

Londonderry Community Council News

1ST ANNUAL POLAR BEAR DIP HELD IN SUTHERLAND'S LAKE



The first annual Sutherland Lake Polar Bear Dip on January 1st attracted twelve brave souls. Pictured above is organizer, Evelyn Patriquin (wearing hat) and her sister, Cindy Matheson. The event attracted approximately not so brave onlookers. (Submitted)

By Sally Richard

On Saturday afternoon, January 7, family and friends gathered at the Thirsty Church in Londonderry Station to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Audrey and Glen Fields who were married in Parrsboro on January 6, 1962. Myles Rushton toasted the couple and reminisced about that winter day when the drive to Parrsboro was a challenge during winter months. The groom arrived at the church just 15 minutes before the ceremony began. Among those attending the anniversary party was James Mosher, bestman, who resides in Springhill.

We were saddened at the passing of Marjorie Hayward, Belmont and formerly a long time resident of Londonderry, on December 18. Our condolences to Cathy and Layne who faithfully supported their mother throughout her lengthy illness. It was amazing to learn at Marjorie's funeral

service that she graduated high school at the young age of 13. She will be greatly missed as she was a supporter of all sports and community activities.

New Years day was fairly cold with a brisk northwest wind. The wintry chill in the air was not a deterrent for 12 people who decided to take part in the very first Polar Bear Dip held at Sutherland's Lake, hosted by Evelyn and Jack Patriquin. Jack spent a few hours the day before cutting a strip through the ice next to his wharf for the brave want-to-be polar bears. Although the twelve did not linger in the frigid water very long, they noisily experienced the adrenalin rush as they submerged themselves into the ice covered water with forty on lookers cheering them on.

A quick dash to the warmth of Jack and Evelyn's cottage escalated the excitement of their accomplishment where they enjoyed hot

refreshments, sweets and dry clothes. But best of all, they did it and are now bonafided "Polar Bears". This event can only grow and expect next year to be even bigger with more participants. To take part, a donation for the food bank was requested. Evelyn and Jack were pleased to deliver 105 pounds of food to the Truro Food Bank. Keep this on your calendar for next year. It is a fun event.

Pete (Ivan) and Bertha Johnson are visiting their daughter Jocelyn and husband Ray in Florida for a few months. On January 11, Phyllis McLean hosted a farewell get-together for Bertha. It was a delightful afternoon. Phyllis prepared a delicious sit down meal for eight ladies with lots of homemade sweets. Bertha was pleasantly surprised but felt no regrets about leaving the rest of us here in the cold.

Our past president, Reid MacVicar is on the sick list. During the past several months Reid has not been feeling well. Just prior to Christmas a serious problem was diagnosed and emergency surgery required. Further treatment will continue soon. The Community Council, as well as the whole community, wish Reid a successful and speedy recovery.

On February 5 a fundraiser pot luck supper will be held at the Londonderry Community Center for Holly Grue of Bass River. Holly was the victim of a hit and run on New Year's Eve in Economy. Since Holly often played in ball tournaments here her friends Becky Rushton and Shaun Eagles are organizing the event. Please come out and support Holly as she faces an up hill battle to recover from many injuries. The supper will be served from 4-6 pm at a cost of \$10.00. Take outs are available.

Card parties are continuing for the winter months by popular request. They are held on Monday nights at 7 pm. A light lunch is served. Monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday night of each month starting at 7 pm. New members with new ideas are welcome. Contact Amanda Langille for hall rental inquiries at 668-2300.

Remember our military and their families in prayer.



Although his wife, Evelyn, was the organizer, Jack Patriquin cut the whole in the ice for the 1st Annual Sutherland Lake Polar Bear Dip. Pictured above is four brave souls who took the plunge is Kevin Dobson, Richard Lane, Lisa Matheson and Gail Smith. (Submitted).

Izaak Walton Killam Hospital

GRIEF AND BEREAVEMENT SESSIONS

The IWK Health Centre will be holding two sets of Grief and Bereavement Support Group sessions starting in February 2012 for children and teens who have lost a loved one. Participants will be given the opportunity to express grief through group

exercises and expressive arts, led by trained facilitators and volunteers.

The children's support group will meet on Wednesdays from February 8 to April 4, 2012. The teen support group will meet on Thursdays from February 9 to

February 23, 2012.

Pre-registration is required for participation in these sessions.

For registration or more information, please contact the IWK Pediatric Palliative Care Service at 902-470-8942 or 470-7262.

Great Village Elementary Notes

By Linda Harrington

Thanks to everyone for their donations to the Christmas Bazaar. \$210 was collected and will be donated to the IWK this spring.

The Home & School raised \$740 from the Christmas Concert Raffle. Thank you to families and businesses that made generous donations. The money will assist with programming and special activities at the school.

The second block of Intensive Math Support has started. This support has a teacher working with a small group of students (1-3) each day for 40 minutes who are identified by teachers as benefiting from a "boost" in

mathematics.

SAC (6:30PM) and Home & School (7:30PM) meetings took place on January 19.

In Peace Groups this month, students were asked to take the "Dragon's Decree" based on the book called "The Tale of Sir Dragon" which demonstrates appropriate and helpful behaviours. The decree is as follows: I will use my words and actions to help, not harm; if ever someone else if being treated unfairly I will get help and I will accept others for who they are and treat them with kindness.

In February, the Discovery Center will be coming to the school to provide a presentation for each class: P/1-

Straws, Sticks & Bricks; 2/3- H2Woah! and 3/4- Facts of Light.

A variety of activities will be scheduled for Peace Week (Feb. 13-17) including pajama day with breakfast at school and several "Take the Roof off Winter" activities (winter walk, skating).

Looking ahead to March, Sheree Fitch will be spending a day at GVE school to offer a writer's workshop with each class on March 2.



Local Wind Energy Company EXPANDING, OFFERING SHARES

The Colchester-Cumberland Wind Field (CCWF) announces the expansion of its wind field on Spiddle Hill south of Tatamagouche. The expansion is being financed in part by an offering of shares in the company.

"CCWF is delighted to have approval of its next turbine - toward the doubling of the electricity it will produce for use in the Tatamagouche area," said David Stevenson, President of CCWF.

The expansion, to be undertaken with local Colchester County labour and services, will be funded by the sale of shares primarily in Colchester and Cumberland Counties, but open to all interested investors.

The shares will sell for \$1.80 with a minimum purchase of \$3,600. Shares may be placed in an RRSP. All purchases by individuals who pay Nova Scotia income taxes are open to a provincial tax credit of 35% on the purchase price (refund of \$1,260 on a \$3,600 investment), with further credits in 5 and 10 years. More information is available from CCWF Directors and an advertisement appears elsewhere in this paper.

The summer of 2011 marked a profound change in electricity available in north Colchester with the successful operation of CCWF's first community-owned wind turbine to supply electricity to 300 or more of the homes and businesses served by the Tatamagouche sub-station. The turbine has been in operation for 5 full months and is profitable.

"It was an exciting and

busy time," says David Swan, the Project Manager for CCWF. "For many years I wished to plug my electric vehicles into wind-generated power rather than coal. Now I can, and the first new electric vehicles are here already. Now we make wind-powered electricity and can begin to use it for travel." Swan and Stevenson recently visited Bible Hill Junior High School with the electric car as part of a presentation on wind energy.

CCWF is a success story in the wind energy business. Beginning in 2006, the company has shareholders primarily from Colchester and Cumberland Counties, with an increasing number of investors from other parts of the province. Now more than 200 people hold a total of almost \$1.5 million in shares, which is 100% of the company. "We are a totally Nova Scotian company," said Stevenson. "We have not relied on any out-of-province source of financing."

"We began with a project of one turbine," said Stevenson. "Our local and dedicated Board of Directors has been contributing time and energy to make this project work. With the expansion planned for 2012 and 2013, we are looking ahead to other potential sites in the two counties."

There is considerable interest in generating electricity from wind power. The huge Nutby Mountain project of NS Power is of industrial size. "CCWF does not aspire to that level of development," says Stevenson. "We are more interested in having local

shareholders in projects that have meaning to residents and businesses - they can see their turbines and know that they are producing for use right here. We prefer the slower and more steady way to expand - a pace we can manage and own completely."

The provincial government is promoting electrical generation from wind power, both from community-based locations and in large developments. CCWF is well placed to be part of the expansion, with its many local shareholders and its interest in developing sites that will feed electricity to the lines for local use.

"We expect the wind to blow strongly along the Cobequid Hills in our counties," says Swan. "There are other potential places to promote energy sustainability and improve on the greening of our way of life. As we expand our project we will be looking across the area for other communities that share our vision." As Stevenson put it, every new location for a wind turbine means more energy security for local areas, more opportunity for residents to invest in a local resource, and less coal burnt to affect the environment.

David Stevenson is the President of the Colchester-Cumberland Wind Field Inc. and David Swan is the Project Manager. Other Directors of the company are Wilf Bean (Secretary, Tatamagouche), Reg Forbes (Treasurer, Denmark), Dale Aitchison (New Annan), Shelly Byers (New Annan), Helen Castonguay (Malagash), Chuck Hunziker (Brule), Lukas Swan (E. Lawrencetown) and Jim Roycroft (Saltsprings).

To inquire about investing in CCWF go to www.ccwf.ca.

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