

Great Village Elementary Notes

Earth Day Activities at Great Village Elementary School

(Harrington Photos)

By Linda Harrington

Students in the Grade 3/4 class attended an Agricultural Safety Day on April 1st, held at the Agridome in Bible Hill, and sponsored by Oxford Frozen Foods. Students learned how to be safe around farm equipment used in our communities, as well as other equipment used at our homes (e.g. lawn mowers). Through many engaging activities, students came away with a better understanding of how to stay safe, and who to contact if an accident occurs.

Thank you to parent volunteers for preparing a lovely ham dinner for students and staff before starting the Easter break.

While students were home from school, due to parent-teacher interviews at the high school level, teachers spent the morning developing math units for measurement while the focus of the afternoon was reading instruction.

Great Village Elementary School participated in the first "Dare to Dance" event this month. Everyone gathered in the gymnasium for an enthusiastic and energetic Zumba lesson, led by instructor Celeste Chesal.

The rain didn't dampen our enthusiasm on Earth Day, April 22nd. Students travelled through four stations to participate in activities to support being "Keepers of the Earth". Students planted flower seeds, made a bird feeder with peanut butter rolled in bird seed, made a litter bag for vehicles, and shared a story written by "Mother Nature". Activities during Physical Education class also had an Earth Day theme. All students enjoyed a "wasteless" recess snack of fresh fruit (apples, oranges & bananas) and were also encouraged to bring a "wasteless" lunch to school.

Everyone is invited to attend Family Night Out on May 1st, an evening of fun, games, and dancing at the gymnasium from 6:30-8:00PM. Admission is \$2.00/person or \$5.00/family. There will be a canteen available for the purchase of light snacks.

The Home and School has organized the school's first ever Read-A-Thon, happening in May. Students will be asking family and friends to support the goal of reading for a minimum of one hour/day for ten days over a two week period. (Reading at school counts.)

This read-a-thon is a fun activity for students, with all participants working together to raise funds for a school trip on the Harbour Hopper in Halifax for June...and it encourages children to read, an activity with advantages to last a life time.

Primary orientation will be held on Thursday, May 14th. Those beginning school in the fall will have an opportunity to experience what going to school is like. They will buddy-up with the current Grade Primary students for part of the morning.

Final Home & School (6:00) and SAC (7:00) meetings will be held on Wednesday, May 20th.



You cannot always judge the size of a pot hole by the number of pylons...it was the unmarked ones that caused the most flat tires! (Harrington Photo)

Cumberland Singers & Songs of the 50's & 60's

By Hope Bridgewater

Come on over to the Wentworth Recreation Centre and enjoy the songs of the 1950's and 1960's sung by the talented Cumberland Singers composed of four generations of the Patriquin clan descended from the late Ellsworth and Edith Patriquin. Come on over on Saturday, May 9, and at 7:30 pm and you will see on stage all the musicians ready to go with songs sung as a chorus, some solo, some duo, some trio, and some quartet. The musicians perform with fiddles, guitars, piano, drums, and other music instruments. Variety is the spice of life and these musicians expertly know how to put on a show with these songs to make the concert interesting and inspiring from start to finish.

The Cumberland Singers have been performing concerts since 1982. Ellsworth and Edith Patriquin lived at Greenville Station and raised 11 children. Music was taught to the children by having kitchen parties at their home. Two daughters, Pearl Patriquin Crowley and Jean Patriquin Mooring-Baker began organizing in 1982 their Patriquin clan as a family together by having a

concert to raise funds for a piano at the then existing community hall, and this concert was so successful that they began having concerts each year in order to raise funds for charity. When Pearl and Jean retired as organizers, Jocelyn Morris (Pearl's daughter and Jean's niece) took over as chair and director and decided to call the family clan the Cumberland Singers. Most times Jocelyn invites three friends to join in with the Patriquin family clan of about 30 members. Incidentally, Pearl and Jean still perform in the concerts.

This springtime it is the turn of animals to be helped. At Christmas time, Jocelyn raises funds for Chalice-Child Care International which has a high rating among Canadian International Aid Organizations. Whenever a world crisis occurs such as Haiti's devastating earthquake, Chalice is there to help and the Cumberland Singers do their part in helping. Since 1999, the Cumberland Singers at their Christmas concerts at the Wentworth Recreation Centre have raised almost \$40,000 to send to Chalice to give aid where it is needed.

In 2011 Jocelyn Morris was one of three recipients of a Nova Scotia Intergenerational Award, subtitled the Outstanding Service Award, for her contributions to the Cumberland Singers. One of the marvelous aspects of the Cumberland Singers is Jocelyn's and other member's awareness of the intergenerational nature of the concerts as there is conscientious training of the younger generations as they grow up by being part of the concert, by being trained at "kitchen parties", and by being taught by their fami-



lies or teachers at regular music lessons. During the last concert in December 2014, four generations were represented on stage, even for ages two to five years with a brief cameo appearance of these young singing children who were called "the next generations of Cumberland Singers." Jocelyn received the award in Halifax from Valerie White, CEO, N.S. Department of Seniors, and as always Jocelyn now gives the credit to all of the other volunteer Cumberland Singers. She says, "They are really what makes the funds appear for charity."

The Cumberland Singers are all volunteers, some travelling from as far away as Antigonish and Halifax, and they contribute for free their time at rehearsals, travelling, and other expenses so that they do not ask for any of the funding from ticket sales (entrance fees) and donated items (baked food table and auction). All of the funding goes directly to the charity being supported that particular year. As well, funding is added to by special donations from other people and businesses.

So come on over to the Wentworth Recreation Centre on May 9 for the 7:30 pm beginning of a wonderful concert. You will benefit for two reasons: the enjoyment of beautiful music well played and sung, and secondly for the ethical knowledge that animals in need are being helped.



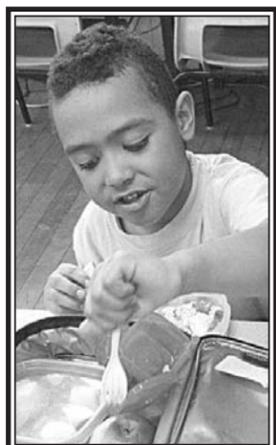
Brianna Griffiths (Gr 3), Erin Miller (Gr 4), Faith Taplin (Gr 3) and Morgan Works (Gr 4) enjoy getting a little messy as they make bird feeders on Earth Day.



Liam Boyd (Gr 4) and Hendrikus van den Hoek Field (Gr 1) are busy planting flower seeds.



Grade one student Sophie Cooke holds the string tight as she makes a bird feeder.



Grade Primary student Noel Miller enjoys his "wasteless" lunch on Earth Day.



Grade Primary students Ryker Durning and Ethan Coleman practice being Green Planet Members during Phys Ed class.

MacCaull Villa Notes

By Hazel Hill

Elmer Hutt spent a few days in the Colchester-East Hants Health Centre. He is home now and feeling much better. Angus Withrow was also in the hospital for a few days and he is home now too.

Bernice Kaulback wishes to thank all those who attended her 90th birthday party which was held in the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, Great Village. Visitors with Bernice this week: Art and Barb Muise, Jack Kaulback, and Joyce

Rushton.

Jenny Robinson visited us at the Villa one evening last week. Helen Patriquin has had a visit from her brother these past few days.

On April 17th Laura MacKinnon and her step-daughter, Madonna, visited me. My son, Carleton MacLeann and his friend, Thelma Crowell, visited me on the 16th.

George Cook and friends played here for us on the afternoon of April 9th. Faith Baptist Church had Bible study here on the same evening.

The Deadline for the June issue of
Shoreline
 Journal is May 19

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