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A large Every Child Matters display adorned the walls at Fundy Geological Museum. The month long exhibit closed on August 29th. (Lawrence R Nicoll Photo)



Those attending the Every Child Matters display participated in an outside explanation at the Geological Museum (Lawrence R Nicoll Photo)

Every Child Matters: Finding A Way Forward

By Debbie Tucker

This unique project was initiated by members of the Rug Hooking Guild of Nova Scotia asking the question "What can we do?" in response to the discovery of the 215 possible unmarked gravesites at a BC residential school in May 2021. There was much discussion around whether it was appropriate for the RHGNS to even take on the project. After seeking guidance from Mi'kmaq community leaders in all three Maritime provinces, we kept hearing the same answer - "We want people to hear our story and learn from it".

The RHGNS commissioned five Mi'kmaq artists from the Maritimes (traditional unceded land of the Mi'kmaq - Mi'kma'ki) to produce designs relating to the Every Child Matters movement. The five artists are Tara Francis (NB), Phyllis Grant (NB), Gerald Gloade (NS), Lorne Julien (NS) and Noella Moore (PEI). Forty-nine rug hookers then hooked 66 rugs from those designs and have become the heart of the project.

The co-chairs of the exhibit, Ann Marie Harley and Debbie Tucker, hope the project will provide opportunities for conversation, education and continue to raise awareness as it honours missing children and survivors of residential schools and their families.

The RHGNS would like to thank the Government of NS through the Department of Communities NS and Support4Culture for their continued financial support of the exhibit.

The exhibit was at the Fundy Geological Museum until August 29, 2023. The display will then be moving on to the Franklin J Wright Gallery Port Hawkesbury, September 1-October 20, 2023.

Parrsboro Band Day 50TH Anniversary a Huge Success

By Patricia Burke

The Parrsboro Band Association celebrated its 50 Annual Band Day on Saturday, July 22 and Sunday July 23 in fine style at the Parrsboro Bandstand. Early on the morning of Sat the set-up crew arrived with truckloads of equipment to get the day started with the Riverside Dixieland Band strolled up the Main Street at 12:45 pm then performed on the Bandstand. David Forbes chair of The Hall and chairman of the Band Day 50 welcomed everyone and spoke on the 2 day event and called Tori Rushton MLA to come to the stand. Rushton spoke and thanked everyone for coming and presented a certificate of appreciation.

Murray Scott Mayor of Cumberland and Councillor Carry Goodwin were asked to come and say a few words and presented a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the Municipality of Cumberland. Due to recent flooding in other parts of the province 3 groups were unable to make it.

So thanks to Rob Bentley, who at the last minute was able to pull a few groups together. In the afternoon the following groups performed: Nova Brass Quintet, and MEN WILL BE BOYS then a short quiet time was needed for Rob and his helpers to do the soundcheck for the "Headliner" Concert for the two-day event. At 7 pm Lennie Gallant

performed a free concert to over 500 people, and Lennie did not disappoint.

Sunday morning started off with a free breakfast at the Royal Canadian legion Branch 45, and it was delicious. We also were given a t-shirt. The laughs, hugs and just the socializing during the couple of hours was so heartwarming. There were pictures for everyone to see and there were names picked out that we were not able to identify. Thank you, alumni for putting the names to the faces.

At 11 am the Parrsboro Citizens' Choir gave an Inspirational Performance which was really enjoyed. At 12 noon the Truro Concert Band performed a concert. During this

hour concert the band Alumni formed up in front of the Old Post office and under the direction of Jim Chambers and drummer John Morrissey we marched and some walked with our bright red shirts proudly up Main Street and when we got closer to the bandstand the Truro Concert Band played a familiar march to get us in to the bandstand grounds. To the cheers, clapping and honking of horns we showed we never forgot our training in the band. Hearing comments after from parents and residents of the community it brought a tear to many people's eye.

During the alumni events some had not seen each other

continued on page 2



Lennie Gallant always draws a big crowd in Parrsboro. His recent appearance was during the 2 day July 22-23 celebration. See story above and continued with additional photos on page 2. (Lawrence R Nicoll Photo)

GEM & Mineral Attendance Tops 3,400

By Lawrence R Nicoll

Nearly 40 vendors filled the Lions Arena Friday, Aug. 18th to Sunday Aug. 20th for the 56th Annual NS Gem & Mineral Show and Sale. The crowds were outstanding. Vendors reported the purchasing started early and continued at a fast pace for the entire day on Friday.

Perhaps as a rebound from Covid-19 sales were even stronger on Saturday. The final day, Sunday some years, can be at a much slower pace giving vendors an early start on packing up. Not so this year sales were brisk until show closing.

Those interested in panning for gold formed a steady stream towards Fred Walsh who had a constant audience while he talked about how to find gold in streams. Some of those in attendance who not seen Fred's presentation previously were amazed he was using actual gold in his presentation and demonstration

on how to pan.

With over 36 vendors it provided lots of choices. The lineup for the merchandise at the Gneiss Guy booths went the full length of the arena on Friday. Vendors and customers alike mentioned it was nice to see many of

the booths were from the Maritimes. Many vendors pride themselves on being able to provide simple factual information to attendees, who are not experienced with gems and minerals.

Many attendees have

been coming for years, and use the weekend as a highlight of the year, because they have made so many friends at the show. Many of them they see only once a year.

The 2023 attendance was record setting: 975 on Friday, 1475 on Saturday and by 2:30pm Sunday another 900.

Man Charged after Firearm Discharged

Cumberland County District RCMP has charged Keith Pearlie McFadden after a firearm was discharged on Sydney St. in Parrsboro. On August 5, 2023, at approximately 3 a.m., Cumberland County District RCMP responded to a report of a firearm having been discharged into the air on Sydney St. in Parrsboro.

RCMP officers learned a man, driving a Ford Escape, arrived at a home on Sydney St. While outside, the man pointed a shotgun into the air and discharged it, before fleeing the scene. A spent shotgun shell was located at the scene and seized by offi-

cers. No one was injured during the incident.

A short time later, RCMP officers located the man, and his vehicle, at a home on Pier Rd. in Parrsboro. The man was safely arrested and transported to the Amherst De-

tachment where he remained in custody overnight. A search warrant was executed at the home and RCMP officers located and seized a firearm.

Keith Pearlie McFadden, 48, of Parrsboro, has been charged with Careless Use of a Firearm, Possession of a Weapon for a Dangerous Purpose, Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm, Possession of a Firearm Knowing its Possession is Unauthorized, Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm in a Motor Vehicle and Failure to Comply with Conditions of an Undertaking.



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