



These girls earned top placings, represented CCJHS, at the French public speaking competition "Concours D'art Oratoire 2016" on April 4th in Truro. Left to right: Cassidy Verheul (3rd place), Ruby Harrington (2nd place) and Mallory Priest (1st place). Mallory moved on to Provincials on April 23rd at Mt St Vincent University, where she placed 2nd. Congratulations! (submitted)

A Busy 2016 for Colchester's Public Works

By Maurice Rees

A number of large municipal projects are going to make it a busy 2016 in all areas of the county according to Michelle Newell's Director of Public Works report released at council committee on March 19th. Here's a list of a few items residents can expect to be completed or get underway: Bible Hill Drainage Project; Tatamagouche Sewer Upgrades - Section at new Subway Restaurant site; Biosolids Building Upgrades - continued commissioning of the new Centrifuge dewatering equipment; Truro Heights Pedestrian Overpass - placement of asphalt surface and coatings; Truro Heights Multi Use Trail; Pumping Station 3 Replacement - North River.

Other projects which are expected to start construction in the summer include: Upgrades to one of the main pumping stations and force-mains in Debert; Robie Street Sidewalk to Truro Heights Road and Debert Water Tower Project, which the Federal Government recently approved a \$1.35-Million contribution.

The Joint Flood Advisory Committee (JFAC) and County Flood Advisory

Committee (FAC) will soon be developing plans for the coming construction season. The JFAC has provincial funding for projects on the McClures Brook. The application process for new projects under the provincial Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program is expected to open in late April.

In January Newell gave a presentation to council on Asset Management, which highlighted asset management is a critical part of operating and cost effectively maintaining infrastructure. This year resources will be dedicated to answering some of the key asset management questions: 'what do we own?', 'where is it located?', and 'what is its condition?'. The new vacuum truck will play a huge role in this initiative, along with existing sewer video capabilities.

Newell sits on a provincial steering committee established by Municipal Affairs and tasked with providing guidance to Municipalities on how to initiate asset management. The Committee also works to identify potential sources of funding to assist with resources on asset management initiatives.

neighbour pick up your mail while you are away and move your car periodically so it looks like it's been used recently. Also consider hiring someone to remove snow and ice from your driveway and front steps.

Lock your windows and doors - Although this may seem obvious, unlocked homes are the number one

choice for opportunistic thieves. If you do not make it easy to get into your home, chances are thieves will move on. Installing a home security system and/or external lighting is another great way to deter criminals from breaking into your home.

Cpl. Marc Rose, Colchester County RCMP, 902-893-6820

Tips to Deter Burglars

By Cpl Marc Rose

The Nova Scotia RCMP is reminding citizens that empty homes can be a tempting target for criminals should you be away for an extended period of time. However, there are a number of things you can do to prevent your home from being burglarized during this period.

While on vacation, ask a trusted friend or family member to drive by and check on your home once a day. Having more than one person check your house is also a good idea but just make sure they are aware.

The lights are on but no one's home - Don't leave your lights on at home throughout your entire vacation in an effort to make it look like someone is in the house. Instead, purchase a light switch timer that can turn your lights on and off automatically according to a programmed schedule. Criminals keeping an eye on your house will notice lights flipping on and off, and will

often assume someone is home. If you do not have a timer, ask your friend who is checking the house to alternate which lights are left on.

Don't tip off criminals with social media - Think twice about posting your vacation plans on social networking sites. You never know who might read it, especially if that information is visible to social media users other than your friends and family. At the end of the day, you don't want to broadcast that you will be leaving your house unattended.

Leave curtains open or closed? - Leave your curtains exactly as you usually keep them when you're home since noticeable changes could hint that you're not around anymore. Be sure to store any jewelry and electronics out of sight or in a safety deposit box away from your home.

Make your house looked lived in - Nothing signals an empty house like a week's worth of mail, newspapers and snow on the front step. Have a friend or

Masstown Community News

By Christine Urqubart

How wonderful an early spring is! The robins are back! The red winged blackbirds are back!

The grackles are back! Crocuses are blooming! Tulips and daffodils are up and many are already in bud! The snow has melted, and to quote E E Cummings: "the world is puddle wonderful!"

Masstown UCW will hold their annual Blind Auction meeting on Thursday May 5th at 7pm in the Masstown United Church basement. All ladies are welcome. This is such a fun event! Bring your

items disguised in wrapping for folks to bid one and be prepared to do a bunch of bidding yourself! Lunch after the meeting.

The DGM Men's Club will hold their breakfast meeting on Saturday May 7th at 8am at the Double C Restaurant in Lower Debert. All men welcome.

The Masstown Community Association are selling tickets on a Mother's Day Basket - tickets are \$1.00 each or 3 for \$2.00. The basket is a large laundry basket filled with lots of great items! You can get your tickets from any member

of the Association or at the Masstown Market on Saturday April 30 and Saturday May 7th. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Market at noon on May 7th, just in time for Mother's Day May 8th.

I want to congratulate Debert UCW for putting on their wonderful Chowder Luncheons every Wednesday in April. Such a lot of work! So much enjoyed by all of us who attended. Great job!

There will be Coffee Parties in May at the Masstown United Church - May 11th and May 25th. These start at 2pm and there is always a bake table and a great play room for the chil-

dren. Everyone welcome.

We have had some travelers! David and Heather Fisher spent three months in Arizona. Bill and Shirley Leeming spent a week in the Dominican. Rhona Gomez-Murray spent two weeks in Trinidad.

May you enjoy our spring weather and take the time to get out doors and get some sunshine - not only on you but inside you!

PAGE BRIEFS

Continued from page 6

Nova Scotians looking to help support their communities by serving on one of the province's 160 agencies, boards and commissions are invited to submit their application. People of all communities, regions and walks of life are needed to serve on the agencies, boards and commissions. Adjudicative agencies, boards and commissions deal with a variety of different matters and have quasi-judicial functions. They review evidence, make findings of fact and law, and make decisions that affect the liberty, security or legal rights of people. Examples include: Environment Assessment Review Panel, Labour Board, and Assistance Appeal Boards. Applications for non-adjudicative agencies, boards and commissions are welcome at any time, with assessment of applications beginning on May 16. The application deadline for adjudicative agencies, boards and commissions is May 24. For more information on boards, current opportunities and how to apply, visit <http://novascotia.ca/abc>. People can also contact 902-424-4877 or 1-866-206-6844.

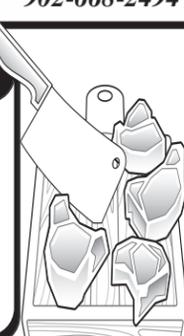
The Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia is the 2016 Law Day Award presented by the Canadian Bar Association - Nova Scotia Branch. The provincial charity was recognized for innovation in promoting access to justice for Nova Scotians through its Public Navigator Program, the first program of its kind in the country.

The provincial government has abandoned possible plans to modernize the motor vehicles, companies and land registries via outsourcing. Analysis determined with a private-sector led option compared to a government-led approach the financial benefits were marginal and too many uncertainties remained. New IT systems are required to support the registries. The system supporting the Registry of Joint Stock Companies is 20 years old. The procurement process is expected to begin in the next eight to 12 weeks to replace it. A plan will also be developed to replace or update the IT systems supporting the land and motor vehicles registries. The motor vehicles, companies and land registries conduct about 2.5 million transactions per year and bring in about \$150 million annually in revenue.

continued on page 10

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Fundy Gateway -Master Plan Project-

We need your help! The Municipality of Colchester and the Town of Truro are looking to develop the Palliser property into an outstanding Bay of Fundy visitor experience.

You can help shape this new attraction. To find out how you can contribute your ideas, drop by our public events or engage through our online presence.

Community & Stakeholder Meeting

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
7:00 - 9:00 PM
The Peg, Masstown

www.fundygateway.ca

Project supported by Tourism Nova Scotia, ACOA, Town of Truro and Municipality of Colchester



Karen Casey Colchester North

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