

Extending Christmas in Wentworth

By Hope Bridgewater

Christmas Day, December 25, on the Gregorian calendar, and its decorations is extended in some Wentworth homes and events to January 7 which is Christmas Day of the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Ukrainian Greek Catholic on the Julian Calendar.

Church members in Wentworth, who have celebrated Christmas Day on January 7 with Ukrainian friends, mentioned this in conversation and I asked them to send me an email in order to liven up the reality of Christmas Day on January 7.

I received three notes which follow:

Note #1: The Wentworth Learning Centre earlier had a Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 2, 2018, in memory of Josie Lynn Crawford, six years of age who died in a tragic house fire in 2007. The Tree, still lit, is adjacent to the Gazebo which is dedicated to the memory of both Josie and her father, Justin Crawford, who died in the same house fire. A staff member on behalf of the Learning Centre said: "The Tree is left lit until January 7, 2019, to honour Justin and Josie's memory for a full month." Two photos are attached: Photo #1. The Christmas Tree and Photo #2. Children gather around the Josie-Lynn Memorial Christmas Tree.

Note #2: A Wentworth resi-

dent commented: "In the early 1960's, I was teaching in Calgary, Alberta, and spent my first and last Christmas away from home. At that time I was sharing an apartment with an Ukrainian girl and we had two Christmases: one in December 25 and one in January 7. It was interesting to learn how the Greek Orthodox Church celebrated Christmas."

Note #3: Another Wentworth resident commented: "I boarded with a Ukrainian family while attending university in Toronto and celebrated with them when invited to a special Christmas supper and event on January 7. I had not been aware of this second Christmas Day on January 7. I usually remember this second Christmas every year by keeping my Christmas lights lit until January 7."

I do not know how many people in Nova Scotia are aware of this second Christmas Day of January 7 when Christ's birth is celebrated or that the celebration continues for 12 days in the Julian calendar as it does in the Gregorian calendar. In the Gregorian calendar, December 25 extends from Christmas Day to the Epiphany (January 6) when the wise men arrive with their gifts and initiating the idea of giving gifts at Christmas. In the Julian calendar, Christmas Day, January 7, extends celebration to January 19.

I mention this extension of

Christmas in Wentworth to spread the news, and also to give a greeting in Nova Scotia to those people who do celebrate January 7 until January 19 as part of their ancestry and religious heritage.



Sounds of Christmas 2018

By Hope Bridgewater

The Cumberland Singers, directed and coordinated by Jocelyn Morris, invited the public to the Wentworth Recreation Centre by saying in a publicity statement, "The amount of \$3,004 raised at this concert was from admissions, raffle, bake tables and three private donations and was given in shared amounts to Victorian Order of Nurses and Wentworth Youth Hostel".

The majority of the Cumberland Singers are descendants of Ellsworth and Edith Patriquin who were parents of 12 children. Two of their daughters, Pearl (Patriquin) Crowley and the late Jean (Patriquin) Mooring-Baker, in 1982 began raising funds for good causes until 1991 and eight years later in 1999, Jocelyn Morris, daughter of Pearl Crowley, named and organized the Cumberland Singers with family members to raise funds for charity and non-profit organizations. In 2018, the 22 performers included 19 who were descendants by blood or marriage of the Patriquin family and three who were friends.

Descendants by blood or marriage to the Patriquin family at the 2018 concert were Jocelyn

Morris, Nick Morris, Ashley Baker, Steve Simpson, Amy Morris, Sharon Miller, Carmen Baker, Larry Patriquin, Charles Patruquin, Andrew Keilty, Roger Patriquin, Lauren DeCoste, Ron Rushton, Sherri Rushton, Colton Rushton, Luke Morris, Ben Morris, Damien (? last name). Three friends were Shane Lyons, Angela Trenholm, and Wayne Reid. Concerning the above names, 13 were individual singers, 6 performed in the choir only, and the last 3 were child performers. Some of the individual singers were also members of the band &/or sound team.

The concert had two sets of 27 songs or hymns sung by individuals as solos, trios, and quartets backed by the band, and a complete choir of singers performing three selections at the beginning and three selections at the ending. Jocelyn Morris and Sharon Miller each changed into picturesque costumes several times, catching the interest of the crowd. Behind the performers on stage was a white sign with decorations and musical notes stating emphatically The Cumberland Singers. Volunteer workers were an important part of the successful concert being at an entrance table, raffle table, a SPCA table, bake table, bar, canteen and kitchen.

Debert Legion Notes

By Dan Martell

To all Legion members who have not paid your dues for 2019, please drop in to the Branch and bring them up to date.

Help! To all Branch members your help is needed in an urgent way to help in preparing the vegetables on Thursday mornings for the Friday Night Supper. Volunteers are also needed to help serve the Friday Night Supper and to clean up after the supper. The Chase the Ace could handle come

new workers, too. It's your Legion, become involved.

A very special thank you is passed along to "The Colchester Ground Search and Rescue", "The Debert and Area Community Association" and "The Debert Legion Branch 106" personnel who look after "The Chase the Ace" every Thursday evening and ensure everything is running smoothly.

To all the businesses who are letting us sell tickets from your establishments, thank

you very much.

To all of you who are buying Chase the Ace tickets, thank you very much for your support. It is greatly appreciated.

A quick look at the standings and individual stats in the Debert Mixed Dart League shows Skip Dawson in first place with 97 points, followed by Ron Eastcott with 92 points, tied for third with 91 points are Owen Totten and Dwayne Turner.

On the ladies side of the house, Debbie Buchanan is leading the way with 72 points, Audrey Gallagher has 69 while Deanna Martell has 60 and Debbie Cock rounds out the top four with 57 points.

There have been four 180's and Jamie Lomond and Derek McMullen have two each.

High Start- (M) Derek McMullen and Ron Eastcott have 120, for the girls Kathy Johnson. High Finish- (M) Ian Menzie has a 90, for the girls, Joanie Johnson has a 100. High Score for the men is 140 and Bob Freeman, Ken Smith, Skip Dawson, Ian Menzie and Jamie Lomond are all there. Debbie Cox has a 140 for the girls. Most Starts- (M) Bobby Freeman with 67, for the girls, Debbie Buchanan has 43. Most Finishes- (M) Skip Dawson with 48, Deanna Martell leads the way for the girls with 25. Least Tinkles- (M) Ron Eastcott with 46, for the girls, Marilyn

Dykens has 50. Most Tinkles- (M) Owen Slack has 83, (I) Audrey Gallagher has 110. (Thanks Skipper).

The Wednesday Nigh Crib League standing as of 15th January are as follows: First place with 810 points is Debbie Cock and Ronnie Eastcott with Marilyn Dykens and Dave Eastcott holding down second spot with 838 points. Rounding out the top three is Tom Manley and Bob Pash with 873 points.

Most Winning Nights with 2 each are Marilyn/Dave, Mike Manley/Les Fulton and Jim Weatherby/Dave Kaye.

Most Hidden Scores are Mike/Les with 3 each. There have been 21, 24 point hands to date and Bernice Bennett leads the way with 4. (Thanks Earl).

Happy Anniversary wishes for January are passed along to Virginia (Silver Cross Mother) and Cyril Roberts.

Happy Birthday wishes for January are passed along to Neil Bennett, Greg Slack, Dave Stewart, Dave Murphy, Mike Totten, Tina Cooke and John Jessome.

Please don't forget to thank a Veteran. It is because of their sacrifices that we are able to enjoy our country and our freedom.

Please say a prayer for our troops who are serving in foreign countries and their families.

Will "Assessment Cap" be Removed?

By Maurice Rees

Editor's Note: With the possibility the "CAP" might be removed from residential property assessments, the Shoreline Journal has consulted with Municipality of Colchester and Property Valuation Services to obtain background data. As a result we have generated potential "What If" scenarios, as outlined below.

A preliminary analysis indicated if the Residential Cap is removed Colchester base tax rate might be reduced by \$0.13/100 - going from \$0.88/100 (2018 base rate) to \$0.75/100. Taxpayers are warned not to jump to conclusions. If the CAP were removed, their property taxes would be based on assessment value noted on the annual assessment information received, just about this time, each winter from Property Valuation Services.

The revised tax rate would be calculated with the Assessment Value to calculate

payable tax. None of our analysis or projections included any of the multitude of area or service rates. We randomly chose four properties without the cap, and calculated the tax payable, on base rate, not including any area or service rates.

Although it's not scientific analysis, and some assumptions are required, the following could apply to Colchester residents:

- Based on 2017 assessment data, the total assessed value of Residential Properties in Colchester is \$2,306-Billion, (\$2,306,002,000).
- Based on 2017 assessment data, the "cap" value for Colchester residential properties is approximately \$298.8-Million, (\$298,882,200).
- Value of Colchester residential properties "included in the cap category" is 12.95% of total Residential Property Assessment.

- Comparatively, Town of Truro has 2016 Residential Property value of \$647.7-Million (\$647,654,700) with \$50.1-Million, (\$50,123,600 included in the CAP).

- Comparatively, Town of Stewiacke has 2016 Residential Property Value of \$833.3-Million, (\$83,333,100) with \$10.4-Million (\$10,429,100) in the CAP category.

In recent months some experts / politicians appear to be sending up "test balloons" about the possibility of removing the residential assessment "Cap Amount" from provincially generated Property Assessments. In fact the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities got into the act at its 113th Annual Conference held in Halifax, November 6-9, 2018 by debating and passing a resolution to remove the "CAP" from property assessments. (See portion of resolution later in this story)

Consultation with Property Valuation Services, the crown corporation which provides property assessment services to the Province revealed:

The value of a CAP on any residential property depends upon the length of time that property has been "capped".

The value of the cap is determined by a variety of factors including: length of time, value at time of CAP, location; potential resale value and other assessment tools.

Once a property is sold, the "cap" is removed, unless the property is sold to a family member.

Once a property is sold, it will be re-assessed, and a new CAP value will come into effect in the next fiscal year.

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