



Roots of Empathy Facilitator for Chiganois Elementary Sallie Murphy and Grade 5 student Rebecca Dunlap say goodbye to baby Kailen White and his mom Sandi, while Grade Five teacher Ms Tait looks on. Little Kailen visited with students in their classroom over a number of months as part of a program that helps students to identify and reflect on their own feelings and the feelings of others. (Harrington Photo)



The end of year Roots of Empathy Baby Celebration was held at Truro Elementary for all participating schools on May 27th. Chiganois Elementary Grade Five students enjoyed spending time with baby Kailen White (front) over the last few months, with classroom visits and interaction. Left to right: Sandi White, Brandon Doucette, Mya Keizer, Kayleigh MacKenzie and Emma Donkin. (Harrington Photo)

Clifton 4-H Club Report

By Andrea Chestnut

May has been another amazing month for the Clifton 4-H club. Members participated in judging, an event where you place the four items in the projects you are in. There's everything from paper, flowers for crafts to wooden spoons for wood-working.

All of the projects had meetings to practice their judging including Crafts, Woodworking, Foods, Cloverbuds, Poultry, Cavy, Rabbit, Great Outdoors, Scrapbooking, and Dairy. Some projects like Goat had 2 meetings. One Goat meetings

was to practice judging and during the other meeting some of the members attended a Goat clinic.

The Clifton 4-H club is starting to have practices for Tug "O" War. A lot of members are looking forward to their first practice. This month was the last month for cheese orders and we are now starting a new fundraiser for pizza. Everyone believes it will be a very fun fundraiser. "PIZZA!!!!!!" Those of us who are trying to keep up on our record sheets are starting to record information now.

Andrea Chestnut is Clifton 4-H Club's reporter.

St. James United, Great Village

Continued from page 1

The original Church was built in 1845, and after a fire in 1882 the present Church was built. Located in the center of the Village, where roads diverge, inside the Sanctuary beautiful timbers glisten from the ceiling as rays of sunshine filter through the stain glass windows. The Church roof resembles the hull of a ship, reflecting the strong marine history of the area.

Helen MacLachlan, now in her nineties, was a mainstay of the choir for over 50 years. She reflected back on earlier years in the Church. "When Sunday came, we all went to Church. You never missed. There were no excuses for not being there," she says. "I always enjoyed hearing the Church bells ringing on Sunday morning."

Angus Chisholm has been Church treasurer for the past few years. He estimates it takes about \$50,000 to keep the Church operating each year. "Insurance alone is \$5000/yr and this, plus lights and fuel costs, keeps going up each year." The Church had a week-end supply minister instead of a full time minister the last year.

"We are not broke yet. Envelope contributions continue to pay the bills, but the top five households support about 50% of the Church expenses," says Angus Chisholm. "We hear people commenting on how terrible it is to lose the Church from the community but we don't see these people here very often. We need families coming back to Church on a regular basis, if we want to save the building."

Meredith Layton also worries about the historical loss to the community, including the Marine Museum located on site. "It would be sad to lose all these items from the Village. We will certainly have to try to find them a local home," she says.

Meredith says the Church is still popular for weddings and funerals. "It is the Church of choice for a lot of people but they just don't support it year round. There are two weddings booked for this summer."

Looking around the Church it is hard to believe the beauty and history within these walls could one day only be a memory. The beautiful pump organ, originally donated by Mrs. W.E Spencer, is still in working condition and always played during Anniversary services. Beautiful stained glass memori-

al windows are located on both sides of the Sanctuary and Meredith Layton recalls watching the installation. "A company from Saint John, NB put them together piece by piece like a jigsaw puzzle with lead flashing in between the glass," she says.

Arthur Chisholm remembers when there was no water in the Church but they were still able to hold suppers by piping in water. He says there used to be 8 or 10 horse stalls out back of the Church and two wood stoves in the basement, with chimneys that join in to one at the top. "There was a time when people donated wood instead of collection," he says.

Arthur points out little wooden racks on the pews, noting there are none on the side pews. "These were for the communion glasses and anyone taking communion would have sat in the middle pews. Those not taking communion sat on the outside."

We climb the narrow vertical wooden ladder, pushing aside a wooden trap door, following the rope up to the bell tower. Arthur Chisholm ascends the narrow rungs with the ease of a school boy. On the first floor of the attic we find dusty piles of wood, remnants of the past, where Arthur points out a lengthy piece of wood he says was part of Sunday school bench.

Sunday services have recently been held in the lower level of the Church, which has been made wheelchair accessible. The upper sanctuary is reached by two narrow sets of stairs. Arthur points out where one corner of the stair case has been cut away to make it possible to get caskets around the sharp corner of the staircase. There are stories/memories literally everywhere you turn.

The for-sale sign has not gone up, as of the writing of this article, but preparations are being made. The building will soon have to be appraised and a selling price established.

In the meantime the congregation is putting their faith out to the community; hoping people will come back to Saint James and keep the doors open. A fund raising effort, involving the sale of Fund Scrip gift cards, is also in the works.

PHOTO FEATURE

Future of Saint James United Church in Great Village is uncertain. The iconic structure has been a focal point of the Village since the mid- 1800's but with dwindling numbers the existing congregation may be forced to put up a for sale sign.



Helen MacLachlan and Vernon McCully discuss how difficult it would be to see the doors of Saint James United closed for good.



Art Chisholm demonstrates how, as young boy, he used to turn the crank on the pump organ. He made 10 cents a Sunday, keeping the music flowing for two services.



The roof of the Saint James United Church was built like the hull of a ship.



Robert Layton, Vernon McCully, Meredith Layton and Helen MacLachlan stop to view some of the Marine Museum collection in Saint James United. The future location of these items is uncertain, if the building goes up for sale.

Deadline for the August issue of
The **Shoreline** Journal is July 23

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