

## Kathy Giles Receives Award of Excellence

**By Linda Harrington**

Kathy Giles says she was both proud and excited when she received recent news she would be presented with the St. John Ambulance (SJA) Instructor Award of Excellence.

"There are over 900 instructors in the NS/PEI council, so this is a huge honour," says Kathy. "And to have it presented by Brigadier-General, the Honourable J.J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia at Government House in Halifax, well... that is just so amazing!"

Kathy began as a St. John Ambulance instructor in 1999. She had joined Great Village fire department the previous year and they decided it might be a good idea to have an in-house instructor and sent her off on a course.

It takes a special person to make such a huge commitment and Kathy is not only very passionate about St. John Ambulance, but she enjoys helping others in any way she can. "It's a job I love, and the greatest part is when I get students for a second time for certification and they tell me stories about their saves. It really makes me feel like maybe I've made a bit of a difference. I am proud to say I have had the privilege to teach some of Colchester County's finest and I'd like to say thanks for the support I've been given by the members and Departments of the Colchester Fire Fighters Association over the years."

As well as teaching Emergency and Standard First Aid and all levels of CPR that go with that, Kathy teaches the Advanced Medical First Responder course which is designed for both firefighters and large workplaces. She can provide Health Care Provider CPR, has also taught Oxygen Administration for some departments and even teaches WHMIS and Canada Safety Councils Defensive Driving courses.

The list of accomplishments extends to the "We Can Help" program, a first



The Honourable J.J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, is shown presenting Kathy Giles, of Great Village with the St. John Ambulance Instructor Award of Excellence at Government House, Halifax on May 24th. (submitted)

aid course for children aged 7-11 years, a babysitters course, and she facilitates a program called "Home Alone" all of which are designed for youth. St John Ambulance also offers LifeSmart courses. There are specific courses that are offered in schools at no cost to the students and Kathy has taught first aid courses and CPR level-C at the elementary, junior high/middle schools and senior high schools in several counties.

Kathy has been a volunteer firefighter with Great Village and District Fire since 1999, she volunteered with Colchester Ground Search and Rescue for a time and has assisted as a Volunteer Medical Responder. She was the recipient of the Malta Cup in 2007, for outstanding commitment to St. John Ambulance.

"When I received my 15 year SJA Service pin this year, I was told I had taught over 1000 courses and this was a significant milestone for me," says Kathy with a huge smile. "I have taught courses from Sydney to Yarmouth and many points in between over the years."

When asked if there are any particular memorable moments in her 15 years

with SJA and Great Village Fire Brigade, Kathy takes some time, finding it difficult to come up with a single answer. "One memorable moment would have to be the first time I responded to a cardiac arrest. We did not have AED's at that time, and upon arrival, CPR was in progress, and the only extra tool we had was oxygen. We took over CPR and continued after the paramedics arrived. They had shocked the patient twice already, and after the third shock, one of the paramedics checked and found a pulse. That was an amazing experience," she says with reflection.

And why is Kathy so passionate about teaching St. John Ambulance courses? "Statistics prove the earlier first aid or CPR is provided, the better the outcome is for the patient. First Aid/ CPR are important for everyone to know. From the perspective of a volunteer firefighter, some of the most successful calls are the ones where a first aider is on scene helping prior to our arrival. They are a vital link in the chain of survival."

Congratulations Kathy Giles...we thank you for your dedication and your commitment to your community!

## Mun. of the Co. of Colchester Council Notes

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Council approved the request, because of the economic impact and the event would be returning every three years. It was noted that with the Rath Eastlink Civic Centre and other infrastructure, there in all likelihood will be an increase in funding requests. Council has asked for staff to look at the Economic Development budget, set at \$36,000.00 and return with a report.

There was plenty of discussion on LaFarge Eastern Canada Cement Plant, Brookfield request for a letter of support for using 2-million litres of treated flow-back water stores in the ponds at AIS, Debert. Those speaking in favour noted that AIS and LaFarge have been very open and transparent in their dealings with council on fracking water situations, and AIS has been able to use reverse osmosis and the treated water has less contaminants than the water in public systems, and far below Health Canada or Environment Canada requirements. Council's solicitor stated he wasn't concerned about a liability issue, as it was more of political statement, because they have approvals from the other regulatory jurisdictions. In the end council approved to provide a letter of support with councillors Gregory and MacKenzie voting against the motion.

Council approved an amount of \$500 as a contribution toward CNTA's Tourism Destination Assessment, which has an overall cost of \$40,000 to be funded by \$17,550 from Nova Scotia Tourism Agency; ACOA, \$17,550; Municipality of East Hants, \$2,000; Town of Truro, \$1,400; Stewiacke, \$1,400 and Millbrook, \$500. The assessment will be conducted by Roger Brooks, who has been hired to assess all areas of Nova Scotia. The Truro/Colchester and East Hants region is the only remain area of the province not assessed.

Mid-Valley Construction has been awarded a \$659,980 contract for sidewalk construction at Mingo's Corner. The contract includes three components: Sidewalk construction, \$468,150; Sewer

Upgrades for Board Landing Road Development, \$132,100 and sewer repairs west of Board Landing Road, \$59,730.

Council approved a schedule of area rates, which are noted on property tax bills. Only areas in West Colchester (Shoreline coverage area) rates are noted here. Rates remain unchanged from the previous year, which the exception of Onslow-Belmont reducing its fire protection rate from 0.11 to 0.09; while Street lights in Debert increased from 0.08 to 0.10

Debert Fire Brigade will be provided with a Letter of Comfort regarding financing for the brigades new fire truck. The chassis has been purchased for \$93,817, and is now undergoing fabrication at Metalfab in Centreville, NB at a cost of \$190,000. Delivery of the new vehicle is expected in late June 2014.

On a matter of complaints about sounding of train whistles at crossings, council agreed it was a matter of safe-

ty and not within their jurisdiction. Council has set September 6th as the date for a strategic planning and priority setting workshop. Time and place for the day long workshop to be determined later.

Councillors Christine Blair and Lloyd Gibbs were appointed to attend an Ivany Report workshop which was held on May 23rd.

Tom Taggart, District 10 added Community Park funding to the agenda, because he was concerned about the municipality spending money to develop parks and infrastructure which was outside the municipality. At the end of discussion, on motion by Councillor Mike Cooper, council asked Staff to bring forward a report to review the policy.

Council's May meeting to ratify decisions from the May 15th committee meeting was held on Tuesday May 27th, a day after this issue went to press.



### 1 WEEK SUMMER INTENSIVES

#### July 14-18: Ballet - (\$65.00)

Ages 4-7, 10 am-11 am; Ages 8-11, 11am-12noon;

Ages 12-14, 1pm-2pm; and 15+, 2pm-3pm.

#### July 21-25: Performance\* (\$200)

Ages 6-9, 9:30 am- 2:30 pm; Ages 10-14, 9:30am- 2:30pm;

Ages 15+, 9:30 am- 2:30 pm

#### July 28-31: Hip Hop - (\$65.00)

Ages 4-7, 10 am-11 am; Ages 8-11, 11am-12noon;

Ages 12-14, 1pm-2pm; and 15+, 2pm-3pm.

#### August 4-8: Jazz - (\$65.00)

Ages 4-7, 10 am-11 am; Ages 8-11, 11am-12noon;

Ages 12-14, 1pm-2pm; and 15+, 2pm-3pm.

#### August 11-15: Tap - (\$65.00)

Ages 4-7, 10 am-11 am; Ages 8-11, 11am-12noon;

Ages 12-14, 1pm-2pm; and 15+, 2pm-3pm.

#### August 18-22: Performance\* (\$200)

Ages 6-9, 9:30 am- 2:30 pm; Ages 10-14, 9:30am-2:30pm;

Ages 15+, 9:30 am- 2:30 pm

PLEASE NOTE: Each class (EXCLUDING PERFORMANCE) is one hour a day for 5 days. Deadline to register for any July summer intensive is July 12th, 2014.

Deadline to register for any August summer intensive is August 2nd, 2014.

Students with special needs and challenges are welcome.

\*Performance Master Classes: 5 hours a day for 5 days. These classes include: music appreciation, vocals, dance, etiquette and prop making.



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