



Winners of the 2012 Wilson Family Scholarship from the Colchester area were (l to r): Nathan Allen, Milford, Krista Lynds, Truro and Brandon Werenka, Bible Hill. Since the Scholarships were first given out in 2009, there have been 150 applicants and 34 scholarships have been presented. A reception was held at the Holiday Inn, Truro on July 17th for the 9 recipients of this year's scholarships. (Harrington Photo)

"A Starting Point" FINANCIAL DATA RECEIVED

An Update on The Proposed Closure of the Cobequid Branch of the Community Credit Union of Cumberland Colchester Ltd.

By the "Members of the Cobequid Branch Committee"

In March of this year our Members of the Cobequid Branch experienced a terrible shock when unexpectedly our Branch was slated for closure on September 30th, 2012. Shortly thereafter, the concerned Members of our Branch requested a Special Meeting to have open discussion with our Board of Directors and Management with respect to the awful problem that our Members and Communities were now facing. As the community of Wentworth was deemed to be central to all three of our Branches by our Board of Directors, it was the chosen location for the meeting. The meeting was held on April 24th and after a presentation by Management and much discussion, members passed a motion to have an independent financial review done for our Branch.

Soon after the Wentworth Meeting, the Bass River based Committee formed to diligently work to see what could be done to keep open our Branch of the Credit Union. Also to work to ensure that Members were able to obtain any information they needed to understand how the decision to close our Branch came about.

Over the past few months our Committee has faced numerous challenges and has been working on many things. Primarily, our Committee wanted to ensure that Members obtained the minutes to the April 24th Special Meeting and that the independent financial review was completed. Both of which our members are entitled to as per the By-Laws and Credit Union Act.

We are pleased to report that we are now in receipt of both of these items. As our Committee has just received the financial information, we have not yet had enough time to properly review it. A quick look does show our branch operating at a loss, but also raises other questions to which of course we will be seeking answers. Thankfully though it does now provide us with "a starting point" from which we can move forward. The minutes to the Special Meeting are now posted on the Community Credit Union website and it is our under-

standing that the financial information will also soon be posted on the website.

On July 8th, our Committee met with Mike Leonard, a representative from Atlantic Central-Halifax. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss how we viewed this entire situation and what we were hoping to accomplish. Upon our review of the recently received financial information, we are anticipating further discussions with Mr. Leonard.

Our Committee also had a telephone conversation earlier in the month with our Superintendent, Doug Murphy, whom at that time was still awaiting requested information.

Then on July 23rd, our Committee was advised by our Board of Directors that the 2nd Special Meeting, which was originally scheduled for July 17th, in Bass River, has now been rescheduled for August 30th. The location of the meeting has been changed to the Wandlyn Inn in Amherst. At this time, our Committee has not been advised of the reason for the change in location. We also have concerns of course due to the length of time until that meeting. It certainly runs down the clock towards our date of closure.

Our Committee recognizes the seriousness of the time factor with respect to the nearing date of closure for our Branch. Although this report is brief, the time spent working on this problem is not. Our Committee is dedicated to working with all necessary parties and finding a solution to this pending problem. If you have any questions please feel free to contact one of our Committee members, or contact our Chair, Valerie Meredith at 668-2303 or 647-2552.

Come on Over to Wentworth

By Hope Bridgewater

During the monthly Music Afternoons on the last Sunday of the month (except December) at the Wentworth Recreation Centre, volunteer fiddlers and other musicians, coming from many places in Nova Scotia and southern New Brunswick, play Down East music for free-style dancers on a large hardwood floor or for those who like to sit and listen, so come on over and have fun! Bring your own lunch to place in a potluck meal of sandwiches and sweets eaten at the 4 pm break.

Recently on June 24, a birthday was celebrated at the Centre when Winnie MacKinnon from Tatamagouche made a large birthday cake as a surprise for Dave Bagnell from Truro, a fiddler and saxophone player, who is always present for the Musical Afternoons. The large cake was presented at the lunch time, for all to eat after Bagnell had made the first cut. The beautiful birthday cake was decorated in white icing highlighted by blue and red colours, with a fiddle and bow

ornament in the middle and with the words "Happy Birthday David" written on it. Bagnell, very surprised and happy, smiled as everyone clapped to cheer him on his birthday.

Dave Bagnell, who grew up in Truro, N.S., began playing the fiddle at five years of age and during school years performed at many music festivals and events. He studied violin at Acadia University and over the years has performed as fiddler at many Down East music groups and can play Cape Breton Celtic style as well. Dave composes Down East fiddle music and one of his compositions is "Sherry's Waltz," written for his daughter. Don Messer recorded "Sherry's Waltz" and many fiddlers often play it at events. Bagnell has published a book of compositions called "Down East Fiddle Tunes from Both Sides of the Cobequid Mountains," featuring his own compositions and the compositions of Lloyd Tattrie. "...Both Sides of the Cobequids" means that Bagnell lives in Truro and Tattrie lives in Tatamagouche.

In addition to Dave Bagnell's



Dave Bagnell, smiles as he holds his surprise birthday cake brought to him by Winnie MacKinnon, at the monthly Music Afternoon at the Wentworth Recreation Centre. (Winnie MacKinnon Photo)

birthday on June 24, Betty Curry mentioned that on the very next day, June 25, another excellent volunteer fiddle player, Glendon Stevens, would be celebrating both his birthday and his 57th wedding anniversary.

Highlighting another birthday event, which did not happen at the Recreation Centre, involves the birthday celebration of Shirley Palmer of West Wentworth on the occasion of her 80th birthday. Her five children and spouses (Sandra and

Al, Laurel, JoAnne and Tim, Jimmie and Barb, Leah), seven grandchildren (Lyndsey and John, Lacey, Lyssa, William, Ashlee, Stuart, and Jessica, her brother (Jim Keiver), sister-in-law (Alta Little) and friends (Sheila Williams and Ida Little) all met in Truro to enjoy a delicious Chinese meal at the Chow Family restaurant. In all twenty one people gathered to wish her a happy birthday and many, many more wonderful birthdays to come.

Masstown Community News

By Christine Urquhart

As summer continues with lots of sun and heat, remember that it is important for the birds to have a place to cool off, and to drink. Keep your bird baths clean and full, as well as your feeders. Change your hummingbird food on a regular basis, as it can ferment in the hot sun.

Don't leave your pets out in the sun without a bowl of water and a patch of shade they can get into. Think how you would feel if you were left out in the hot sun for hours on end with no water or shade! Be kind to your animals as you are to yourself and your family. Never leave a dog or a child in a car with all the windows closed. Be kind to your pets - leave them at home unless you have to take them with you!

Your planters and hanging baskets may seem to get lots

of water when it rains, but this is not always the case. Often the water runs off the leaves and the plants remain dry. Water in the early morning or in the evening after the sun has gone down to prevent damage to your plants.

If you are looking for some extra fun this summer, you must mark this event on your calendar! On August 6th, from 1 to 3pm there will be a Natal Day Fun Day at our Masstown Community Park. Rain date Saturday, August 11th. There will be a Dog Parade - prizes for the top three best behaved dogs, Teddy Bear Nurse - bring your stuffed friend along for a checkup; Live Music! - so bring a lawn chair so you can "sit a spell"; fortune telling, refreshments, a Fire Truck and a visit from the RCMP! There will be lots of games for children and adults alike so come prepared to enjoy yourself!

Don't forget your sunscreen, bug spray and lawn chair. Dogs must be registered prior to the parade and be on a leash at all times. There will be a First Aid provider on site in case he is needed.

On Saturday August 18th from 4:30 - 6pm there will be the Annual Blueberry Pot Luck Supper at the Masstown United Church. Adults \$8, Children under 12 \$4. Take outs available. Come for some tasty pot luck dishes and blueberry desserts.

Church services for the month of August are all at 10am, rotating between the three points of our pastoral charge. We have a new Minister, Carol Gillard, who is

a very lovely person. Come to Church and meet her! Services will be held on August 5 - Masstown, August 12 - Debert, August 19 - Glenholme and August 26 - Masstown.

The Masstown Community Association will meet on Tuesday July 31st, 7pm, at the Masstown Market - in the restaurant part. Everyone welcome! We will be finalizing plans for our Natal Day Fun Day.

Condolences go out this month to Doris Allen and family on the death of her mother Mabel "Vivian" Sheehan; and to Vangie Yorke and her family on the death of her uncle Clinton Phinney.

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