff Appreciation Week. It was very much "appreciated". Skating with the Bearcats was held on the last day of After School Skating, Monday, March 7th. Students enjoyed a

visit from the Juno Nominated, ECMA Winning entertainers Donna & Andy on March 11th.

Thank you to everyone who supported the 2nd Scholastic Book Fair. Over \$1000 worth of new books will be filling the Library shelves very soon. Thank you to parent volunteers: Sonya Barnhill, Angie DeAdder, Tina Fisher, Gena Priest and Nellie Rhuland. Stay tuned for information on a used book sale fund raiser for the Library in the spring.

Several Debert Elementary students will be taking part in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake by using a Wii program at the school. Money raised will go to the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program.

Two quilts have been generously donated by Gerene Chisholm. A ticket raffle will be held, with funds going to help purchase a PA system for the gymnasium.

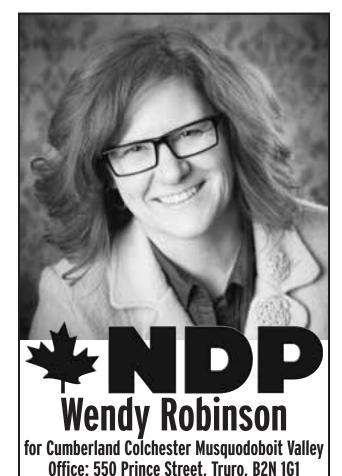
The next PTG Meeting will be held on Wed., April 20th. There are 14 new Primary students registered for Sept. 2011. These new students will be attending one of two orientation days on either May 11th or May 18th. Students will receive invitations to attend a half day of school on one of these two days. A Parent Orientation for the new Primary students will be held on May 31st.

Enjoy the spring sunshine!

Deadline for the May issue of

is April 19

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Municipality of the County of Colchester Property Tax Exemption

SUBMISSION DEADLINE - MAY 13, 2011

Residential property owners may be eligible for an exemption on their 2011/2012 property taxes, up to a maximum of \$263.13. To qualify, applicants must own and occupy the property and fall into one of the categories in the table below:

 Family Size
 Gross Income
 Exemption

 single
 Less than \$20,900
 \$157.28

 family of 2
 Less than \$27,500
 \$209.70

 family of 3 or more
 Less than \$33,000
 \$262.13

Gross Income refers to the total gross income from all sources for the calendar year ending December 31, 2010. This must include the income of all members of the household, except full-time students, however, you should not include income from the following sources:

- War Veterans Allowance Act (Canada);
- Pension from Veterans Affairs Canada;
- Child Tax Benefit; or
- GST Rebate

Application forms will automatically be mailed to last year's successful applicants. If you did not receive the exemption last year, you may obtain an application from the Municipal Tax Office, 1 Church Street Truro, or by calling 897-3150.

For income verification purposes, please bring a copy of your 2010 Income Tax Return, which you submitted to Revenue Canada, when submitting your application.

Dan McDougall
Chief Administrative Officer
Municipality of the County of Colchester