

Rev. Gillard Presented with White Stole



Katherine MacLean, President of Maritime Conference UCW and Rev. Carol Gillard with her new stole and plaque presented by Sydney Presbytery. (Submitted)

By **Chris Urquhart**

Church services for the month of August will, as always, be at 10am with our Minister Rev. Carol Gillard leading the service. As we continue to rotate between our three preaching points services will be held on August 3 - Masstown, August 10 - Debert, August 17 - Glenholme, August 24 - Masstown and August 31 in Debert. You will be made welcome at any and all of these services and if you are a visitor we urge you to sign the Guest Book at the back of the sanctuary so we can have a reminder of your visit with us.

Speaking of visitors, the Rev. David and Katherine MacLean were in Church on Sunday July 20th from Sydney Presbytery to present a stole to Rev. Carol Gillard. Sydney Presbytery is the Presbytery where Rev. Carol started her process to become a minister. The white stole with gold symbols and fringe was hand made by Marie Bigger and is very beautiful. Rev. Carol says she will use it for communions and baptisms. Katherine MacLean, who is President of Maritime Conference UCW also presented Rev. Carol with a plaque of the symbols and what each means.

Londonderry Playforest, One of a Kind!

By **Linda Harrington**

Amanda Langille is excited for work to begin on a new natural playground, which will be known as the Londonderry Playforest. The project has been a Londonderry Community Council initiative, three years in the works.

"Our one-of-a-kind playforest is, as far as we understand, the first of its kind in Canada," says Amanda. "In Londonderry we are already as natural as you can get, and so we are taking a pocket of forest located between the Community Centre and the Ball field and enhancing it with natural playground components while maintaining the natural beauty and working within the existing contours of the land."

She says this will not be your typical natural playground, usually built in a more urban area, where the desire is to incorporate more nature into those surroundings. The natural setting is already there and the goal is to add items like musical instruments, a rope course, hill slide, kids climbing wall, and much more within this wooded area.

"We are very excited about it and have received a lot of community support with over \$12,000 of in-kind contributions for supplies, equipment and labour," says Amanda. "The total cost of our project is approximately \$52,000. We have been granted \$23,588 from the Municipality, and \$14,000 from the Province."

A successful ATV Poker Rally fundraiser conducted in May realized the remainder of the funds needed to move forward with the project.

The Honourable Karen Casey, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and MLA for Colchester North and District 10 County Councillor Tom Taggart dropped by the site of the future playground on July 14th to present organizers Robbin Spencer and Amanda Langille with grant money- \$14,000 from the NS Dept. Of Health & Wellness Recreation Facility Development Grant Program and \$23,588 from the County of Colchester Recreation

Dept., through the Community Park Funding Program.

"The Community has shown huge support for some time and this project was easy for Council to offer their support," says Tom Taggart. "There is a proven track record for getting things done in this community."

The Honourable Karen Casey was pleased to see the natural setting was being preserved and not artificially created and congratulated Robbin and Amanda for their

commitment to the project. Both Taggart and Casey were impressed by the strength of the grant application, especially the level of community support and long term involvement.

"Garnet McLaughlin, a Cobequid Trail Consultant, has been an important part of the planning process", says Amanda. "The location each of the individual components has been given a lot of consideration and Daniel Mattix will be starting the excavating this month."

A community build weekend is planned for the end of September.



District 10 Colchester County Councillor Tom Taggart presents Robbin Spencer and Amanda Langille with a \$23,588 Grant from the Recreation Dept. Community Funding Program for the new Londonderry Playforest. (Harrington Photo)



Minister of Education, Karen Casey, MLA for Colchester North, (center) presents Robbin Spencer and Amanda Langille with a \$14,000 Recreation Facility Development Grant from the Dept. of Health & Wellness, on behalf of Minister of Health & Wellness Leo Glavine, for the new Londonderry Playforest. (Harrington Photo)



A pair of cranes gently lower the canopy into place for the new Petro Gas Bar across from Masstown Market. No word on an opening date. (Harrington Photo)



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Ship's Company Theatre's
Monday Night Concert Series

Fiddles and Feet August 11
In this night filled with fiddle music and lively step-dancing, the tunes flow naturally from these young performers.

Maria Osende August 18
Maria has been taking Halifax by storm since 2003, turning it into an international flamenco hotspot. Don't miss her electrifying Parrsboro debut!

The Modern Grass August 25
This group has a dynamic nature and uncanny ability to navigate space, time and a plethora of musical genres.

All concerts take place at Ship's Company Theatre at 8pm
Adult \$24, Senior \$20, Youth (25 and under) \$10