



Brothers Bob & George Smith are regular performers at the Debert & Area Kitchen Party. In this photo they are accompanied by George Linkletter on the harmonica. (L. Strong Photo)



Construction begins on the Age of Sail Museums expansion project. (Oralee O'Byrne Photo)



Cobequid Branch 72, Royal Canadian Legion, Great Village elected officers include (left to right): Service Officer Ed Langille, Treasurer Fred Richard, Sergeant-at-Arms Ron McBurnie, 2nd Vice Pat Murphy, President Logan Spencer, Secretary Carlotta Priest, Chaplain Ken Kennedy, 1st Vice Joan Richard, and Past President Dan Wesley. (Harrington Photo)

Great Village Legion seeking students for projects

By Ken Kennedy

Cobequid Legion Branch 72 in Great Village is looking to get area youth involved in a couple of projects designed especially for them, said President Logan Spencer at the February monthly meeting.

"In years past, we have had good success with the Legion's "Call to Remembrance" program, and we would like to have a go at it again." Of course, this all depends on if there are enough area Grade 8 and 9 students interested in taking the quiz and a teacher to help them, Mr. Spencer said.

The Call to Remembrance is a "Reach For The Top" style program where a number of

students study and learn about the roll played by Canada's War Veterans in both world wars, the Korean War, Gulf Wars, NATO combat roll, and UN peacekeeping duties around the world.

Another project undertaken by the Great Village Legion a few years ago was the Youth Leadership Program, whereby local high school students are sponsored by the Legion to take a one-week course in June at the NSCC in such things as public speaking and problem solving. Any student interested in this program should pick up an application at CEC and forward it to the Great Village Legion as soon as possible.

All Aboard for Dinner Theatre Cruise

By Linda Harrington

Don your sun hat and slather on the sunscreen! Join the Village Follies cast as they take you cruising on the high seas in their latest Dinner Theatre production of "Don't Believe Everything You Sea," written by Shannon Fielding.

Tickets will go on sale at the Debert Hospitality Centre starting February 28th at 9:00am for the following shows: Friday, April 8th at

7pm; Saturday, April 9th at 7:00pm; Sunday, April 10th at 4:00pm; Thursday, April 14th at 7pm and Saturday, April 16th at 7:00pm.

Village Follies will be serving up a three course meal and lots of laughs. Tickets are \$35.00 each and include choice of chicken or salmon entrée. The Debert Hospital Centre is located at 130 Ventura Drive, phone 662-4074.



Village Follies cast are busy rehearsing for their latest Dinner Theatre production. Malcolm MacPherson and Lisa McBurnie run through their lines in "Don't Believe Everything You Sea", a fun-filled adventure taking place on a cruise ship. Tickets go on sale Feb. 28th. (Harrington Photo)

It's Time to Move On

By Gayle Shaw

How many of us are given the opportunity to "retire" twice in one life time, with a relative degree of good health and sanity? We have been, and we are. After 11 years in business at our Shaw Country Market, we have decided to retire once again to spend more time with our children and grandchildren.

Our market has been purchased by a younger couple with strong family roots here along "the shore". Terry and Susan Benjamin will be taking over the market officially on Feb. 1st, but Terry and I will be here for several weeks, (into March) to assist with the transition and to complete our part of the business.

Terry and Gayle feel so very fortunate to have found a great purchaser in a younger couple with extended family in this area who plan on carrying on the market in much the same way as it has been established with some new and exciting changes. We feel confident it will become more of a destination than it is now. The Antique Market is remaining, but changes will be seen on the main floor over a period of the next few months.

We wish them every success and we know they will do well with the enthusiasm they are showing. Terry and Susan have purchased and restored the former Walter DeWolfe's residence, and judging by their Christmas decorations this past season, they will really bring great new life to whatever they take on. Tammi Cormier is staying on with the Benjamin's, which is a great asset for them, as she has been a loyal and valued employee for nearly six years

and knows the business inside out. She will be a great asset in taking care of the our valued consignees.

When we moved back from Vancouver in 2000, we never dreamed in our wildest dreams what "a ride" we were going to have. The learning curve has been right off the end of the scale, as neither of us had ever been the slightest involved in retail. We had to be taught to use the cash register. We kept at it and are so very proud of what we have accomplished, but there comes a time when one must make changes. It is that time for us.

This decision has been coming for some time, but some family situations really brought our final decision to the forefront. We feel very fortunate Terry and Susan have purchased the market. It has taken some of the sting out of our decision.

We are keeping our home here in Port Greville and hope to be back and forth from Vancouver and are hoping our family uses it as a family home when they can. We want to stay involved in the many groups that we participate in and be involved with the communities as much as possible. We have so enjoyed being part of the Living Christmas Tree Concerts for the past 10 years, The Ships Company, The Shore Drive Assoc. and Terry has really enjoyed coaching the basketball team at Parrsboro High.

In looking back over my scrapbooks, pictures, cards,

diary, letters etc, I really realize what a wonderful time this has been. I plan on writing a book about all of our adventures, the good ones (the view over the water at day break, and our grandchildren jumping off our back deck, making snow angels, which they cannot do in Vancouver) and the ugly ones (running out of water, being completely snowed under and not getting out our back door, etc.). I guess that is part of what I will be doing in my second retirement.

There are so many people that have helped us out over the years, too many to name individually, but we want to express our sincere thanks to all of you who have supported us in so many ways. It has been a real joy meeting so many people from basically all over the world and getting reconnected with extended family, some of which we had never met before.

I have met cousins, 27 times once removed that I did not know even existed. We have been able to attend family reunions, we would probably would not have attended otherwise. We had the sheer pleasure of being able to spend time with Bishop Leonard Hatfield and were blessed to have been able to spend 10 years with my dad.

We want to believe we made a big difference in his life and helped keep him going to the beautiful age of 103. Locally, to Jim and Linda, Ruth and Jim, Tammi, Angela, Helen and Rick, Sharon and Jim, Alice and Roy, Gordie, and many more a very sincere

thank you. To my sisters, "thanks for the memories and the laughs as well as the tears".

We will be here at the market for the next couple of months assisting with the transition of business and completing our own part, so if you are ever in the area, please drop in to say hello and to meet the new owners.

I want to invite you to bookmark your travel diaries for highway 209, west of Parrsboro to visit any or all of the following: Arlene Collins Gallery,

Diligent River, Paragus's Paragliding School and Art Ware Studio, Diligent River, The Fox Point Look Off, Shaws Country Antique Market, The Age of Sail Museum, Spencer's Island Beach and Cafe, Cape D'Or, Advocate Harbour (don't miss the Wild Caraway Café), Cape Chignecto Park, and Joggins. If you have never been, make it a must. If you have been before, please visit again. It is breathtakingly beautiful, serene and exciting.

Thank you everybody for becoming a part of our great memories.

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