***Central Colchester Junior High School's Annual Christmas Hamper Collection was a Huge Success- Representatives from the Salvation Army came to CCJHS on Dec. 16th to fill their van with donations collected by students and staff at CCJHS.***

(Harrington Photos)

**Granny Smith (Diane Simms) acted as emcee for the Christmas Hamper Assembly.**

**David Sandeson played guitar and Brenda Ryan lead the singing of "Jingle Bells" to open the Christmas Hamper Assembly.**

**Lauren Sooksom, Nicole Higgins and Emily Crosby were not only gift elves...they also performed a beautiful dance routine on stage at the Christmas Hamper Assembly.**

**CCJHS students Grace Reid and Blaise Taylor assist Bhreagh and Daniel Rowe (and son Maverick), from the Salvation Army, as they accept the large donation of goods from the Christmas Hamper Assembly.**

## Leefe Appointed to Facilitate Parrsboro-Cumberland Merger

***By Maurice Rees***

John Leefe, former MLA and Mayor of Municipality of Queens, has been named as the liaison to work with the Town of Parrsboro to go through the process of shedding its status as a town and to amalgamate itself into the Municipality of the County of Cumberland.

Parrsboro's council and mayor initiated the process not because it is in a dire financial, but because of major infrastructure projects which are needed in the small town in Cumberland South. In late August, town council applied to the provincial Utility and Review Board to dissolve the town and amalgamate with the county. The goal is to have the amalgamation completed for the 2016 municipal elections.

Some water improvement projects are underway and council is moving forward on planning a new wastewater treatment plant, which under federal regulations must be completed by 2020. The town has the money to do the current projects and to do the planning, but with a $5-Million price tag on the wastewater treatment project, current council felt the burden on taxpayers would be too heavy.

Bruce Wark a retired journalism professor who now lives in Parrsboro, is upset at the lack of consultation and residents were not given the opportunity to voice their opinion before an application was made to the Utility & Review Board and has asked that a plebiscite be held.

Mayor Lois Smith and Deputy Mayor Lisa Ward will represent the town on a transition committee which is aiming to have the merger with Cumberland completed in 2016. As reported earlier in the Shoreline, Town of Amherst, Pugwash, Oxford and other smaller municipalities in the Amherst area are studying their options for future governance.

# People Are Very Interesting

***By Maurice Rees***

Yes, people are interesting. Nearly everyone has an interesting story to tell. I'm about to tell you one that is a bit unusual. Early in November when I was working my shift at Tshirtsrus.ca, a woman called shortly after lunch wondering if I could quickly prepare four large navy t-shirts with some letters on the front.

Eager for business, I told her it was possible. What do you want on them, I asked. She replied, I need "Womb Mates" on the front of each shirt. (My thoughts, oh, yeah a left-over prank from Hallowe'en). However, she was serious and needed them within an hour.

Needless to say, I got busy. When completed within an hour, I called her back to arrange for pick-up.

Within a few minutes two guys, who were seniors, arrived at the store, one with a very heavy Newfoundland accent. The story behind the shirts goes at follows:The family roots were Glovertown, NFLD. With a sur-name of "Sweetapple" there were 13 children. The family's genetic make-up, meant there were a large number of twins. Of the 13 children, six were from three sets of twins, of which one set died in infancy.

Each set of twins produced a brother and sister. Not that it is totally unusual to have two sets of twins, but the irony comes into play in that the surviving two sets of twins celebrate their birthdays on November 3rd. Nor was it quadruplets. The two sets of twins were born on the same day, five years apart.

For 2015, the twins decided to celebrate together in Nova Scotia with their sister, Judy and a brother who lives in Dartmouth. Judy is married to Ivan Purdy and they live in South Branch.

# Historic Sites

## "GREAT VILLAGE POST OFFICE/ICE CREAM PARLOUR"

The Arrow pointer on map # 305 shows the location of the first "Stand-Alone" post office building in Great Village, built in the first years of the 20th Century; it was located between what was then MacLachlin's grocery store and the bridge. This photo, taken in the 1940's, shows the post office on the left hand side of the building and an ice cream parlor on the right hand side. Over the years, the right hand side of the building housed many businesses, funeral parlor, bake shop, drug store. The first post office or "way station", as they were then known, in the "Village" was opened in the early 1870's, as part of McLelans general store, then moved to Blaikies store, which later became MacLachlin's. Angus Johnson was the first postmaster in this "circa" 1916 building, followed by David Cummings and Jud Chisholm. In the 1960's, a new postmaster bought the small building on the other side of MacLachlin's store, and turned it into the village post office which is still in use. This new building was moved, around 1900, from a site just up the hill , on the road to Londonderry. At that location, the building had been the local jail. Elizabeth Bishop, in her story" In The Village" brought the parcel for her mother in hospital, to postmaster Johnson in the featured building.

***SOURCE: History of Great Village–Women's Institute***
***Compiled by Dick Akerman.***

**From the archives of the COLCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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**The Shoreline Journal, in collaboration with the Colchester Historical Society Archives, have inaugurated an ongoing feature utilizing a combination of the digital "A. F. Church Maps" to pin point the circa 1875 location of a Colchester site of historical importance, and connect it to an archival photograph of that site, in that frame.**

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