

Area Residents Awarded Queen's Diamond Jubilee Metal



This photo by Watson Weaver, Parrsboro was taken on Nov. 7th, 1951 at the Train Station in Truro. Hector Hill (of Economy) is being presented by Truro Mayor Jack Glassey to H.R.H Princess Elizabeth, as Mrs. Hill looks on. Their daughter Judy Duclos, of Upper Economy, says she was only nine years old at the time and does not remember the occasion. She says Hector was a wonderful father, a self taught man who loved to read voraciously, and who had a vast knowledge. Mr. Hill was heavily involved in politics and eventually became Mayor of Truro. (Linda Harrington found this photo in an album at a second hand store)

By Linda Harrington and Karen Casey

During the Diamond Jubilee year celebrations, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal will be awarded to 60 000 deserving Canadians. Nova Scotians who have made significant contributions to their communities and their province will be awarded the Diamond Jubilee medal during ceremonies throughout the year.

Nominations for this prestigious award come from the communities in which they live. Two of the recipients from Colchester North were presented with this medal in Brookfield on August 20, 2012. They were Carl Elliott from Upper Economy and Robert Layton from Great Village.

A third recipient, Matthew Allen, from Tatamagouche, is attending university and his medal was accepted on his behalf by his mother Lorenda Ebbett.

Robert Layton

Providing service to the community is part of the



On August 20, 2012 Karen Casey, MLA for Colchester North, attended the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Award Ceremony in Brookfield for two of her constituents, Robert Layton from Great Village and Carl Elliott from Upper Economy. During the Diamond Jubilee year celebrations, the Diamond Jubilee Medal will be awarded to 60 000 deserving Canadians who have made significant contributions to their communities and their province. Names for recipients were put forward by the communities in which they live. (submitted)

Layton tradition in Great Village, and what was started by his grandfather in 1870 has been carried on by Robert and the other members of his family.

In 1870 LC Layton started Layton & Son General Store. Robert's father and uncles operated the business until Robert bought it in 1959. It became RF Layton General Store, where he and his wife Meredith continued to serve the community until it closed in 1996. The store was and continues to be a landmark building in the community.

Robert joined the fire brigade in 1946 when he was still in his teens. In 1966 he also served as Captain, in 1972 as Deputy Chief and in 1973-74 as Chief. He now holds the position of Lieutenant of Fire Police, a position which involves directing traffic. Robert is the longest serving active firefighter in the province.

Robert is also involved with other community activities. He works at the Legion Pancake Breakfast, the



Brigade Lobster Supper, Saint James United Church pancake supper, and he is a church choir member. He is always willing to lend a helping hand.

Carl Elliott

Carl Elliott grew up to the sound of the fiddle and shuffle of feet at country square dances in homes and halls along the Economy shore, so it was only natural at the age of 15, he would start to play the fiddle. He played at local family gatherings and dances with brother Gerald, who also played fiddle, brother Percy, who played piano, and brother Merle, who played guitar.

The Elliott brothers recorded their first album together in 1962, titled "Square Dance Tonight".

Carl has won many trophies in fiddle contests across Canada and is a 3 time winner of the Maritime Old Time Fiddle Contest.

In the 1970's, Carl with his wife Jean on piano, was joined by his sons Bill, on guitar and Mike on bass, performing weekly at Jamborees and Dances at the family owned dance hall in Portauptique. He provided music at the annual Economy Clam Festival for many years, also.

Carl has continued to perform and often supports community fundraising in the local communities including the "Fiddle Parties" at the Great Village Masonic Lodge and the "Fiddlefest" at the Nova Scotia Exhibition for 11 years.

At the age of 84, Carl continues to enjoy playing his fid-

Rick Johnson Candidate for Councilor - District 9



Rick Johnson

What in your opinion are the three most challenging issues facing the Municipality?

In my opinion the three most challenging issues facing the Municipality of Colchester are:

The flooding issue has to be resolved. This is a devastating issue that our residents' are experiencing more frequently.

Enticing new business to our area which will create business opportunities and jobs for local workers.

Financial accountability to the taxpayers of Colchester County. Taxpayers need to be better informed on where their tax dollars are being spent and why.

If you had the sole responsibility to solve them what would you do?

If I had the sole responsibility to solve the most challenging issues facing the Municipality of Colchester I would:

(A) Arrange for all parties affected by flooding in the area to sit down and come up with a solution that will finally solve this ongoing and very expensive catastrophe that takes place far too often.

(B) Entice new business to our area by working with the Municipality, Province and Federal Government to provide funding for further business growth and development.

(C) Increase the accountability of the Municipality of Colchester County. Taxpayers want to know where their tax dollars are being spent and why. I promise to hold public meetings every four months so that District 9 residents may get a chance to meet with myself, voice their concerns and have their questions answered.

What is the most difficult topic you expect to come before council in the next year, which will have voters upset?

I believe the most difficult topic that will come before council in the next year will once again be the major issue of flooding in our area.

Since rural areas are declining in population and the residents are getting older, how will you help community groups in your district to develop plans to bring younger families to your electoral district?

I will work in District 9 to develop plans to bring younger families to this District by providing long term sustainable employment. Nova Scotia's aging population is not just an issue faced by rural communities; this issue is experienced throughout the entire Province. Colchester County offers many great educational opportunities however we need to provide long term, sustainable employment so that younger families see a long term benefit to settling in our area.

Why do you think you are the best candidate to represent the residents on Municipal Council?

I feel I am the best candidate to represent the residents on Municipal Council because I promise to establish and maintain good communication with the residents and will be a strong voice for them on Council. The residents of District 9 should be assured that their concerns will be heard at County Council meetings.

What types of businesses do you think are most appropriate for your district and what will you do to attract them?

I believe the most appropriate businesses for District 9 to further develop the Debert Industrial Park, would be the establishment of big box stores (Costco, Home Depot). These businesses would complement the already existing businesses in this area.

To entice new business, again the Municipality has to get together with the Province and Federal Government to provide the funding and incentives that would encourage these types of businesses to develop in our area.

What are the most critical problems being faced by your constituents?

After speaking with the constituents of District 9, the most critical problems they are faced with are:

- Property tax increases
- Snow removal
- Road repairs
- Business growth and development

If you are elected to council, how will you communicate with residents to understand their problems and what you are doing to solve them?

As I previously mentioned, my promise to the residents of District 9 is; I will hold public meetings every four months, & will keep them informed of where their tax dollars are being spent and why. These meetings will also give them with an opportunity to provide feedback and concerns, which I can then present to County Council.

dle and not only is he a wonderful fiddle player but he is also a composer with many tunes to his credit. He and his sons, along with daughter Glenda, have produced 3 CD's since 2004.

Carl was inducted into the NS Country Music Hall of Fame in 2003. In 2004, he and his sons were nominated for an ECMA and in 2005, Carl was awarded the ECMA Stompin' Tom Connors Award. The Elliott Family was awarded Recreation NS's Volunteer Family of the Year in 2006.

Matthew Allen

Matthew Allen graduated with his grade 12 in June, 2012 from North Colchester High School in Tatamagouche. He is currently attending Memorial University in

Newfoundland, working toward a Bachelor of Science degree.

Matthew was a very active participant in student life. He was a member of many clubs and teams including student council, yearbook staff, stop committee, math league, softball team, boys' volleyball team, track and field team, and he was also an assistant coach on the girls' volleyball team. He was named Student of the Year at his high school gradu-

ation.

Matthew, a very talented figure skater, earned a spot on the Nova Scotia team for the 2011 Canada Winter Games.

Since Matthew is already at university, his mother, Lorenda Ebbett, accepted his Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and Certificate at the presentation ceremony held on September 5, 2012 in New Glasgow. Matthew is also the recipient of a \$2000 Diamond Jubilee Scholarship.

Story Ideas?

Deadline for the November issue of

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