

## Cumberland Singers Raise \$6,000 for Philippines Relief



In Wentworth recently the Cumberland Singers performed a concert called The Sounds of Christmas. Funding proceeds of \$6,000 were given to aid the Philippines which are suffering from damage done by the typhoon Haiyan. (Rick Clark Photo)

### By Hope Bridgewater

Another excellent concert, "The Sounds of Christmas", was performed recently by the Cumberland Singers at the Wentworth Recreation Centre. This concert was directed by Jocelyn Morris who this autumn contacted 23 members of the Patriquin family and three friends to perform in a concert in order to raise funds for the Philippines Relief Efforts with proceeds to go to Chalice-Child Care International for distribution.

Jocelyn's reasons for calling members of the Patriquin family goes back to the tradition established by her mother Pearl Crowley and her aunt Jean Mooring, both who in 1982 to 1991 organized successful concerts with Patriquin family members to raise funds for charities. After an eight year gap without such concerts, Jocelyn Morris resurrected them as the Cumberland Singers, beginning in 1999 to the present.

Four generation of the Patriquin clan and their three friends working together rep-

resenting ages two years to 80+ years participated in the concert. This showed Jocelyn's focus on training the youngest generation of the "Patriquin family" by calling them "the Next Generation of Cumberland Singers" and placing them on stage for one performance called the Cameo Appearance of Children (aged between two years to 5 years): Luke Morris, son of Nick Morris and grandson of Jocelyn Morris; Seamus McKim, grandson of Rick and Judy Clarke and grandnephew of Jocelyn Morris; Damien Miller, grandson of Sharon Miller; and Jackson Steeves, great-grandson of Charles Patriquin.

In addition to the four performers listed above, the following performers on stage were as follows: Jocelyn Morris, singer and director; Charles Patriquin, MC, singer and fiddler; Amy Morris, singer and sound technician; Nick Morris, singer, drummer, and sound technician; Ron Rushton, bass guitar; Jean Mooring, duet singer and pianist; Wayne Reid, singer and lead guitar; Ashley Baker,

singer and rhythm guitar; Sharon Miller, singer; Pearl Crowley, duet singer; Carmen Baker, singer; Larry Patriquin, singer; Faye Henderson, singer; Aubrey Giffin, singer; Laurene DeCoste, choir; Erica DeCoste, choir; Joe Patriquin, choir; Bill Baker, choir; Sarah Morris, choir; Natalie DeCoste, teenage step dancer and fiddler; Mitchell Baker, child duet singer; Max Baker child duet singer.

All of the 23 above performers belonged by blood or marriage to the "Patriquin family" and the three respected friends were Faye Henderson, Aubrey Giffin and Wayne Reid, making a total of 26 performers.

Charles Patriquin as Master of Ceremonies kept the concert running smoothly through two sets for a total of 33 performances, usually solo performances interspersed with duets, quartets, and choir singing. Charles, with a fiddle in hand, introduced a 24th Patriquin family member,

Hilton Patriquin, to play the fiddle with him as a way of introducing the intermission and asking Natalie DeCoste to step-dance to their music. During intermission, Jocelyn called out the winners of the raffles, the winner of the auction and the winner of the door prize.

Money for the Philippines Relief Effort was raised at this concert from admissions, bake sales, raffle draw, an auction, and special donations given by Rick and Judy Clarke, Nova Scotia Federation of Labour, Wes Patriquin, Wayne and Karma Reid, Jocelyn and Roy Morris, Andrew and Marion Issekutz, Debbie and Brian Mattatall, Reg Jay, Cumberland Singers (items for the bake sale and raffles), and Pugwash Co-Op Ltd.

Jocelyn thanked the sponsors of the concert, Rick and Judy Clarke and MacDiarmid Funeral Home and announced \$6,000 was raised to help the Philippines at this time of need.



The next generation of Cumberland Singers, all under the age of five years, sing "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" at a recent concert in Wentworth. They are (L-R) Seamus McKim, grandson of Rick and Judy Moore; Luke Morris, son of Nick Morris; Damien Miller, grandson of Sharon Miller; and Jackson Steeves, great-grandson of Charles Patriquin. (Jocelyn Morris Photo)

come to attend and we hope to see you there.

On Monday evenings at the Lower Onslow Community Centre there is 45 card party held at 7:00 p.m. with a light lunch served and cost is \$5.00 per person. All are welcome.

Belmont Baptist Church services are held every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Sunday School begins at 10:00. Prayer meeting is held Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Wow, talk about some totally awesome weather for a few days. Thought spring has sprung but alas it is not to be. I guess I will have to wait a

few more weeks yet but it sure was nice while it lasted.

It would seem we may get a Family Day holiday in 2015, third Monday in February. A waiting game to see if they pass it or not. Would sure be great if it happens to help break up the winter and especially since we have such a huge gap from New Years to Easter.

Well until next time take care everyone, spend some time with your families because you never know. The losses we have had lately is a testament to that.

## Pond Hockey Day in Onslow!



Bruce Fiddes was pleased to finally hold a Pond Hockey Tournament at his outdoor rink. He had been grooming the ice surface for the last two months hoping to mark Hockey Day in Canada right here in Lower Onslow.

"OH! The good ol' Hockey game, is the best game you can name", echo the words of the late Stompin' Tom's "The Hockey Song".

Lower Onslow's Bruce Fiddes was in his glory on Saturday, January 25th as he watched and joined in, a day long outdoor Pond Hockey Tournament in his own front yard.

"I have been trying to do this for three years," he says, taking a few minutes off ice. "It was supposed to be held last Saturday for Hockey Day in Canada but the weather didn't co-operate. I decided to keep working at it and hoped it work out for at least one Saturday, and finally here we are."

The day's temperature started out at a minus 25 but was rapidly rising towards noon-time. Bruce was afraid if it got to warm they might have to shut down earlier than the planned 8AM to 4PM.

Maintaining an outdoor ice surface is not an easy task. Bruce says he probably puts in 40 hours a week and after the blizzard this past week he was up at 6AM on Thursday and had worked non-stop to make sure it was ready for the Tournament.

His efforts paid off, with 8 teams enjoying some good old fashioned pond hockey. "I bet some of these guys haven't played pond hockey for a long time," says Bruce with a smile, as he headed back to join the game at hand.

## Belmont's Monthly Notes

### By Debbie Weatherby

Well once again we seem to have lost our store but there is a rumor floating around that it may reopen again under new management. Let's hope so, as we sure could use one in our community. Darn shame it couldn't keep operating.

Congratulations go out to: Caleb and Julie Dickie, Belmont on the arrival of their baby boy on December 13, 2013 weighing in at 8 lbs. 1 oz; Davy and Evie Blenkorn on the arrival of their baby girl on January 18, 2014 and Robert and Francie Staples, Crowes Mills on the arrival of their baby girl on January 19, 2014 weighing in at 7 lbs. 9 ozs.

Condolences go out to: Karen (Dykens) on the loss of her husband, Floyd Russel Roode C.D and to Joanne (Marshall) Weir on the loss of her father and to the rest of the family; Terry and Holly

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