



Lucas Rushton was happy to have his picture taken with Santa and his helper at the Great Village Community Association Christmas Sale on Nov. 28. (Harrington Photo)



Toys for big boys! The Ritchie Brothers auction yard was filled with every machine imaginable prior to the giant sale on December 1st. (Harrington Photo)



Cameron Rushton (standing) was happy to come to Great Village Elementary School and help out with some major construction projects on Dec. 8th. Students were all making gingerbread houses, thanks to the generous donation and assistance of the Parent Teacher Group. In front of Cameron is his daughter Ayden Murphy Rushton and building along with her are Emma Leeman, Haley Spencer and Nicole Higgins (r to l). (Harrington Photo)



Lexi Turner sat down to enjoy lunch with Amy Chapman at the Wesley United Church in Belmont on Dec. 5. The Annual Chowder Luncheon was held along with a Craft & Bake Sale. (Harrington Photo)



Lowland Gardens Christmas in the Village is open throughout November and December. Gerry van den Hoek offers a tasty cup of hot apple cider to shopper Susan Vergie. A warm fire crackling in the corner, yummy snacks and friendly staff makes for a very pleasant shopping experience. (Harrington Photo)

## Norma Wasson awarded Eleanor White Award

By Rena Kossatz

An abundance of generosity and good will was evident within Ship's Company Theatre's Christmas Dinner and Concert, held recently at the Royal Canadian Legion in Parrsboro.

A contingent of dedicated volunteers, among them Ship's Company Board, staff, and many members of the local community, collaborated to create a memorable evening of good food, sparkling décor, fine musical performance, witty comedy, and special presentations.

The Parrsboro Legion Ladies' Auxiliary prepared and served a delicious traditional Christmas dinner. The tables were resplendent with stunning arrangements created and donated by Terri-Lynn Yorke; funds realized from the sale of the centerpieces were shared with the Parrsboro Food Bank. Two beautiful



Christmas wreaths, donated by Theresa Colpitts, were auctioned in support of the Theatre, as was a spectacular floral arrangement created and donated by Rosebuds and Petals Flower Shop. MLA Murray Scott, winner of the evening's 50/50 draw, graciously returned his winnings to be shared between Ship's Company and the local Food Bank.

Host Peter Hoar, with Michael McPhee, welcomed guests and opened the evening's entertainment with songs on guitar and bass. Economy residents Harland and Polly Suttis delivered beautiful seasonal selections, with Harland providing skilled accompaniment on guitar to Polly's pure vocals. Internationally renowned violinist Timi Levy, accompanied by Jeannie Trider on piano, drew thunderous applause and brought the audience to its feet with a dazzling performance. The perennially popular 'Boarding House Gang' elicited smiles and much laughter with their

presentation of Bernice Byers' short comedic play, penned especially for the occasion.

Of special significance within the shining evening was the presentation to Norma Wasson of the Eleanor White Award as Volunteer of the Year, in honour and recognition of her countless contributions in support of Ship's Company Theatre.

Those gathered joined in the singing of Christmas carols at the close of the festive evening.

Ship's Company Theatre extends gratitude to all who supported this special community event.

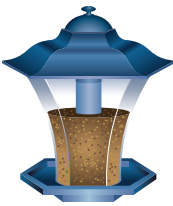
Images of the evening may be viewed by visiting [www.shipscompany.com](http://www.shipscompany.com)

## Nature Notes

By Fran Spalding • 647-2837

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This may be a strange time to be writing about nesting birds, but here goes. After hearing about the number of bluebirds that were raising families along our shore the Loefflers offered cedar wood from their Kenomee Log Homes operation if someone would make houses from them. Maia van denHoek took up the offer on behalf of the Kenomee Trail 4H Club. Her sons sawed up the pieces, which the 4H members then assembled. To support their activities they've been offering them for sale at the various Christmas bazaars (and at the Cheese Factory in Upper Economy).

Sales, they say, haven't been brisk in this time of high north winds and cold, but they'll be there in the spring if you don't get (or give) one as a Christmas present. Vivian Rutherford called from Bass River to say she'd been finding feathers around her feeders and wondering about what might be their cause. She hasn't seen any hawks or



cats, although she can't rule them out. Another possibility is birds bumping into the windows when the light prevents

their seeing the glass. On the plus side pheasants have been paying her regular visits.

In Highland Village Tom Meredith spotted a lingering Lincoln's sparrow in December. Janet Quinn's female cardinal is still coming to her feeder. I'd thought there wouldn't be a Christmas Bird Count this year as I'm slowing down too much to do a full day's hiking and we're

no longer getting help "from away". But the younger set here is persuading me that a Count (the fortieth in a row) should take place. They promise places like the tip of Economy Point will be visited, and it's possible, even probable, that a cardinal will be added to the list of birds seen over the years. In the meantime, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



(Janet Quinn Photo)

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### THE STORY

Eight years ago, Stephen Gass invented a new safety measure for table saws. The revolutionary new product would prevent the loss of fingers, thumbs and possibly even an entire hand. The Product would sense the proximity of a finger or hand as it neared the spinning saw blade. In less than the blink of an eye the blade will stop and at the very worst, put a tiny nick in the operator's finger.

The Product is called **SawStop**. Gass and his partners approached table saw manufacturers' world-wide with frustrating results. Manufacturers' did not want to invest in the product, as it would add additional cost to their table saws.

Gass went on his own, discarding the saw add on concept. He redesigned a new saw around the patented stopping mechanism. The **SawStop** saws are now available in Atlantic Canada at Fundy Grinding.

## Fundy Grinding

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