

Laking Featured in "Across the Surface" Exhibit

By Linda Harrington

The grand opening for "Across the Surface", an art exhibit featuring the work of eight of Nova Scotia's most prominent realist artists, was held at NSCC McCarthy Art Gallery in Truro on Sept. 5th.

Local artist Joy Laking says the idea for the exhibit began 5 years ago when a group of artists were talking about why realism is so discriminated against what they could do to change this.

Eight organizers formed PLANS (Professional Living Artists of Nova Scotia), with a goal to raise the profile of realist painting in Nova Scotia. The group consists of Tom Forrestall, Ed Huner, Paul Hannon, Steven Rhude, Susan Paterson, Shelley Mitchell, Gordon MacDonald and Joy Laking.

With a \$30,000 grant from the Robert Pope Foundation, the group hired independent curator Tom Smart to put an exhibit together. The "Capture 2014" exhibit featured one piece from 28 artists and has been touring several Universities in Nova



Joy Laking, displays her newest work titled "Elephant and Elf". Joy was one of eight artists featured in "Across the Surface", on display at the NSCC McCarthy Gallery until Sept. 25th. (Harrington Photo)

On the success of the first exhibit, PLANS decided to put together another exhibit featuring several paintings by each of the 8 founding artists and they called this "Across the Surface". The exhibit opened at the Archives of Nova Scotia, then moved to Truro, and after Sept. 25th will move to Inverness

Cultural Center during Celtic Colours.

Joy Laking is excited to have the exhibit here in Truro, close to her home in Portauquique. "We have secured a grant so school children can come and visit the show, and I will give them a tour," she says, her eyes sparkling with excitement.

Joy Laking will host her annual Open House Exhibition at her studio, 6730 Hwy #2, in Portauquique on October 18, 19, 25 & 26 from 10AM until 5PM. This year's exhibit features Joy's paintings and sketches done in India as well as many new oil paintings, acrylics and watercolours of Nova Scotia.

The McCarthy Gallery, a partnership between the NSCC and Truro Arts Society, has hosted 200 art shows since its opening, averaging about 6 to 10 shows/year.



Kerry Geddes, President of the Truro Art Society made a special presentation to Charmaine Borden and Peter Labelle, Co-chairs of the McCarthy Gallery. (Harrington Photo)



Gordon MacDonald, Steven Rhude, Susan Paterson, Ed Huner, Joy Laking, Tom Forrestall and Paul Hannon, seven of the eight artists featured in "Across the Surface", posed for a photo at the opening of the exhibit in Truro. (Harrington Photo)



Colchester Mayor Bob Taylor welcomed everyone to the opening of the art exhibit "Across the Surface" on Sept. 5th. (Harrington Photo)



Members and supporters of Wentworth Community School Council, aka Menace: the Wild Wentworth Women, attend a Chignecto-Central Regional School Board meeting at Chignecto Elementary School in Masstown on September 10. They were there to request an explanation of board action taken in July that resulted in the community being denied access to the Wentworth Elementary School building. (Submitted)

Great Village Terry Fox Run A Huge Success

By Linda Harrington

Although there was a very heavy mist as registration for the Second Annual Great Village Terry Fox Run began, organizer Debbie Smith says it only dampened the paperwork not the spirit of those who came to participate in the day's events.

Twenty-six people and four canines completed the almost 8 km route, either on foot or bicycle. The youngest, being 7 year old Connor Harrison, who walked a km for each year of his life and was proud to do so! Colby, Haley and Michael Spencer enjoyed riding the course on their bicycles.

When the sun finally came out, the event turned into a real social event. Participants and others, who stopped by to make a contribution, enjoyed apples donated by the Masstown Market and corn grown and cooked by Farmer Keith!

"It was great to see new



Colby, Haley and Michael Spencer completed this year's Great Village Terry Fox Run on their bicycles. (submitted)

faces, and of course the regulars, who have supported our run in the past two years," says Debbie Smith.

After the pledges and donations were added up a grand total of \$1630 was realized, almost \$200 more than last year. Debbie would

like to thank everyone for their support adding, "We are hoping for an even better turnout next year for the 35th anniversary of Terry's dream."

The winner of the Terry Fox t-shirt was Charlotte Smith.

Historic Sites

"1889 - GREAT VILLAGE FIRE"

By Dick Akerman

A description of the 1889 fire in Great Village, taken directly from the day journal of Dr. J.L. Peppard, the village doctor: "Thursday, November 21, 1889

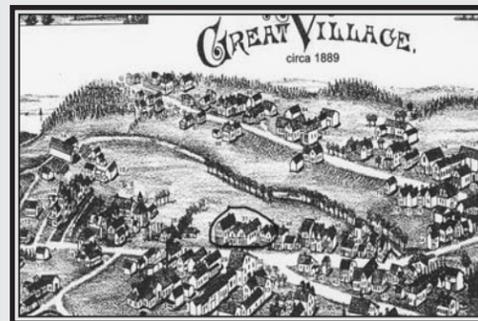
House burned. The fire originated in the store of J.M. Blaikie, Esquire, on the morning of Nov. 21st - at twenty minutes to four, am. Burned store, post office and barn of J.M. Blaikie - Brazillia Davidson's house and stable, my house - Mrs. Fulton's

house - her barn was burned to stop the flames - this has been the greatest destruction since this place was settled. The total loss supposed to be \$20,000. After the fire I went to Truro, - to look after insurance on house - we moved into the Thomas E Spencer house."

A few months earlier, the journal describes the birth of his daughter, a few months after the fire he notes the death of that daughter, he attributed the death to the cold and subsequent meningitis she was afflicted with as a result of the fire. He reports going to the court hearings of the young men who were involved with the fire, and on the back page of a later journal was the list of materials needed to build a replacement home.

The circle on map # 302 of the "A. F. Church" map covers the burned area, as does the circle on the 1889 "Currie" map, which is an artist's rendition.

Dick Akerman has been compiling information on behalf of the Colchester Historical Museum Archives, and is published monthly in the Shoreline Journal.



From the archives of the COLCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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The Shoreline Journal, in collaboration with the Colchester Historical Society Archives, have inaugurated an ongoing feature utilizing a combination of the digital "A. F. Church Maps" to pin point the circa 1875 location of a Colchester site of historical importance, and connect it to an archival photograph of that site, in that frame.

This article, "Historic Sites" has been published in the "Shoreline" for over three years, and features period photographs of interesting sites along the Cobequid shore, homes, stores, hotels, mines, bridges, etc. The photographs are reinforced with a map location, taken from the famous "Church" map of Colchester County.

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