

Great Village Dahlia Duo Win Multiple Awards At International Event



Carol Dexter and Arthur Haskins, of Great Village, have just returned from an international dahlia show where they won multiple awards for their beautiful dahlia entries. (Harrington Photo)

By Linda Harrington

Driving for three days, in 92 degree weather with a truck load of dahlias presented a challenge for local gardeners Carol Dexter and Arthur Haskins but they were pleasantly surprised with their award winning results.

Carol and Arthur left Great Village on Wednesday, Sept. 22nd heading south over 1600 miles to the North American Dahlia Show in Chattanooga, Tennessee. They had never transported their delicate blooms this far before and many were quite skeptical of how the blooms would hold up. "I guess people chuckled a bit when they saw us arrive all the way from Nova Scotia," says Arthur. "We looked at it as more of an experiment than anything. We expected many blooms would not survive the trip."

Carol says they picked over 200 blooms on the day before they left, and used ice packs to keep them cool in the back of the truck. They had to replenish the ice on the way down as temperatures soared into the mid 90's. "There was no air conditioning in the back of the truck, so the ice was all we had to keep them cooled," says Carol. "We never expected it to be so warm this time of year."

The flowers were entered into the competition held at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Hotel and Convention Centre on Friday, and were judged on Saturday morning, four days after they were cut from the gardens in Great Village. Arthur says about 60% of their blooms were still competitive, which was

quite remarkable, considering they usually cut their blooms the day before a competition.

There were about 250 exhibitors at the North American Dahlia Show, from across Canada and the U.S., with over 2000 dahlia entries.

Arthur exhibited a purple incurve cactus dahlia, called Hollyhill Renoir, which received a great deal of attention. This was a new variety and only a few people had seen it before.

Carol Dexter had four entries make it to the Court of Honor. She won the Dahlia Society of Alabama Medal for the Best Basket Worton Blue Streak; the Minnesota Dahlia Medal for Best Pompom Single Bloom Pride of Place; the National Dahlia Society of New Zealand Medal for Best 3 Blooms Brian's Dream and the Seattle Dahlia Medal for Best Novelty 3 Blooms Seedling Novelty.

Arthur Haskins won the Phillip L. Huckbee Memorial Award for a Basket entry, and he won top awards for 3 Blooms Ball Dahlia- Devon Emu and 1 Bloom Lacinated-Hollyhill Pinkie.

Carol and Arthur also received Sweepstakes Awards for most overall points in various sections.

They have been exhibiting dahlias, and winning multiple awards, throughout Nova Scotia for a number of years at the Halifax County, Middle Musquodoboit and Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibitions. Carol is the Manager of the Flower and Vegetable Entries at the Nova Scotia Exhibition and both Carol and Arthur are

members of the Great Village Garden Club and the Dahlia Society of Nova Scotia.

Carol spends some of her spare time growing dahlias from seed. She has developed a few of her own varieties which all have the prefix Cobequid. These include Cobequid Daphne, a miniature ball, Cobequid Pinwheel, a col-larette and Cobequid Frosty, an orchid dahlia. "I have many more in the works," says Carol. "The different varieties start with the cross pollination from bees, so I never know what I may get. Some are quite ugly and they get thrown out and I start again."

Congratulations to Carol and Arthur on their recent awards. A stroll through their gardens is a wonderful eye pleasing experience, the envy of many of us who wish we had such green thumbs.

Thirsty Church Project Update!



Phase one completed 'to do' list for the Thirsty Church Project:

- Install septic • Bathroom upstairs • Community sign
- Gravel parking area • Fresh paint on door

By Amanda Langille

As you can see from the above completed list it has been very busy around the Thirsty Church in Londonderry Station since our last update! We are so pleased with the progress made, so far, in our seemingly never-

ending list of renovations. We continue to be humbled by the generosity of individuals and organizations who have donated materials, time, and funds to help us complete projects as they are needed.

One of the most symbolic

Pictured here are a few of the guys who recently helped install the new community sign at the Londonderry Station Community Church. The sign was installed to announce community happenings: (l-r) Wade Langille, Jack Patriquin, and Zach Higgins. (Submitted)

renovations is the completion of the septic and upstairs bathroom, so the next time you visit or wish to attend one of the regular Sunday Church services, there is a functioning bathroom facility for you, and a nice one at that!

Although our little Thirsty Church is not thirsty anymore, many believe it will forever be known as that as a reminder of the Aviva Community Fund contest and ensuing journey which brought us to where we are now.

A big thank you to the following people for helping with this long awaited addition: Randy Culgin, Jonathan Lepper, Casey Concrete, George

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Seasonal Flu Vaccine Clinics



Public Health Services Vaccine Clinics



Date	Site	Time
Tuesday, November 2 nd	Amherst Armory 34 Acadia Street entrance	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Wednesday, November 3 rd	Springhill Armory 72 North Street	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Thursday, November 4 th	Oxford Lions Hall Main Street	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday, November 6 th	Amherst Armory 34 Acadia Street entrance	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Monday, November 8 th	Pugwash St Thomas Moore Hall 79 Church Street	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Wednesday, November 10 th	Parrsboro Fire Hall 252 Willow Street	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Tuesday, November 16 th	Springhill Armory 72 North Street	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Wednesday, November 17 th	Pugwash St Thomas Moore Hall 79 Church Street	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Thursday, November 18 th	Advocate Advocate Fire Hall	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
	River Hebert Brookside Curling Club	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Monday, November 22 nd	Oxford Lions Hall Main Street	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Tuesday, November 23 rd	Parrsboro Fire Hall 252 Willow St	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday, November 27 th	Amherst Armory 34 Acadia Street entrance	10:00 am - 4:00 pm

- Seasonal flu vaccine is **FREE OF CHARGE** for all Nova Scotians.
- You cannot get influenza from these vaccines. They are safe and effective.
- This year's vaccine contains immunization for H1N1.
- Please bring your Nova Scotia Health Card.
- It is recommended that those most at risk of developing the seasonal flu be immunized including those over 65, those with a chronic health conditions, children between 6 months and 5 years, pregnant women and those who live with anyone in a high risk group.
- Children 12 years of age and under must be accompanied by a parent/legal guardian or the accompanying adult must have written permission for the child's immunization from that parent/legal guardian.
- Go to www.cha.nshealth.ca for the most up to date schedule.
- The seasonal flu vaccine is also available through family doctors' offices.
- For more information on seasonal flu, visit www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/flu

Questions? Call Public Health Services
667-3319 or 1-800-767-3319



Hollyhill Renoir, a purple incurve cactus dahlia, is shown in Arthur Haskins' beautiful backyard garden. This particular dahlia received a great deal of attention at a recent show in Chattanooga, Tennessee. (Harrington Photo)

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