

Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse Reunion

By Carol Hyslop

Approximately 40 people made their way to the Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse on September 9th for the post-Covid revival of an annual open house/reunion. The day was cloudy but warm and tents were set up for outdoor activity. The theme of the event was 'The Fabulous Fifties' and many attendees dressed appropriately.

It was the wish of the directors of the Friends of the Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse this year to pay tribute to the school and to two former students - Dr. Ross Barclay and Ernest Wood - so attendees were called together (by a ringing school bell) for a presentation.

Bobby Hunt first gave a short talk about the building and its history, emphasizing the fact that it is basically as it was when built in 1903 and is the only remaining one-room school building in Wentworth receiving community care. The directors feel the building is important as a representation of the history of Wentworth Station/Valley.

Francie Hunt told the audience the story of Dr. Barclay's life, how he went from the little school in the valley to Truro Academy and on to Mount Allison University where he became a professor of Chemistry. A plaque stating his academic accomplishments was unveiled. Dr. Barclay's family was in attendance for the presentation.

Mr. Wood's daughter Peggy Ainslie spoke of her father. Following his school days, he married, settled in Westchester, and raised his family there becoming a valued member of the community who helped found the Westchester Fire Department. She noted that the family has placed a wishing well on the school property



Francie Hunt told those gathered for the Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse Reunion the story of Dr. Barclay's life before unveiling a plaque in his honour. (submitted)

in his memory.

After these presentations there was an auction of donated baked goods and preserves. Bob Lafrance of Westchester was the auctioneer, assisted by Bobby Hunt, and there was spirited bidding on pies, cakes, cookies, jams and pickles. A buffet supper of salads, ham, hot dogs and pie was followed by music provided by Jim and Denise White. Draws were held for door prizes, 50/50 and a raffle of items donated by local businesses and individuals.

It was a busy day, and the directors hope everyone enjoyed the afternoon and will come back next year.



An auction was held at the Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse Reunion, with lucky bidders going home with tasty pies, cakes, cookies, jams and pickles. (submitted)



Following the buffet supper at the Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse Reunion, music was provided by Denise and Jim White. (submitted)

OBITUARIES

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COCK, Georgina Helen - On September 14, 2023, Georgina Helen Cock, Bible Hill, NS, passed away peacefully at home, at the age of 83. She will be lovingly remembered by her daughter, Kathy Lobban (Dean), her grandchildren, Trevor Lewis (Angie), Samantha (Michael) Boyce, Stephanie (Michael) McNutt, Brittany Lynn, and great grandchildren, Sierra, Kaiden, Braxton, Tanner and Zoey. She was predeceased by her daughter Donna Lewis and grandchildren Jody Lewis and Rodney Lynn. Also survived by sisters Kay Bedell, Betty Mykytyshyn and brother Charles (Helen) Higgins. With many nieces and nephews. Georgina enjoyed playing cards, darts and going out with friends. Her witty sense of humor and kindness will be missed by those who knew her. Her family and friends meant everything to her. She was a volunteer at Colchester Regional Hospital and the homeless shelter. At Georgina request, there will be no service held. For condolence please visit www.harboursidecremation.ca

PRIEST, Arlie "Dale" - Age 57, of Crowe's Mills, Belmont passed away on Monday, September 11, 2023, in the Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro, surrounded by his loving family. Dale was born in Truro on August 2, 1966, to the late Arlie Priest and Gayle (Chapman) McLaren. Dale was a hardworking, spiritual, loving, artistic, and kind man who lived a full life in his 57 years. Over the years, he worked different jobs, but it was becoming a bricklayer in his 20s that he found to be his calling as he loved working with his hands and being outside. Not a vain man, he made friends everywhere he went, from Nova Scotia to BC and back and still has friends from his childhood. He met his soulmate, Verna, at fourteen years old, but they didn't reconnect until twelve years later. They've had a passionate and amazing love that overcame all of the obstacles that life threw at them. He loved his family deeply and enjoyed spending time with them all. He loved the outdoors, fishing, hunting, trapping, washer toss, cards, darts, going to the beach and his cabin. He loved all types of music and was a fantastic dancer, a skill not everyone knew he possessed. He was a big storyteller and the more times he told a story the funnier and more embellished they became, with people laughing harder with each telling. Dale loved the Lord and knew he was going to heaven and joining all the loved ones he lost, especially his mother and father. He is survived by his loving wife of 29 years, Verna (Henderson); stepfather, Doug McLaren; siblings, Danette (Laurie), Juanita, Krista, Adrian, Twyla (Dwight), Michael (Jessica), Arlene, David, and Bethany; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews. He was predeceased by his father, Arlie and mother, Gayle. Flowers are welcome, but in lieu of, donations may be made in Dale's name to the Lung Association of Nova Scotia and PEI or the Canadian Liver Foundation: Atlantic Canada Chapter. A visitation was held September 20th from 1pm until time of service at 2pm, both in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS with Pastor Josh Fillmore officiating. Reception followed. Burial will follow the reception in Belmont Cemetery. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.ColchesterCommunity.com.

MCKIM, Mildred "Millie" (nee Donkin) - Age 89, Old Barns, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Born May 14, 1934, in Fenwick, NS, daughter of the late Henry and Carrie (Dickinson) Donkin. Predeceased by her husband, LeMoyné (1998); her brothers, Gordon (Hilda), Ralph (Helen), Sherman (Catherine), Paul (Bernice), and Keith (Audrey); her sister, Mary Dodsworth (Earl), and her grandson, Scott Withrow. She was also predeceased by her nephews, Richard Donkin, Eric Donkin, and Carman Dodsworth. Survived by her children, Paula (Steve) Withrow, Greg (Josselyn) McKim, Meredith (John) Taylor and Margie McKim; grandmother of Kari (Matt), Whitney, Jeremy, Ashley, Emily, and Hannah; great-grandmother of Breigh and Malachi. She worked as a bookkeeper/accountant for several companies in Truro and area. Millie was a founding member of the Clifton Community Seniors Association and an active volunteer. She received the Provincial Volunteer Award and the Clifton District of Agriculture Community Service Award. Millie was an ardent supporter of Clifton United Church in Old Barns, a member of the U.C.W. and the Old Barns Progressive Club. Special thanks to the staff of the Palliative Care Unit, Colchester East Hants Health Centre and Cedarstone Enhanced Care, Purdy Lane staff. In lieu of flowers, donations in Millie's memory may be made to CEHHC "We Care About Cancer" or Diabetes Canada. The family was joined on Thursday, September 21st in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow Street, Truro, NS to celebrate Millie. Visitation at 1pm until time of Funeral Service at 2pm, reception followed. Burial took place on Friday, September 22nd at 11am in Old Barns Cemetery. Online condolences available at visiting www.ColchesterCommunity.com

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Compost Giveaway in October - 6 bags

By Phillip Redden B. Sc.Eng.,

Phillip Redden B. Sc.Eng., Director of Solid Waste presented an extensive report of solid waste activities at the August meeting of Colchester Council. Due to the length of the report, it has been divided into separate stories, based on the various operations at the Kempton site and are scattered throughout this issue. This segment covers the Compost Facility section of his report.

COMPOST FACILITY

Staffing:

There have been no changes to compost facility staffing. We continue to operate with two equipment operators and a utility worker; however quite frequently compost employees are being used to fill in at the Balefill when short staffed and for vacation coverage.

Production & Markets:

There has been no compost available for sale this year and our Annual Spring Compost Giveaway was cancelled. The material that was in tent three was too wet to be screened in the Spring due to Fiona causing our tarps to be off the tent for most of the

Winter. Some material is now dried out sufficiently to do the final screening with the 1/2" screen to remove any final contaminants and material should be ready for sale by the middle of August and for the remainder of the Summer and Fall. There should be no issue proceeding with the Annual Fall Giveaway in October and residents will likely be offered six free bags instead of three to make up for missing it in the Spring.

Projects/Operations:

Our partner, Ground Fix Remediation, was contracted with their excavator, dozer and dump trucks to move the large stockpile of compost overs (the oversized reject material that is screened off) from the compost facility to be used as slope cover at the C&D site and the landfill. In the past, compost overs had been placed on the side slopes at the C&D site as cover to help with vegetation growth but in recent years there are more being produced then can be used at the C&D site.

This year, 5,650 tonnes of material was spread on the side slopes at the landfill cell

on two slopes that will not receive final capping for many years. This made a good base to use for hydroseeding which is currently being quoted.

DAL AC continues to work on two projects involving our compost material. The first is a national study looking at quantifying the impact of municipal organic waste management on carbon footprints. The second is an assessment of microplastics distribution and characterization in compost at the Colchester Balefill Facility.

Staffing:

Recently hired Manager of Reduction and Recovery operations resigned - last day August 4, 2023. Our two Waste Reduction summer student's last day is Friday, August 18, 2023. They have been great assets to work alongside us for the last three months. They have helped cover vacation time for all WR positions (Helpline, Day Camps, Green Cart) as well as cleaning up litter in our community.

Phillip Redden B. Sc.Eng. is Colchester's Director of Solid Waste

Pilot Project with Sustane Technologies Completed

By Phillip Redden B. Sc.Eng.,

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MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY

Staffing:

Congratulations to the MRF long time cleaner full-time permanent employee who retired in July after 20 years of service. A MRF full-time sorter was the successful internal applicant for the vacated cleaning position. A full-time sorter position has been posted. One new employee was hired into

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