



On March 11, 1946 Leon Smith, Five Islands was sledding logs on Gundalow Mountain for Davis & Corbett's the same day his younger brother, Keith, was born. At that time he said there were fourteen members in the crew. Leon and the cook, Grace are the only ones still living. Grace is now Leon's mother-in-law. Sixty seven years later, Leon still enjoys sledding logs with a team of horses.

## I heard it at the Company Store

**By Wendy Cox**

Do you know what I heard....I heard the smelts are at the mouth of the Portapique River just waiting for that perfect tide to make their grand entrance. It amazes me just how something so slimy and small can make so many people so excited. Young and old have fished that river for smelts around the first part of May for many years.

This week I heard many stories of families going to the Portapique River and fishing all day and into the night having bonfires to keep you warm and dry and also to cook a few for a meal. Every year I get at least 2 phone calls at the store from people as far away as New Glasgow asking if the smelts are in the river yet. I had one yesterday from a gentleman from Joggins wondering if the smelts have made it up river yet because they were there last week.

All I can say is get the things in and out and then we can have some nice weather. I am also told that there will be a run of bass after the smelts too. So dig out those big bass poles and try your luck and don't forget to bring the big one to the store to get in the big bass contest for 2013.

Four wheelers are all ready for spring, we were out for a spin two weeks ago and there was still 20 inches of ice in Silica Lake and the boys (and girls) were out ice fishing. And two weeks later the ice is gone, isn't mother nature cool in just two weeks time, to give us such a change.

I see a few ads about upcoming fun runs(May 26, June 16, July 27, Aug 18) and poker rallies(Sept 7) for the Five Islands ATV Club that looks like fun. All the seasonal restaurants and bazaars and museums will be opening soon. Look for notices for plant sales and yard sales along the shore...it's a great way to start or enlarge your garden at a low cost. Lots of things to see and do along the shore.

Cottages and camps will be opening soon and we will see those summer people back. Our community will be busy with the sound of lawn mowers and the many sounds of fine weather. I hate to mention the sound of swatting black flies and mosquitoes, but I just had to because unfortunately they are a part of spring too.

I did see something interesting on the computer the other day that you may be interested in. an outdoor bug

trap that is made out of a pop bottle and you cut it in half, in the bottom half put a solution of ¼ cup brown sugar dissolved in 1 cup water add 1 gram of yeast - this creates carbon dioxide which black flies like...take the funnel part and put upside down inside the bottom part of bottle. This creates a kind of trap. Best to tape together and either wrap something black around bottle or paint it. Black attracts bugs. Leave outside near where you sit or garden but change solution every 2 weeks. Good luck and hope it works, I am going to try it.

Here is another thing I do use for ants. 9 Tbsp of icing sugar and 1Tbsp of Borax Laundry Powder mix with a bit of water and put on a jar lid where the ants travel. I do use this and it seems to work and if you have pets or children and they happen to get into it, it is not poison.

I heard this at the company store and if you want to see it here let me know and I hope you have a Happy Mother's Day and enjoy spring. Remember to take a deep breath and enjoy those smells of fresh air. Even if you are walking beside the barn they are cleaning out from winter....it's still a spring smell!

## UN Peacekeepers Celebrations – June 1<sup>ST</sup>

**By Ken Jamieson**

Bass River is the only place in Canada to recognize UN Peacekeepers with a special celebration. That honour is bestowed upon Bass River, by the local committee whose many hours of volunteer work have developed Veterans Memorial Park into a local icon.

The 5th annual International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers celebrations will be held at Cobiquid Veterans Memorial Park on June 1st. As the only place in Canada to hold such an event, the local committee works hard to pay tribute to all Canadians who have served, or continue to serve with the military, and RCMP

as a member of the UN. Serving around the world these men and women offer security, training, and hope for thousands in member countries.

Beginning at 10AM on Saturday morning a parade of motorcycles from various veterans and police groups will depart the Bass River Plaza and form at the park.

Following this the marching parade will depart the WCCS and march to the park. Any veterans, police, serving military and cadets are invited to participate in either the motorcycle motorcade or the marching parade.

Marching Band for the ceremonies is the 2928 Army Corps out of Truro. The serv-

ice is slated to begin at 11AM. Three Royal Red Maple trees will be planted by family members who have lost a son while serving in Afghanistan. Once the tree planting is completed the park will be host to a total of 13 trees in the park.

Guest speakers will include MLA Karen Casey, MP Scott Armstrong, and MP Peter Stoffer. Should all areas of weather be perfect an aerial salute by a SeaKing helicopter will be part of the service.

Following the service a full reception and student display will be held at the WCCS gymnasium.

Anyone wishing more information or would like to participate please contact by email: vmp.br.ns@gmail.com

## Home Hardware's VP & COO Addresses Chamber of Commerce

**By Linda Harrington**

Terry Davis started working as a material handler for Home Hardware in 1970. Forty-three years later, he is now Executive Vice President and COO of Home Hardware Stores Ltd. As guest speaker at the Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, Terry Davis spoke on the success of the National company and the decision to locate a distribution center in Debert.

Home Hardware was co-founded in 1964 by Walter Hachborn, with its headquarters in St. Jacobs, Ontario. The chain is now co-operatively owned by over 1100 independently owned member stores.

Mr. Davis reflected on the 122 independent Ontario hardware retailers who made the decision to purchase Hollinger Hardware Limited back in 1964, despite the fact close to 1000 independent hardware stores had gone out of business in the previous decade. He called them "brave entrepreneurs", putting in \$1500 a piece to buy out Walter Hachborn.

The company was then owned by the dealers themselves, with all stores being served by only one truck, but they made it work and eventually this co-operative idea took off. Interest began coming in from the east coast of Canada, first from Nova Scotia.

Davis noted how even though the company had to overcome shipping obstacles, such as not being able to run common carrier trucks through Quebec on Sundays, they saw the huge potential of doing business in Nova Scotia. He said a fish truck was initially used for transporting goods, taking advantage of the fact it was coming to Ontario full but returning to NS empty. On Oct. 1965, the first deliveries were made from St. Jacobs, ON to Nova Scotia.

More and more dealers in NS wanted to join

with additional interest now coming in from NB, NF and PEI.

It was decided it was now time to build a distribution center in the east to provide better regional service. On June 22, 1980 the 230,000 sq. ft. Distribution Center was opened in Debert to service what was then 150 dealers. In 2002, a further 109,000 sq. ft. expansion took place.

Today there is currently a 230,000 sq. ft. expansion under way in order to better service what are now 213 stores.

Mr. Davis said this expansion is long overdue and passed along his appreciation to Harvey Gullon, manager of the Eastern Distribution Centre in Debert, for his patience over the last few years. "We had the expansion plans for a while, and then the economy did not look great," said Davis. "Then we started a program called Merchandise in Motion, to move product more quickly and we used money to fund that project and we asked Harvey to wait again." He also passed along his appreciation to the Chamber and County of Colchester for "being nothing but encouraging" as the company worked at getting the approval to start construction.

Ground was broken for the new expansion on March 5th, and the footings are expected to be in place by the end of April. The facility is expected to be operational by March 3rd, 2014. "Debert is the guinea pig for all Distribution Centers," says Davis, referring to the new state of the art distribution plan, employing the latest in technology.

The Debert Distribution Center has a \$19 million dollar operational budget and employs 213 staff (80% live within 20km of Debert), with approximately an additional 50 summer and term positions.

**Photos on page 15.**

## Great Village Community Association Notes

**By Linda Shears**

The Weight Watchers group which held an information session on April 9, requires an additional seven people in order to proceed with the six-month program.

By mid-May we should know if the application for summer students is successful. Any university students

who have an interest in summer community employment may contact Terry Francis, 668-2766, if you would like to find out more.

On Friday, May 10, at 10:30 AM, Maritime Marionettes will present "Molly and the Oak Island Treasure" sponsored by CALA, the Great Village School and West Colchester

Consolidated. All are welcome to attend.

On Sunday, May 19, Shannon MacAloney will be celebrating her 80th birthday at the Legion Hall from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Inquiries may be sent to Terry Francis at this e-mail address: greatvillagelearningnetwork@gmail.com.

**SAFER. LONGER.<sup>1</sup>**

**MICHELIN® Defender™ tire:  
145,000 km of confident driving.<sup>3</sup>**





PURCHASE 4 \$70  
from March 25 to  
May 18, 2013 on  
Passenger or Light  
Truck tires only.  
See claim form  
for details.

<sup>1</sup> Based on internal wet braking test results versus Goodyear Assurance® ConforFred® Touring tire size 185/65R15.

<sup>2</sup> Based on commissioned third-party wear test results versus Continental® ProContact™ with EcoPlus Technology tire size 215/60R16.

<sup>3</sup> 145,000 kilometres warranty on H and T-rated tires. For terms and conditions, see your MICHELIN® Tires Owner's Manual or visit michelin.ca.

**A-1 TIRES  
LIMITED**

567 Willow St., Truro

**895-5704**

Monday - Friday:  
8:00 AM - 5:30 PM  
Saturday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Family owned and operated.  
Clean, comfortable location.  
Fully trained professionals you can trust.  
Brake Service, Wheel Alignment, M.V. Inspection, Oil-Lube  
[www.a1tires.ca](http://www.a1tires.ca)



**School is in session.  
DRIVE CAREFULLY**