



Melissa Langille, volunteer director, organized the Wentworth Valentine Dance. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)



Ella and Georgia Murphy were among the approximately 70 children who participated in the Wentworth Valentine Dance. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)



The happy faces on Noah Langille, Isabella LeBlanc and R.J. Lynds is an indication of their enjoyment at the 2nd annual valentine dance. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)



Like many rural communities Wentworth provides a variety of venues for all ages, with an emphasis on the youth. Emma Reid, Katherine Palmer and Alissa Reid were among those who participated. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)



Zoey and Lucy Langille enjoyed the valentine dance. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)

Correspondence Handled at March 26 Meeting

By Maurice Rees

Colchester council handled several pieces of correspondence at the March 26 meeting which included:

A letter from Julie Hay, Stewiacke Visitor Information Centre requesting additional funding to assist with extending the season for the Visitor Information Centre was referred to budget deliberations on Motion by Councillors Boutillier and Gibbs.

A letter from Mark Furey, Minister of Justice and Chuck Porter, Minister of Municipal Affairs highlighted the need to form an accessibility advisory committee and having an accessibility plan in place by April 1, 2021. On motions by Councillors Gibbs and Taggart was referred to staff.

Council is requesting funding in the amount of \$15,000 previously granted to Colchester Legion Pipes and Drums for their participation in the 75th Anniversary of the Celebration of the Liberation of the Netherlands, be returned to the Municipality, because the trip has been cancelled due to Covid-19. The group can reapply if the trip is rescheduled for a later date."

Information items were received from Development Officer, copy of the

Development Activity Report for the month of February 2020; Building Permit Statistics for the month of February 2020.

On motions by Councillors Taggart and Councillor Parker a letter will be sent to Millbrook First Nations requesting an update on the status of the addition of reserve lands. The letter to Millbrook was based on a letter from Adrienne Murray, Land Management Advisor, Indigenous Services Canada regarding the addition of land to Millbrook.

Referring to discussions in Closed Session, concern was expressed regarding the length of time it takes to deal with inquiries from developers relative to land sales in Debert. The CAO proposed that similar to discussions earlier this evening, staff will look into developing a type of flow chart that would map out the process to expedite and have clear delineation to make decisions to shorten timelines and facilitate sales in Debert for Council consideration. Councillor Taggart inquired about the timeline to receive this. The CAO advised that this is one of many priorities and will commit to getting it through as quickly as possible.

The Shoreline Tid-Bits

Journal

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Atlantic Journalism Awards Gala Cancelled

The Atlantic Journalism Awards' Board of Directors has decided to cancel this year's gala on Saturday, May 9th 2020 due to the spread of COVID-19. The organizers will continue with the competition and announce both the finalists and winners in May.

Upper Clements Park is no more

The Upper Clements Park, which was established as a major tourism attraction in the Annapolis Valley has been sold and the site will be repurposed as Gordonstoun Nova Scotia. It is the first franchise of the famed Scottish boarding school attended by members of the royal family will require an investment of up to \$62-Million and may open in September 2021. A consortium led by Canadian businessman Edward Farren, with the co-operation of local government, will build a 250-acre campus in Annapolis County, where pupils will be able to benefit from an education based on Gordonstoun's world-leading approach," the Scottish school said in a communication early on March 17.

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Valentine Dance in Wentworth

By Hope Bridgewater

Melissa Langille, volunteer director, helped by friends at the Wentworth Learning Centre organized an excellent Valentine dance aimed primarily for children, teens and their parents. Melissa reports: "The community came together for the 2nd annual Valentine dance and 70 children/parents were present. Surrounding communities came out to support us again. These events are a great way to bring young and old together. These events would not be possible without the on-going support we receive by children and adults both up dancing."

The large room for dancing was in darkness when entering but there was enough light from a Strobe Disco Light to make out the action of dancing on the large floor. How did the dance get its name and how did it evolve into romance, dancing and fun? Good questions and it requires research to find out!

The name Valentine refers to Saint Valentine who in the third century A.D. (269A.D.) was killed on February 14 for not worshipping properly the Roman gods and February 14 was named for him by

Christians. Saint Valentine loved children and those who missed him sent him messages through the opening of his jail cell window. That is how children and Valentine Day got connected.

How did Valentine Day romance begin? In England many people believed birds picked their mates on February 14, and English poet and playwright William Shakespeare in his play Hamlet (1600-1601) wrote, "Tomorrow is Saint Valentine's day / All in the morning betime, / and I a maid at your window / to be your Valentine." Romance by way of birds in England had become romantic and this idea spread with the migration of the English language to many countries in the 1800's, and now in the 1900's and 2020's romantic Valentine Day or its variations of romance, dancing, and fun are in many other countries in the Americas, Asia and elsewhere.

The Wentworth Valentine dance which focused primarily on children, teens and their parents was a big success and took its place in the history of this popular and dramatic event. Several photos entered with the text highlight its importance for this community and area



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