

PHOTO FEATURE Wentworth's Valley Inn faces the Wrecking Ball

Once a vibrant 15 room motel, three bedroom apartment, restaurant and pub in the heart of the scenic Wentworth Valley, and listed for close to ¼ million just this past November, it was being picked clean prior to demolition on January 28th. (Harrington Photos)



A demolition sale was held at the Valley Inn, Wentworth on Saturday, Jan. 28th. An excavator was already on site to begin the tear down.



Trade mark red screen doors rattled in the wind, as people removed beds, fixtures and even the doors.



Menus and price lists still on the wall. A lot of good meals and good times were enjoyed here over the years.



A brick fireplace, located in the basement pub has seen better days.



Trucks and cars line Hwy 104 at 9AM in front of the Valley Inn, with many hoping to get some bargains at demolition sale and some coming to see the building one last time.



Last call at this bar!

Heritage Awards Night Revived

By Ken Henderson

After a hiatus in 2016, the annual Heritage Awards Night at Colchester Historeum will be revived for 2017. The event is set for the fourth Thursday in February, the 23rd, at 7:30 pm.

Heritage Awards honour an individual or group for making a substantial contribution to heritage within the County of Colchester.

Awards are given for any work of heritage, which may include, but is not limited to: written work, built heritage, the visual arts with a heritage related theme, or music. Nominations were accepted until January 15, 2017. Since the awards did not take place last year, work from 2015 and 2016 are being considered.



Tree Lighting in Wentworth



At the Tree Lighting ceremony in Wentworth, Santa Claus pauses for a photo with Ella Murphy, daughter of Dana and Erin Murphy. Ella was asking Santa to bring her a doll on Christmas Eve. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)

By Hope Bridgewater

Brenda McLean, as coordinator of the Tree Lighting ceremony in Wentworth, began this annual event with those attending singing Christmas carols before a tree standing near the Wentworth Recreation Centre. The Wentworth annual Tree Lighting ceremony was first organized by the late John Bagnell, president of the former Wentworth Garden Club, and its focus was on young people.

The focus is still on young people (children and early teens) with parents and other interested adults attending. It is one of our most popular programs with many of all ages in the community coming to see parents with their children and young teens enjoying the activities at this event.

All those outside with the lit tree were invited to come inside the Recreation Centre where treats of decorated gingerbread and shortbread cookies with drinks of hot chocolate, apple cider, tea and coffee awaited them.

Santa Claus appeared from a side door with many parcels. Having said hello and sitting down on a chair, Santa Claus delighted the children by asking them to sit on his lap, tell him what gift they would like from him on Christmas Eve, and he would leave the desired gifts at their Christmas trees in their homes. Everyone watched as all the children had their time with Santa. He gave them each a gift of reindeer food and took time to listen to each child. It was a pleasure to watch and see the look of happiness as they left Santa's lap.

Brenda asked everyone, who talked to Santa and had the gift of reindeer food, to look under the bag and see if there was a Christmas star there. Three happy children

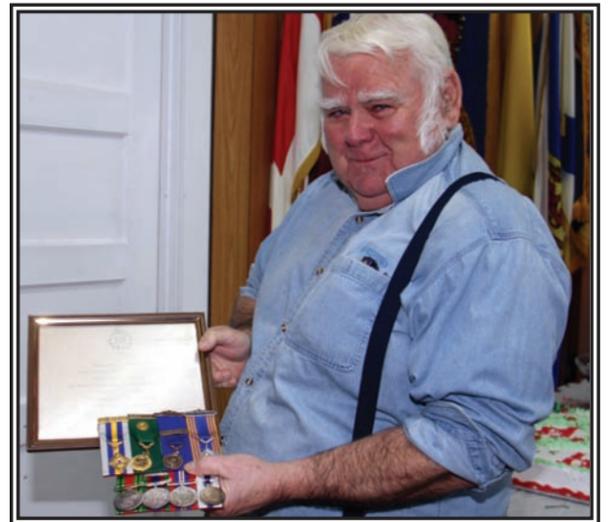
saw the star: Kaylie and Blake Murphy (children of Jessica and Travis Murphy); Kaiden Black, Jackson Steeves, Kenzie Steeves (children of Justin and Kate Steeves); Ryder Adams (child of Cole Adams and Lacey Palmer). Now, you may say I counted wrong! What happened was when a winner had siblings, they shared the prize with their siblings.

The prizes were three large gingerbread houses beautifully made by Todd Seymour, Sonya Seymour and Kim Shand.

All the volunteer workers from the Wentworth community, who made this event possible, also deserve praise.



As a follow-up to last month's story on locating family members to return lost war medals, here is a photo of Linda Harrington presenting Nancy with the medals belonging to her grandfather. The two met for tea in Pugwash two days before Christmas and shared some interesting family stories. (Harrington Photo)



Walter Millen displays a set of medals he purchased in hopes of returning them to family members. Thanks to Walter's keen eye and dedication two sets of medals are now back in the hands of family. (Harrington Photo)



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