

Fall Festival of Colours a Fantastic Celebration



Hikers stand at the top of High Head, the highest peak of the Cobequid Mountains in the Wentworth area. The hikers can see overland as far as the Northumberland Strait. (Gregor Wilson Photo)

By Hope Bridgewater

The Wentworth community recently gave thanks not only to two splendid events at Ski Wentworth and at the Wentworth Recreation Centre, but also to the beautiful two Cobequid Mountain ranges which are close by and help give us the title "Fall Festival of Colours." The two ranges divide to allow a train railway track and the International Hostel with trails on one side, a level valley passage in the middle for roads, and on the opposite range Ski Wentworth developed by the Wilson family and others.

The two mountain ranges are even more beautiful than usual in autumn with the colours of red, orange, and gold from the deciduous trees especially at the top of the ranges and with more green added to the mixture from the coniferous trees down on the slopes.

Ski Wentworth is an added bonus to Wentworth as it provides exercise for health, more population with skiers and their homes, and jobs for the folks here. Their participation in the Fall Festival of Colours is wonderful for people of all ages. For two days they provided Chairlift Rides to the top of the mountain range with spectacular views, BBQs outside, and a kids zone with petting zoo, pony rides, haystack playground, and an inflatable jumpy castle.

I visited the BBQ for hot dogs, cookies, crunchy oats and honey bars, and many kinds of drinks. Many people were lined up for the Chairlift Ride (I have done so at other times), and there were many children having fun. All this happened at this Cobequid Mountain range at the top and at the bottom, and it was a great experience with nature all around.

I was lucky to talk to Gregor Wilson, a descendant of the Wilsons who played and still play a large part in the running of Ski Wentworth. He sent me a photo from the Festival and his version of the event which I now quote: "Every Saturday and Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend, hik-

ers and nature lovers flock to the beautiful Wentworth Valley for hiking. Hikers can choose from guided hikes from the Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse, riding the chairlift at Ski Wentworth hiking and biking the Wentworth Youth Hostel trails or gentle trails along the Wallace River at the Wentworth Provincial Park.

This year 30 hikers joined the annual guided hike to High Head, which is also a fundraiser for the Old Wentworth Valley Heritage Schoolhouse. The colours were in perfect form with brilliant reds, yellows and oranges on full display.

Butch and Debbie Atkinson lead the group up a direct route, enjoyed the views of the colourful forests far below from High Head, and then took a meandering route along the Nordic ski trails and down the ski hill, complete with more breathtaking views across and up the valley.

Ski Wentworth had its busiest Fall Colours single day ever on Saturday with over 2600 people enjoying a chair lift to the top of the mountain and more views on the hike back down. A chance of showers that did not materialize kept the crowds smaller on Sunday, although the colours and the temperature were perfect for hiking and taking in nature's beauty."

I will add information about High Head, which is the highest peak in the Cobequid Mountain for the Wentworth area. On a sunny day, people can see across this area down to the Northumberland Strait. Some people have said that on a sunny day, even the Confederation Bridge to PEI has been seen.

A two minutes car drive, with the colours everywhere in sight, shows another event is happening on Saturday at the Wentworth Recreation Centre. People come for a tasty pork supper and have fun talking and getting acquainted.

I was lucky to talk to Sonya Seymour, President of the Wentworth Firemen's Recreation Centre, who next day sent me her report which

I now quote: "The Wentworth Firemen's Recreation Centre held a fund raising pork dinner on Saturday, October 8, 2016. A dinner of roast pork, baked potato, corn, carrots, green and yellow beans, apple sauce, coleslaw, and blueberry shortcake dessert was prepared.

Those who came had many positive comments on the meal.

To run an event like this requires many volunteers, as well as numerous hours of preparation leading up to the dinner. A large thank you is sent out to the Wentworth volunteers and friends they brought with them to help."

The Fall Festival of Colours was a fantastic celebration thanks to all the people who made it happen and to those who came to enjoy the events and the beauty of autumn colours in nature.

Chiganois Elementary Notes

By Linda Harrington

Virtue Of The Month was Thankfulness and students were asked to show gratitude through their emotions and attitude and to show thanks when receiving a benefit from someone else or when giving to others through thoughts, words and actions.

The Breakfast Program is now set up at the school. Students who require breakfast are more than welcome to attend, but only those students who truly need to access the program are encouraged to use it. Students who feel they need something extra in the morning will not be turned away. Thank you to Mrs. Hingley for helping with this school initiative. Once again there has been an anonymous donation to the Chiganois breakfast program this year. The school is thankful for the generosity and kindness of the donor and will put the monetary donation to use.

Students recognized Walk to School Month with a school-wide walk on Tuesday, October 11th. Students and staff walked the perimeter of the school for 30 minutes.

If you are interested in volunteering in the Library on a Wednesday or Thursday morning a week to help out, please contact the school.

The students had a wonderful day to participate in the Annual Terry Fox Walk/Run. A big congratulation to the students in the school and the community for all their hard work in collect-

ing pledges for such a great service, raising approximately \$5700. The school celebrated this accomplishment with some "good old pie throwing" on Friday, October 7th.

Once again the students at Chiganois Elementary School will participate in a free skate program at the West Colchester United Arena in Debert. Classes will attend in pairs and will attend for three separate sessions. The first skating session will begin on Wednesday, November 2nd with only the Grade 5 class (Mrs. Robertson) as there is an odd number of classrooms this year.

If you have any spare skates and/or helmets that you can loan to the school for those students who may not have any, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the school and let Mrs. Keizer know if you have extra. Thanks.

Beginning October 17th there will be a Monday lunch club for Grades Three to Five to do Arts and Crafts. It will be done in the Learning Centre with Mrs. Hingley. It will run until Christmas and then in January the Grades Primary to Two will have an opportunity to be in the club.

If your child/children are going somewhere other than their regular drop off after school, please make sure a note is sent in to the school so we are aware of the change. The bus drivers require a note if a student must take a different bus or get off at a stop that is not their regular stop at

the end of the day. Also, please be aware some buses are full and may be unable to accommodate courtesy drives.

The Drama Club for students in grade 4 and 5 is up and running. Students meet on Thursdays from October 6th to November 17th. In the club, students are learning the basics of dramatic performance such as; stage directions, voice projection, character development and using props. Students will even have the opportunity to show their talents at a school assembly.

A Halloween Dance, sponsored by the PTG, was held on Thursday, Oct. 27th. A wonderful time was had by all!

Just a reminder that all school visitors must report to the school office when entering the school or the school grounds during the instructional day. Also, school doors are locked at 9:15am. This is a safety precaution.

November 10th - Remembrance Day School Celebration in the gymnasium at 9:30AM, with no school on Remembrance Day, Nov. 11th.

There is no school for students on November 14th - Assessment and Evaluation Day. Term One Report Cards Go Home on Nov. 22nd and Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on Nov. 24th from 6-8PM and in the afternoon on Nov. 25th. No school for students on Nov. 25th.

The next SAC/PTG meeting will be held on Nov. 29th.

Chiganois Christmas Concert will be held at 6:30PM on Dec. 6th at Cobequid Educational Center.



Dancing the Macarena looked like a lot of fun at the Debert Elementary Halloween Dance on Oct. 27th. (Harrington Photo)



The Adshade siblings were enjoying themselves at the Debert Elementary Halloween Dance. Left to right- Leah, Lucas and John Adshade. (Harrington Photo)

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