

Lower Onslow Community Centre

By Ann Fiddes

This last week or so, we definitely know we live in the Maritimes. First we had all that rain, with flooded basements and leaking roofs, and then beautiful, sunny, summer like days.

Our Community Centre has been very busy. An 80th Birthday Party, Girl Guides sleep-over, weekly card parties and Open Mic nights, a very successful Children's Hallowe'en Party, and 4-H have all enjoyed the facility.

Starting on November 16th there will be Zumba classes with Celeste Chesel held on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Tuesday of every month. On November 20th a Ladies Clothing Sale from 1-3 p.m. and on November 27th a Christmas Vendors Sale from 2-4, admission \$1.00. On December 8th at 6 p.m. the Lower Onslow Play School will present a Christmas Concert for family and friends. Snow date for the concert is December 15th.

Masstown Area Christmas Activities

By Chris Urquhart

With Christmas coming there are lots of exciting things happening in our community. The Masstown Community Association hopes to be doing our usual Christmas Tree Lighting at the Park. Watch for posters and fliers in your mail boxes for date and time. The Association meets Nov. 24th, 7pm at the Masstown Market, and you are welcome to come to the meeting to find out more about our Christmas plans and plans for the New Year.

Breakfast with Santa will be

held at the Masstown Church on December 4th from 9am to 11am. Breakfast will be pancakes with a choice of sausage or bacon, plus tea, coffee or juice for the small cost of \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. There will be a bake table and the UCW are looking for donations for this, a craft table, and a chance to have your photo taken with Santa. There will also be a door prize so lots of fun for everyone! Bring the kids and come for breakfast!

Masstown UCW are joining the Debert UCW for their

One of our main objectives is a new roof for the building and we have set up a special fund for this. All profits from the Open Mic nights will go to this fund and other donations will be gratefully received.

Remember, we are open to any and all suggestions for activities at the Centre and are always looking for volunteers. To book the hall call Grace at 662-2822.

This is a very busy time of year for everyone, with shopping, family gatherings, Christmas concerts etc., please join us at the Centre for one of our activities.

Christmas Party on December 7th at 7pm at the home of Elva Geldart. This will be lots of fun and the ladies are reminded to bring an item for the Food Bank. Masstown UCW will also be holding their own Christmas Party on December 9th, 6pm at Paula Digout's.

There will be no Coffee Parties in December, but there will be at least one in January. The January UCW meeting will be held at 2pm, as will the meetings for February and March. Come April we will return to our 7pm meeting time. All ladies in our community are welcome to join us at any and all of these meetings.

the fire apparatus before motorized vehicles. When the alarm sounded, the dogs would run with the horses or perch on the wagons. At the scene of a fire, the dog's job was to keep the horses calm and watched over them until the fire was done.

Although we no longer need to use horses, the Dalmatian is still a symbol of the Fire Service. "Sparky the Fire Dog" brings us messages of fire safety today.

Our Auction took place this month and we would like to thank all of you in the community for your continued support. As always, we couldn't do it without your donations and participation. Once again, it was a success because of the help of the community. Thanks to the members who worked tirelessly as well especially Gregg Kinsman for his efforts as coordinator.

As we are into the cooler temperatures, I'll take a moment to remind you to check your chimneys and keep them clean.

A last note... do you have a civic number posted at the end of your driveway? If not, you can order yours by calling 668-2314. The cost of the sign is \$20.00 with the post, or \$15.00 without. That's not a lot of money to ensure that you can be easily identified in any emergency.

Great Village Elementary School Notes

By Linda Harrington

Members of the Great Village and District Fire Brigade, including Molly the Fire Dog, were at the school in October to help with a Fire Drill and review fire safety rules. Bus Safety was reviewed in October, as well. Thank you to bus driver Kathy Crossman for assisting with this presentation.

Peace groups are meeting once a month to learn and share positive problem sharing strategies. Students have recently learned about "empathy" and a toy dog named "Empathy" is now a classroom mascot. The dog spends time in each of the classrooms where students demonstrate kindness and understanding to others.

A wonderful Remembrance Day Service was held at the school on Nov. 10th, with all classes participating. The Service began with the singing of O' Canada, followed by a Reader's Theatre presentation by Grade 3/4 students titled 2000 Memories. Grade Primary students read Wear a Poppy, Grade One/Two students recited Little Poppy, the Grade 2/3 Class read The Cenotaph, and Grade Three/Four students recited In Flanders Fields. Following a Moment of Silence, Ciara Congdon sang a beautiful White Cliffs of Dover. Well done everyone!

Riley McMullin and Ethan

Beazley presented a wreath on behalf of the school at the Londonderry Remembrance Day Service.

Maggie's Place Play Group is held at the school gymnasium on Mondays from 9:30 until 10:45. All preschoolers are welcome. Report cards will soon be coming home. Parent-teacher interviews will be held on Dec. 2nd.

The Christmas Bazaar will be held again this year. Donations of new and gently used items would

be greatly appreciated. Gifts for fathers and older brothers are usually in short supply. Students will be able to purchase gifts for family members at a nominal cost.

The Christmas Concert is scheduled for Dec. 15th in the gymnasium. Gingerbread houses will be decorated in the classrooms on Dec. 15th and the finished product will be on display at the evening Concert.

Dec. 17th is the last day of classes before the Christmas vacation.

Great Village Fire News

By Kathy Simpson-Giles

On the 08 October, I had the pleasure of visiting the Great Village Elementary School to do the annual Fire Prevention presentation. This is one of the highlights of the year for me. The students are really a great bunch of people and this year they had a new focus not seen in previous presentations. One of my helpers this year was Molly. Molly is four year old Dalmatian belonging to Firefighter Larry and helped me in my talk to the students.

Besides "Molly the Fire Dog", I was joined by Chief Dave Lundie, Captain Larry Kinsman and Firefighter and MFR Wade Rutherford. I would like to extend my thanks to them.

I hope that you have changed the batteries in your smoke

detectors and have your escape routes with your families. This year's theme for Fire Prevention was "Smoke Detectors, A Sound You Can Live With".

Having had some questions about the Dalmatian as a Fire Dog, I did some research this week on their origin. The Dalmatian was originally used as a carriage dog in the horse and buggy days in England. They would run with the horses and, at days end, rest with them as well. In a time when there was a concern about horse thieves, the Dalmatians acted as guards for the horses and would chase off anyone who did not belong there.

Dalmatians were brought to North America as a working dog. This time, they were companions for the horses that drew

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