

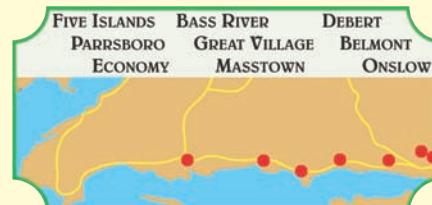


The Shoreline Journal

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FRONT PAGE BRIEFS December 2016

Nova Scotians can recognize outstanding volunteers in their communities by nominating them for a 2017 Provincial Volunteer Award. Each year the awards honour volunteers from across the province for their selfless contributions. Nova Scotians can nominate volunteers in three categories: volunteer representative award, volunteer youth award and volunteer family award. The representative volunteer award recipients are selected by their municipalities. The volunteer youth and volunteer family award winners are selected by a review committee. The premier, lieutenant-governor and minister of the voluntary sector will present the awards at a ceremony in April. Nomination forms are available at <http://novascotia.ca/volunteerawards>. The deadline for nominations is midnight, Feb. 24.

The winner of the Debert Military Museum Quilt Raffle was Bonnie Sutherland from River John, NS.

Julia Thibault and Andee Weatherby, both of Tatamagouche, were the only two students from Colchester County to receive the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Awards in a ceremony held at Government House, Halifax on Monday, November 21st. His Honour Brigadier-General The Honourable JJ Grant, CMM, ONS, CD (Ret'd), Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, presented The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Silver Certificates of Achievement to 21 achievers aged 14-24. The award encourages young people to endeavor to be the best they can be at each of the three Award levels— Bronze, Silver and Gold. This Award Programme strives to help young people develop into responsible adults who will continue to learn new skills, stay healthy and fit, care about their environment and contribute to their community in a positive manner. The 21 honoured Nova Scotians join over 8 million youth from 143 countries throughout the world who participate in the Award. Collectively, over a six-to-12 month period, these 21 young people volunteered 1707 hours of community service to the province of Nova Scotia!

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Linda Harrington (left) was very excited to win the beautiful painting by Arlene Collins of Parrsboro, the grand prize in the Wild Blueberry Harvest Festival Raffle and presented by Alice Pugsley-Promotion Committee Chair. WBPANS AGM pictures and stories can be found on pages 18, 19 and 20 of this Shoreline Journal.

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Record Crops Create Marketing Challenges

By Linda Harrington

Wild Blueberry Producers are used to working hard and toughing it out but this year has seen shaky ground for most.

For the third year, wild blueberry crops have seen

record numbers, with over 60 million pounds harvested in Nova Scotia. This has created a marketing challenge for processors and producers faced a low price of 30 cents/lb for their berries, leaving many in the red for the

first time.

One producer who wished to remain anonymous said he would have to sell off his fields or at least leave them unmanaged if this price continues. "I can't continue to keep losing money."

cents/lb is way below what it costs to grow the berries. We simply need to get more people eating wild blueberries."

Nova Scotia wasn't the only area reporting a larger than normal crop this year. New Brunswick, PEI and Quebec all had record crops of their own, creating more than 380 million pounds of wild blueberries for the region.

"Although we are very concerned about the low prices, this large crop does shine somewhat of a bright light on marketing opportunities says WBANA Canada Executive Director Neri Vautour, "It was always risky exploring new markets in case the supply was not there to back them. There is now potential for new product development in existing markets and expansion into new global markets."

Marion Bartlett-Simon, MK2 Agency from Hamburg, Germany discussed new Wild Blueberry Marketing Approaches. A very successful product offered in Germany is 100% Canadian Wild Blueberries in glass jars. There has also been three-month promotion in Doctor's Offices concerning the health benefits of wild blueberries and this has reached 4.8 million people.

The record crop comes at a time when research suggests many health benefits of eating more wild blueberries and this is here in the Atlantic

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Mystery Wreath in Great Village

By Maurice Rees

Last week Sybil Flemming, Great Village sent along two pictures of wreath that is posing a bit of a mystery at the monument in Great Village, one of these two pictures we have printed above.

Along with the photos, her note said, "It was there at least two days prior to Remembrance Day and the annual parade and placement of wreaths. It was very noticeable by its first position on the corner of the stands for wreaths, and by the fact that it was basically white roses and lilies with a scattering of poppies.

Further checking has resulted in no card, nor a scrap of paper around the whole area to indicate

who might have placed it, or why it was placed.

Mrs Flemming has also gone as far to check with the Legion President and at the Post Office, but nothing has been found.

The mystery wreath has started speculating on the meaning. Some suggest it may have been placed by someone as a reminder to look for peace while remembering; white is a color often associated with peaceful things.

Others suggest perhaps it was placed in memory of unknown soldiers or lost family members.

Her note to the Shoreline stated"

"Or maybe, to quote the great writer, Snoopy, in several Charlie Brown cartoons, "The plot thins."

West Colchester Community Development Association Being Revitalized

The West Colchester Community Development Association is looking for new members to help revitalize the organization.

The current steering committee and a group of interested people are hoping to put together a large and diverse group of interested individuals, businesses and organizations focused on community economic development.

Ideally with strong representation from each of the communities along our shore from Five Islands to Masstown a lot of positive things will happen that will benefit the entire

shore. Some areas of interest which have been brought forward during meeting since May 2016 include business development, technology, tourism, environment, education, recreation, social development, health, youth, and arts, culture & heritage.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, December 6th at 7pm at the Bass River Fire Hall, at which time we will elect officers and vote on updated bylaws. Everyone is invited to attend and be part of revitalization of the shore. Refreshments will be served!