

THE PARTICIPAPER

AN INVERNESS COUNTY PERIODICAL



**John Dan (Smokey) MacNeil of Creighnish
Volunteer of the Year 2006**

Vol 27, No 2

April/May 2006

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK
 INVERNESS COUNTY RECREATION, TOURISM,
 CULTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE



VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

This year the Municipality received over 30 nominations from organizations throughout the County wishing to honour their hard working volunteers. Congratulations to all! For more information on the volunteers who received awards at this year's ceremony, see inside this issue.

JUNE IS RECREATION MONTH - STAY ACTIVE AND HEALTHY YOUR WAY

In Nova Scotia, June is proclaimed Recreation Month, a celebration in which we recognize and celebrate the contributions recreation makes to the quality of life in Nova Scotia.

Inverness County has boundless sources of recreational opportunities - from school gymnasiums, playgrounds, dance halls, hiking trails, and horseback riding, to ballfields, boardwalks and beaches, to beach-combing, sailing or fishing – it doesn't matter what recreation means to you, the important thing is to get out, have fun and make the most of life! Be active and healthy, your way, every day!

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMS INSTRUCTORS NEEDED!

Inverness County Recreation/Tourism Department is currently planning summer recreation programs for Inverness County children/youth and adults. These programs include recreational day camps for children; morning and evening recreational classes for youth and adults; as well as sports clinics and workshops. If you are interested in instructing any of these classes, be sure to check out page 30 of this issue for more information.

SENIORS' GAMES

On Saturday June 3, the 2006 Seniors' Games will take place at the Inverness Academy in Inverness. The games are open to all county residents 50 years+. Lots of activities and time to socialize.

Registration for the Seniors' Games is being taken by local Seniors' clubs throughout Inverness County. See page 29 of this issue for more information on the 2006 Seniors' Games.

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The Participaper

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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
 ISSUE OF *THE PARTICIPAPER*
 IS JUNE 2, 2006



ANCESTORS UNLIMITED

HELPING TO FIND YOUR INVERNESS COUNTY ROOTS

By Dr. Jim St. Clair

For a quarter of a century, this column has been published through the support of the County of Inverness, the encouragement of the staff of the Department of Recreation and Tourism and the assistance of the Editors of *The Participaper*. May I express my appreciation to all of these people and to those readers who have answered queries, sent in questions and commented on items. Please continue to send contributions and responses and suggestions for future columns.

I. LAST WILLS AND TESTAMENT REVEAL FAMILIES AND CULTURE.

A. In *Will Book A* in the Inverness County Probate Records, number 18, the wishes of David Gruchy of Port Hood are recorded in the presence of witness: Archibald MacQueen, Mathew Hawley and Thomas Perry. The will is dated 28th day of May in 1836. Gruchy was a native of the Channel Islands, a member of a family long settled in Guernsey, some of whom came to Massachusetts in the 1600s.

Others came to Cape Breton in the late 1700s and early 1800s. Gruchy was apparently a fish buyer and seller.

He appointed James Bull, Archibald MacQueen and Edward Joseph Perry of Port Hood to be the executors of the following bequests:

1. To his wife, Margaret Gruchy, all of the wearing apparel which she has in her possession, a feather bed, two pillows, a pair of sheets on the bed in the back room, a pair of blankets, a counterpane and thirty pounds of legal money of Nova Scotia, in lieu of her one-third dower rights. She was to pay all of his debts.
2. Executors to sell all of his "real estate, premises and tenements" and to "distribute the proceeds to the following:"
 - a. to his sister-in-law of the Island Jersey, Elizabeth Poigndestre a widow, five-hundred pounds of legal money of Nova Scotia.
 - b. to "my dear mother" twenty pounds.
 - c. to his brother, Philip Gruchy, one hundred pounds. and, d. to "poor widows of Port Hood," ten pounds of legal money.
3. Executors to buy and set up a tombstone over his grave - twenty pounds.

4. To his sister-in-law, Elizabeth Poigndestre, his mother, and his brother Philip, all remaining proceeds of real and personal estate "when collected."

The Last Will and Testament of David Gruchy was probated in August of 1836, so he died between May of 1836, when will was signed, and that date.

Gruchy reveals in his will, in the amount of his bequests, that he had considerable assets. He also shows that he was in touch with his

relatives in Jersey, and, that he had a social conscience in his gifts to "poor widows" (one of the very few wills of that time which recognized the needs of those people, in the days before a social safety net to take care of those living in poverty).

It is interesting to note that he believed he owned his wife's clothes and could leave them to her. He appears to have had no children.

Four properties are recorded as having been sold after his death by his executors. In contrast to many other wills of the time, he makes no mention of leaving his soul to God. Other information about him can be found in the MacKeen Papers at the Beaton Institute at Cape Breton University.

B. Also recorded in *Will Book A*, are the wishes of John McIsaac of Low Point, Inverness County. This will is dated 6 February 1838 and witnessed by Archibald Cameron, Donald McDonald and Angus McDonald. He appoints his sons John McIsaac and Alexander McIsaac to be his sole executors. The following are the items in his last will and testament:

1. He leaves his soul to God.

Continued next page...ANCESTORS

"Everyone has ancestors and it is only a question of going back far enough to find a good one."
— Howard Kenneth Nixon

Continued from previous page...ANCESTORS

2. He leaves his body to be buried in the earth from which it came.
3. To his wife, Margaret, her "livelihood all the days of her life", out of the proceeds of his estate, and also, one third of the household furniture and one-half of the dwelling house.
4. To "well-beloved" son, John McIsaac, the north one-half of the farm at Low Point, and, one-half of the stock and one-third of the household furniture.
5. To "well-beloved son, Alexander, south one-half of the farm, the other one-half of the stock, and, one-third of the household furniture.
6. John and Alexander are to determine on whose side of the property the dwelling house stands.
The son, on whose side of the property the dwelling house stands, will assist the other son to construct buildings which are as good as those now on the farm.
7. To each of the other children one-shilling sterling - and nothing else:
 - a. son, Donald McIsaac.
 - b. son, Robert McIsaac.
 - c. daughter, Margaret McIsaac.
 - d. daughter, Mary McIsaac.

John McIsaac Senior signed his will with an "x", indicating that he was either illiterate or too ill to



Seated right, in black dress, Mary (MacDonald) MacFarlane (1829-1912). Next to her is her daughter, Susan (MacFarlane) Marsh, and standing are Mary's two granddaughters, Louisa Marsh and Betty Marsh. This picture was taken in 1911 at Mull River. [MacFarlane Collection photo]

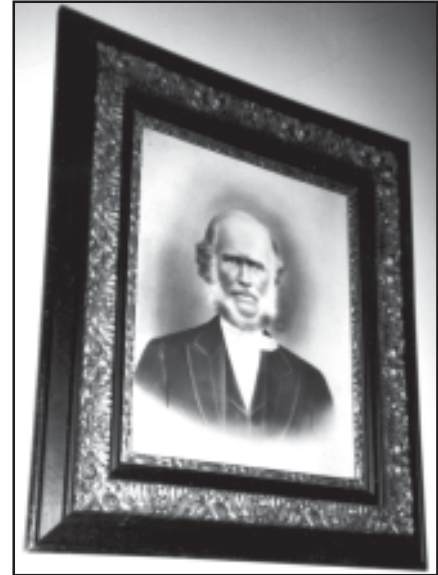
write his name. He obviously had much trust in his two sons, John and Alexander, to provide for their mother and to divide the property and the stock equitably.

It was generally believed that by leaving the other children one-shilling, the will could not be contested.

It is unclear from the will where the other child-

ren live or whether or not their father is so disappointed in them that he left them very little. Or, has he previously given them property or money? It would appear that a family historian would find here the start of a family history.

There is no money left in this will for a tombstone, or to assist the poor. It would appear as though John McIsaac had very little money, just a farm which was to be divided in half, and stock and household goods. The will does reveal, however, some understanding of the necessity to try to influence the behaviour of his two sons by a legal document. We can wonder how well the division went - and which brother got one half of the house and did they really build a house and



At the turn of the century, pictures were enlarged from a tintype to make a "parlour picture" as seen above. Pictured is the first ordained Presbyterian Minister to settle in Cape Breton. Reverend William Millar, the first Minister of the Mabou-Port Hood Presbyterian church, b. Scotland 1787. He came to Cape Breton in 1821 and spent his entire ministry in the one Pastoral Charge. He died at his home on Mount Young, Mabou, 16 November 1861.

[MacFarlane Collection photo]

Continued next page...ANCESTORS

barn for the other brother.

C. A third Last Will and Testament of the same era, in *Will Book A*, is that of Benjamin Bessonette Etter, "Teacher of "Margarie" County of Juste-au-Corps." This will, dated the sixth of June 1837, reveals a person with different interests and possessions than those of David Gruchy and John McIsaac.

Etter came from a family settled on the south shore of Nova Scotia; a family which had its origins in Switzerland, according to published histories of several lines.

Although his will was probated in 1837, one hundred and sixty-nine years ago, Etter, one of the earliest school teachers appointed by the School Commissioners of Inverness County, was a respected teacher and remembered for several generations.

Etter appointed John Phillips, farmer, to be his "sole executor." The witnesses to the will were apparently neighbours, John Munro and Stephen Phillips. The following are the items in his document:
1. He leaves his soul to God from whom it came.
2. He leaves his body to be buried in the earth from which it came.
3. His board and lodging and funeral expenses are to be paid out of two notes "at hand" (equalling a total of twenty-four pounds sterling), given by him to John Phillips and his son Stephen Phillips. (I.e., he loaned that amount of money to the Phillipses.)
4. The executors of the estate of his late father (also named Benjamin Etter), William A. Black, Thomas Hastinain, Alexander Fiddes and Samuel Ferdinand, are to pay to his mother, Mary Stewart

Etter, one-hundred pounds left to her in trust, the interest of which Etter has drawn during "my natural life" amounting to six pounds per year.

5. A cow, in the possession of John Phillips Senior, to be left with him along with any increase until August 20th 1839.

6. Etter's one-half share in three hides which are to

be tanned and "now in possession of John Phillips", and two barrels of beef to be given to Benjamin Phillips Senior.
7. Benjamin Phillips to be the "residiary legatee" to all personal property of goods at hand", as well as to four silver watches (three of which are in hands of John R. Smith, watchmaker in Arichat), and also to all bonds, notes at hand



At Ashfield, River Denys early 1900's - three sisters, an aunt, a son of one of the women, and a daughter of another. It is thought that the horse's name may have been "Buster". Pictured at the home of Ann (MacDonald) MacDonald are, l - r: Anne (MacFarlane)(MacDonald) Smith; Willie MacDonald, Sarah MacFarlane, Susan (MacFarlane) Marsh, child Marjoie Cunningham, Ann (MacDonald) MacDonald (the aunt of the MacFarlane sisters) Jane (MacFarlane) Cunningham. (Aunt Ann may be holding a copy of a Gaelic Bible in her hand, she was literate in both English and the Gaelic.)

[MacFarlane Collection photo]

and book debts and all reading books, wearing apparel, bed and bed clothes, trunk and boxes. In addition, Phillips to receive 200 feet of boards and an "iron stove" along with fifteen feet of pipes for stove and "whatever may be remaining belonging to me."

In contrast to Gruchy and McIsaac, Etter apparently had no real estate, but had an income from a trust fund set up by his father; involvement in the economy of Margaree of the time; as well as household goods, and certainly, one of the earliest stoves on record in the area. Most houses at that time had only fireplaces for heating and cooking.

The things valued by Etter were certainly different from those of the two aforementioned

*Continued from previous page...*ANCESTORS

will - books for instance.

His will also identifies a watchmaker in Arichat. This in turn encourages one to ask why so many watches? Other questions prompted by the will are: What books did he own? Did he have an apartment in a Phillips' house in which he had his own heating device? Did he have siblings? How did he come from the South Shore to Margaree? What the will does provide is an insight into his life and the society of his day and place.

D. In contrast to Etter, McIsaac and Gruchy, Francis Bone of Southeast Mabou, who died in 1839, left no will. He died intestate. The Probate Court in Port Hood appointed his wife, Susanna Bone, to be the Administratrix of his worldly possessions and real estate. All that we learn is the year of his death and the name of his wife. Either he died suddenly, or thought he had very little to leave. Bone's name is found on other documents from the Mabou area as early as 1821. He was the son-in-law of Edward King of King's Farm.

II. RESPONSE TO QUERY AND USEFUL SOURCES

A reader wrote to request information about the possibility of being able to trace descent from Charlemagne, King of the Franks and Holy Roman Emperor (742-814).

While it is almost a certainty that anybody with any European Ancestry is descended from Charlemagne and one or more of his several wives and mistresses several times over (he was the father of at least eighteen children by his four wives and several mistresses and was the ancestor of all royal families in Europe today), it is rather difficult to trace, generation by generation, actual descent from this historical figure. He lived 1200 years ago and, since we generally count thirty years as a generation, we are talking about identifying individuals for approximately forty generations back.

Since in Charlemagne's time the population of his kingdom was approximately thirty-million, and, since approximately one-third of the gene pool died during the "Black Plague", we most



Pictured left to right circa 1911, are four MacFarlane sisters and the daughters of one of them in Mull River. Sarah MacFarlane, Annie (MacFarlane) MacDonald, Susan (MacFarlane) Marsh, her daughters, Betty Marsh and Louisa Marsh, and Jane (MacFarlane) Cunningham.

[MacFarlane Collection photo]

likely are descended from almost everybody who was alive in Europe at the time of Charlemagne several times over. This would have to include the the great king himself — Carolus Magnus in Latin, or, "Big Charles" in English — somewhere down through the generations.

In making a connection to him the problem arises in trying to find the names of those individuals whose existence we can document through research, as being our direct forebears through male or female lines. If we can find our way to families that were land owners, or of the nobility or royalty in the 1500s or 1400s, then we stand a chance of finding a link to Charlemagne, as those families generally have lineages which are recorded.

Another doorway of opportunity for research in this area would be descent from clan chieftains or owners of manors, or illegitimate children of kings and queens.

Also bear in mind that people travelled much more in days long ago than we might expect — soldiers and sailors and migrant peasants and conquerors settling in new lands are also part of our heritage.

This task requires facility with computers or access to archival repositories. Such digging

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increases one's knowledge of history and can bring forth unexpected limbs on a family tree.

Begin by working on a chart for all your ancestral lines as far back as possible — then take one which seems to have a connection to land owners and follow that line as far as possible until you uncover a noble or minor king of Ireland, or a section of France or Italy or a district of England. St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland, and her husband King Malcolm Canmore, are the ancestors of almost all clan chieftains. Have fun — keep good records, take nothing for granted and keep a map at hand.

Some sources worth exploring: (1) On the internet: Society of the Descendants of Charlemagne and also, a very lengthy listing through the Society of Royal and Noble Ancestry. (2) A very extensive compilation, which is quite expensive is, the *Royal Ancestry Bible* by Michael Coll, PO Box 11488, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA,

84147. It is possible to access a listing of persons listed for \$8.00 (US) from the same source. The compilation itself costs \$300.00. (3) *Magna Carta Ancestry* by Kimball Everingham for \$100.00 from Genealogical Publishing Co., 3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 260, Baltimore, Maryland 21211.

III. QUERY

Earl Davis, 278 West 200 South, St. George, Utah, 84770, requests information about a Campbell family which moved from Cape Breton to Bellevue, Idaho: Kate Campbell, died 1886 age 34; Mary; died 1910 age 52; John died 1886 age 76, James, died 1939 age 77; Catherine died 1916 age 66; Neil died 1925 age 76. (Claims some connection to the Timmons' of Cape Breton.

PLEASE SEND INFORMATION OR QUERIES TO *THE PARTICIPAPER* OR TO THE EDITOR OF THIS COLUMN, JIM ST. CLAIR, 1517 MULL RIVER ROAD, MABOU, NS, B0E 1X0 OR EMAIL: 1517MULL@NS.SYMPATICO.CA. ■

TRAVEL IN THE EARLY DAYS

Here's an interesting tale of how people travelled in the late 1800's. A far cry from the ease with which we travel today. Someone asked a question and received an in-depth reply. Extracted verbatim from an emailing list that I belong to which I find extremely informative, I thought that our readers might also find this information interesting. This is part of the NOVA-SCOTIA-D Digest V06 #81 (Mailing list: NOVA-SCOTIA-D-request@rootsweb.com). I have not conducted research to determine if the facts are correct, however, the reply was written by Mr. Jay Underwood, Nova Scotia Railway Heritage Society, Elmsdale, NS. Therefore, one could assume that he should know whereof he speaks. - Marie Aucoin

Q: We have ancestors that left Restigouche, New Brunswick, came to Pictou to visit relatives, and then departed for the west coast on the train ca. 1888. Could someone please tell me the train route of that time, the length of trip? When were the first few complete train routes trans - Canada?

My ancestors went down to the San Francisco area, but I am not sure if there was a West Coast train in place at the same time. Would they have taken a ship from Canada to California? I would appreciate any help or direction on this.

A: From Restigouche to Pictou by train in 1888 would have required two trains, the first being the eastbound Maritime Express, which would have followed the route that today's Ocean Limited (VIA Rail) follows - Restigouche (Campbellton) then to Bathurst, Newcastle (today's Miramichi), Rogersville, and Moncton. Depending on the time of year, that trip alone would have been six hours at that time (on a good day.)

The Express would then have continued on to Dorchester, Sackville, Amherst, and Oxford Junction then gone through the Wentworth Valley to Debert and then Truro. At Truro they would either catch the next through express to New Glasgow (The Sydney Flyer) or a mixed local to New Glasgow (which would have been a little slower.) Arriving in New Glasgow they would have gotten off at what is now Pictou Landing (then Fishers' Grant) and gotten a ferry across the harbour.



Continued page 19...TRAVEL

WE SALUTE OUR YEAR 2006 INVERNESS COUNTY VOLUNTEERS

As part of Volunteer Week celebrations, a draw is made from nominations sent in to the Recreation/Tourism Department by the published deadline (this year that deadline was March 6th). This allows us to choose, in a fair and equitable manner, a volunteer to represent all Inverness County volunteers at the Provincial recognition ceremony held in Halifax each year.

This year the provincial ceremony took place April 18th. Mr. John Dan (Smokey) MacNeil of Creignish, ably represented the volunteers of Inverness County and proudly accepted the plaque, which was presented to him by one of our own, Premier Rodney MacDonald. Congratulations and thank you to Smokey and to all of this year's nominated volunteers!

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

JOHN DAN (SMOKEY) MACNEIL - CREIGNISH

The Creignish Men's Club is very proud to nominate John Dan MacNeil (better known as "Smokey") as their volunteer of the year. For many years Smokey has kept minor ball alive in the Creignish area. He has spent endless hours organizing coach's clinics, finding interested persons to coach teams, and conducting workshops for the young players.

He can usually be found on the ball field making sure it is kept in perfect shape and that it continues to be one of the best in Cape Breton.

Smokey has dedicated more than twenty-eight years to Creignish minor ball and its field. A huge thank-you is



Pictured left: "Smokey" spoke to the volunteers about his experiences in Halifax. Looking on were l to r: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc and Warden Duart MacAuley, Rankin MacDonald (of the *Oran*) and Yvon Leblanc (the evening's Master of Ceremonies). Present but not in the photo, Councillors Ned MacDonald and Jim MacLean, John Cotton and his staff (who had organized the event), and, the volunteers and their guests.



**CHERYL ATWATER
PORT HOOD**

extended to you Smokey, from the Creignish Men's Club and all minor ball players. We also thank you for graciously accepting to represent all Inverness County volunteers at the recent Provincial Volunteer Ceremony in Halifax. ■

More volunteers' photos appear (in alphabetical order) on the facing page and on pages 16 and 17.



**BRUNO BOURGEOIS
CHÉTICAMP**

WE SALUTE OUR YEAR 2006 INVERNESS COUNTY VOLUNTEERS



**THERESA BURT
MARGAREE**



**ROSE BURTON
INVERNESS**



**ELIZABETH CHANDLER
WHYCOCOMAGH**



**BARBARA GILLIS
GLENCOE STATION**



**DEIDRE GILLIS
MARGAREE FORKS**



**EVELYN GILLIS
SKYE GLEN**



**PEGGY GILLIS
RIVER DENYS**



**LINUS LARADE
ST. JOSEPH DUMOINE**



**MARCEL LEFORT
CHÉTICAMP**

WE SALUTE OUR YEAR 2006 INVERNESS COUNTY VOLUNTEERS

**CHERYL ATWATER
PORT HOOD**

The St. Stephen's United Church Women, Port Hood nominates Cheryl Atwater as their volunteer of the year.

Cheryl joined St. Stephen's UCW in 2004 when she moved to this area from New Glasgow, where she was actively involved in the UCW and the church there.

She is a willing participant at all the fundraising events and church social events at St. Stephen's Church in Port Hood. The UCW would like to thank Cheryl for giving so freely of her time.

**BRUNO BOURGEOIS
CHÉTICAMP**

Marie Stella Doucet of the Foyer Père Fiset in Chéticamp has nominated Bruno Bourgeois as a community volunteer deserving of recognition.

Bruno very generously shares his musical talents at benefit dances and fundraising events held in the community.



He also entertains the residents at the Foyer Père Fiset in Chéticamp and serves on the Board of Directors at the home.

Bruno is a valuable volunteer and a huge thank you goes out to him for all he has done for this community.

**THERESA BURT
MARGAREE**

The Catholic Womens League of St. Michael's Parish, Marg-aree is pleased to nominate Theresa Burt as their volunteer of the year.

Theresa serves on the Palliative Care Committee and canvasses for the Heart and Stroke Association. At the Parish level, she is a Lector and a Eucharistic Minister.

Theresa also assists with various fund raisers in the community and assists with the organization of Belle Côte Days.

A big thank you goes out to Theresa for all the work she has done for our community and for her continuing support.

**DALE BURTON
CLEVELAND**

The West Bay Road Fire Department is pleased to nominate Dale Burton as their volunteer of the year.

During eight years of service with the Department, Dale has shown commitment and care to his community as a dedicated firefighter where he has held the positions of treasurer and first responder for the past six years.

Dale's enthusiasm and dedication makes him a tremendous asset to the Fire Department and to the community. He has proven time and time again that he has

the traits necessary to be a great volunteer. Congratulations Dale.

**ROSE BURTON
INVERNESS**

The Namara Seniors Club wishes to nominate Rose Burton as their volunteer of the year.

Rose is always willing to bake, make lunch or do whatever needs to be done. She also volunteers for the United Church Women and helps out at the functions put on by them.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Rose for the many hours she volunteers and her out-standing dedication to her community.

**BERT CAISSIE
ST. JOSEPH DU MOINE**

LeMoine Development Association is pleased to nominate Bert Caissie as their volunteer of the year.

Since his arrival in the community over 20 years ago, Bert has served on the Parish Council as a member of the Hall Committee and the Cemetery Committee. He has been a board member of the Lemoine Development Association and at present serves on the Credit Committee for the Acadian Credit Union.

Whenever something has to be done in the community such as working at a fund raiser or cleaning up the community, Bert

Continued next page...

Each year in Canada, more than three-quarters of deaths result from four groups of non-communicable diseases: cardiovascular, cancer, diabetes, and respiratory. Risk factors that lead to these diseases, such as physical inactivity and unhealthy eating, are growing. Help your family stay healthy by reducing their risks for these diseases - give them the gift of a healthy and active lifestyle.

WE SALUTE OUR YEAR 2006 INVERNESS COUNTY VOLUNTEERS

Continued from previous page...
is always one of the first to volunteer.

The community of St. Joseph du Moine would like to say a very special thank you to Bert for all he has done for our community.

ELIZABETH CHANDLER WHYCOCOMAGH

The 1st Whycomagh Scouts Group Committee would like to nominate Elizabeth (Liz) Chandler as their volunteer of the year.

Liz has been a volunteer with 1st Whycomagh Scouts for 4½ years; first as a beaver leader, then she moved up to become a Cub leader, the position she now holds.

As well as providing a weekly program with her two assistant leaders, she takes

the youth on visits, hikes and camping trips. Liz is also involved

with in organizing fund raisers to help defray the costs of running the cub, scout and venture programs.

Thank you Liz and congratulations. Keep up the great work.

IRENE CHISHOLM RIVER DENYS

The auxiliary of the Valley Mills Fire Department is pleased to nominate Irene Chisholm as their volunteer of the year.

Irene has been volunteering her time at bingos, suppers and brunches and any other activities put on by the auxiliary. She is also the secretary of the auxiliary and is treasurer of the Malagawatch Cemetery Association.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Irene for all her volunteer efforts.

HEATHER DESCHENES PORT HASTINGS

St. David's United Church Women are pleased to nominate Heather Deschenes as their Volunteer of the Year.

For many years Heather has been very active at St. David's Church organizing various fund raisers. She spends endless hours volunteering with the UCW and is always available to give of her time to any church function.

Thank you Heather for your faithful dedication to St. David's Church.

JOHN GILLIES PORT HOOD

The Chestico Museum and Historical Society would like to nominate John Gillies as their Volunteer of the Year.

John is one of the founding members of the society and has been an active member since 1978.

This past year John has worked tirelessly on a comprehensive research and documentation project on Veterans of the First World War.

He also continues to share his vast knowledge of local history with people from all over the

world. In his "spare" time John also volunteers his time and energy to minor hockey and 4-H.

A heartfelt thank you to you John, from the museum and your community, for all of the hours you cheerfully volunteer.

BARBARA GILLIS GLENCOE STATION

Glencoe Station Recreation Centre is very proud to have this opportunity to honour Barbara Gillis as their volunteer of the year.

Barbara has been an active member of the Centre since the organization was formed and has gained much respect from her fellow members. She has served several terms on the executive committees while volunteering at bingo and card games. Barbara plays a key role in the kitchen during many dinner and catering functions.

Congratulations Barb on your many years of much appreciated volunteer time.

DEIDRE GILLIS MARGAREE FORKS

The Margaree Kinette Club is pleased to nominate Deidre Gillis as their volunteer of the year.

Deidre has been a Kinette for 4 years and has served on many committees and is always willing to fund raise. Deidre has volunteered her time with the Cancer Society, Red Cross and the Diabetic Association.

Congratulations and a heartfelt thank you goes out to you

Continued next page...



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Deidre for all the hard work you do for the club and community.

**EVELYN GILLIS
SKYE GLEN**

The Stewart United Church Women, Whycocomagh, are pleased to nominate Evelyn Gillis as their volunteer of the year.

Evelyn can be seen at any function put on by the UCW or church. She can be found cooking for suppers or baking for bake sales. Evelyn also volunteers her time with other activities of the Skye Glen and Centreville Hall. She has also been a canvasser for the Heart and Stroke Association.



Congratulations Evelyn. Many thanks are extended to you for all that you do for Stewart UCW and your community.

**PEGGY GILLIS
RIVER DENYS**

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Blues Mills and Area Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary wishes to nominate Peggy Gillis as their volunteer of the year.

Peggy became involved with the auxiliary in 2002. Since that time, she has worked tirelessly fund raising for the Ways & Means committee.

The community of Blues Mills and area salutes Peggy for her outstanding and dedicated work within their auxiliary and looks forward to working with her for many more years to come.

**LINUS LARADE
ST. JOSEPH DUMOINE**

The LeMoine Fire Department and the Parish Committee would like to nominate Linus as their volunteer of the year.

Linus joined the fire department in 1975 and was President of the Department for 27 years. He was also a volunteer with the St. Joseph Du-Moine Scottish concert committee for 30 years.

Although now a retired fireman, he is still active on the visits to the sick committee of the parish, and is involved with other parish committees.

The LeMoine community and the fire department would like to thank Linus for all he has done and continues to do for our community.

**MARCEL LEFORT
CHÉTICAMP**

The Knights of Columbus Council 3850 is pleased to nominate Marcel LeFort as their Volunteer of the Year.

Marcel has been a member of the Council for twenty-four years and during that time has been involved in many activities in the community of Chéticamp. On Sundays Marcel can usually be found videotaping Mass or helping out at brunches held by The Knights of Columbus.

Besides serving on our board of directors, Marcel has volunteered his services at benefit dances and other activities that the Knights are involved in.

The Knights of Columbus Council 3850 wishes to thank you Marcel for your wonderful service.

**PAULINE LEFORT
PETIT-ÉTANG**

Le Club des Retraités de Chéticamp is pleased to nominate Pauline (Chiasson) Lefort as their volunteer of the year.

Pauline gives willingly of her time to the church and also to the auxiliary of the Sacred Heart Community Health Centre.

She is also a well known canvasser for many non-profit organizations.

Pauline, the community of Chéticamp congratulates you on your volunteer nomination and thanks you for the wonderful work you do for us.

Le Club des aînés de Chéticamp est heureux de nommer Pauline (Chiasson) LeFort volontaire de années.

En 1993, Pauline et Gabriel, étant à la retraite, se sont décidés de retourner à leur village natal.

Ici Pauline a vite fait de mettre ses habilités d'art culinaire au service de bien des organisations de la paroisse de Chéticamp.

Elle, en co-opération avec sa soeur Jeanne, est spécialement reconnue comme la cuisinière du Club des retraités de Chéticamp et de la Légion canadienne.

Pauline ne restreint pas son travail; elle est toujours prête à rendre service quand l'on fait appel à son savoir faire.

Pauline donne beaucoup de son temps à l'église St-Pierre que ce soit pour travail manuel ou comme ministre du culte.

Elle fait aussi sa part de travail volontaire au Centre de santé

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WE SALUTE OUR YEAR 2006 INVERNESS COUNTY VOLUNTEERS

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communautaire Sacré Coeur et pour la Société St-Vincent de Paul. Elle s'implique beaucoup dans la collecte à domicile pour les organismes à but non-lucratif.

La Communauté de Chéticamp est contente que Pauline et Gabriel soient décidés retourner chez-nous.

**BILL MACDONALD
JUDIQUE**

The St. Andrew's Parish Council wishes to nominate Bill MacDonald as their volunteer of the Year.

Bill has spent several years with the St. Andrew's Parish Choir and later became Leader of the Men's Choir in the parish. He is also an active participant on the Liturgy Committee.

Despite his busy schedule, Bill finds time to volunteer for palliative care and the Highland Guitar Society. Always happy to assist in any activity in the parish of Judique, his guitar playing and his generous nature have enhanced parish life for members of the congregation.

Bill has earned a well deserved reputation as a valued member of this community.

A sincere thank-you goes out to you Bill from Fr. Allan and the Parish Council of the community of Judique.

**JONNA MACDONALD
GLENDALE**

The Inverness/Richmond office of the Island Community Justice Society nominates Jonna MacDonald as their volunteer of the year.

Besides volunteering for the Island Community Justice Society for the past three years, Jonna finds time to organize the "Happy Losers Club" in Glendale and canvasses for the Canadian Cancer Society.

At Christmas she lends a helping hand to Canada Post and is always ready with a helping hand at fundraising in her community of Glendale.

Jonna is a person who can be counted on wherever there is a need. The Island Community Justice Society salutes her for all she does for the Society, the youth and victims of crime in Inverness County.

**JOHN MACDONALD
VALLEY MILLS ROAD**

The Valley Mills Fire Department would like to nominate John MacDonald as their volunteer of the year.

Johnny is one of the newest members of the Fire Department with one year's service to date. He is lieutenant of equipment and he also helps out at all functions at the hall from landscaping to table sitting, helping out at bingos, and wherever else a helping hand is required.

The Valley Mills Fire Department is very proud to count Johnny as one of their

members and would like to thank him for all his volunteer time.

**MARY THERESA MACDONALD
PORT HOOD**

The Catholic Women's League of St. Peter's Parish, Port Hood is pleased to nominate Mary Theresa MacDonald as their Volunteer of the Year.

Mary Theresa or "Tootsie", as she is fondly referred to, has been a member of the League for 47 years and is currently serving as Organization Convenor and is President-Elect.

She works tirelessly with great commitment to carry out works of charity for the church and her community. Her love and caring concern for people is demonstrated in everything she does.

You will find "Tootsie" surrounded by young and old and leading each and everyone in whatever task is to be undertaken. Her energy and ability to get things done excels at all times and still she finds time to do crafts, sew, and share her many talents with friends.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to "Tootsie" for all her hard work.

**PERRY MACDONALD
WEST BAY**

The West Bay Road Community Association is proud to nominate Perry MacDonald as their volunteer of the year. Perry became involved in the community by attending meetings, and sitting on various committees as well as under-

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taking fund raising projects. He is currently very involved with hall maintenance such as painting, installation of windows and general upkeep.

He helps out with community events held throughout the year for children and adults alike.

The community of West Bay would like to thank Perry for all he has done for his community.

**TONY MACDONALD
INVERNESS**

The Inverness Development Association would like to honour Tony MacDonald as their volunteer of the year.

For many years Tony has been a valued asset to the community of Inverness. At the present time he serves as President of the Inverness Development Association and was also instrumental in developing such projects as the Cabot Links Golf Course, the new sidewalks and the Visitor's Information Centre.

The community of Inverness is very grateful for the time and effort Tony has contributed to the board walk project which he continues to improve.

Many thanks go out to Tony for his efforts in helping to make Inverness a more enjoyable and vibrant community for everyone.

**COLLETTE MACDONNELL
EAST MARGAREE ROAD**

The Margaree New Horizons Senior Citizens Club is proud to nominate Collette Mac-Donnell as their Volunteer of the Year.

At the present time, Collette serves as President of the Club and has been known to volunteer her talents on the church's decorating committee.

Collette is very active with her church whether it be singing in the senior choir or as lector. She is well known at the Margaree Manor for entertaining residents with stories and socials.

Much appreciation is extended to you Collette for all your volunteer efforts.

**JOHN J. MACEACHERN
MABOU**

The Mabou Gaelic and Historical Society wishes to nominate John J. MacEachern (known as JJ) as their volunteer of the year.

Over the years, JJ with his keen mind, has been a wealth of information for the society. Whenever a query was sent to the society, it was JJ who did the research and found an answer.

Over the years, he has quietly operated as an official watchdog for Gaelic in the province. No change in policy to do with the Gaelic ever escaped JJ's scrutiny, and he willingly wrote up many letters and papers to support the continuation and expansion of the Gaelic program in the schools.

In recent years during the summer months, he has been firmly ensconced at the museum. Here he spends countless volunteer hours entertaining visitors with stories and expounding on the history of Cape Breton and Canada.

The Mabou Gaelic and Historical Society would like to thank JJ., who, with a generosity of spirit and willingness to help has shared a wealth of information and dedicated countless hours of research, time and his many talents, not only to our community but also many of our visitors.

**ISAAC MACINNIS
SKYE GLEN**

The Whycocomagh-East Lake Ainslie As One That Serves (AOTS) Men's Club is pleased to nominate Isaac MacInnis as their Volunteer of the Year.

Since he retired, Isaac has been a valuable member of the AOTS Men's Club. He can usually be found volunteering at auctions, canvassing for the Heart and Stroke Foundation and serving at suppers.

Isaac is a valued member of his community, always willing to lend a hand; whether it be maintaining the grounds of the cemetery or making homemade maragh (mar-agg).

The Whycocomagh-East Lake Ainslie AOTS Men's Club wishes to recognize him for all of his volunteer time and the energetic manner that he brings to this work. Thank you Isaac.

**MARY ANNE MACKEIGAN
WHYCOCOMAGH**

The Whycocomagh Development Commission is very pleased to nominate Mary Ann MacKeigan as their volunteer of the year.

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Mary Anne has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Whycomomagh Development Commission since 2001. She is also very involved in the community and much of her free time is spent volunteering.

She serves on the Central Inverness Community Health Board, is a member of the Inverness County Singers and the Stewart United Church choir. She is also president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Whycomomagh Volunteer Fire Department and is active in Branch 123 Canadian Legion.

The Whycomomagh Development Commission is fortunate to have a person like Mary Anne who cheerfully gives so much to her community.

The Commission, on behalf of the people of Whycomomagh, extends a sincere thank you to her.

**JESSIE MACKENZIE
RIVER DENYS**

Dr. Gordon MacLeod Chapter #37, Order of the Eastern Star, is pleased to nominate Jessie MacKenzie as their Volunteer of the Year.

Jessie has done volunteer work for the Arthritis Society and is very active in her church where she serves as church treasurer and is a member of the board of trustees.

She is a member of the Ocean Waves Quilting Society of Cape Breton and Lakeview Quilters where she donates her beautiful quilts to needy organizations.

The Dr. Gordon MacLeod

Chapter #37 would like to thank Jessie for all the time she spends volunteering to make her community a better place to live.

**CHARLOTTE MACLEAN
CREIGNISH**

Stella Maris Ladies Auxiliary is pleased to nominate Charlotte MacLean as their volunteer of the year.

Charlotte has been very active in her church and community. She is always ready to help any organization in any way she can, whether in an official capacity or otherwise.

Charlotte is treasurer of the Stella Maris Ladies Auxiliary. She oversees weekly exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the church and helps with fund raising efforts in the community.

A huge thank you goes out to Charlotte for her time and outstanding contribution to her community.

**PAULINE MACMILLAN
LITTLE JUDIQUÉ**

The Kildonan Seniors Club would like to nominate Pauline MacMillan as their Volunteer of the Year.

Pauline is a very active member of the Seniors Club, whether driving someone to their destination or lending a helping hand to the sick. She is always available to organize card games and can be counted upon to serve up delicious lunches.

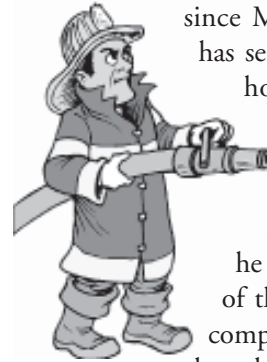
Pauline is a valued volunteer in our community and the Kildonan Seniors Club would like to take this opportunity to

thank her for her dedication and work over the years.

**CAPTAIN
JAMES L. MACRITCHIE
WHYCOCOMAGH**

This year the Whycomomagh and Area Volunteer Fire Department is proud to nominate Captain James L. MacRitchie as their volunteer of the year.

James has been a member of the department since March 2000 and has served in the house



company and pump company.

At present he is Captain of the truck

company. He has also recently

completed his certification as a medical first responder.

The department is grateful for his service and the fact that he is always ready to give a helping hand to anyone in the community.

**MARGARET MARPLE
PORT HOOD**

The Port Hood & District Volunteer Fire Department is pleased to nominate Margaret (Peggy) Marple as their Volunteer of the Year.

Peggy has been a volunteer with the Fire Department for five years as a fire fighter and first responder. She is also a long time member of the Port Hood Ladies Auxiliary and St. Peter's church CWL and has canvassed

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WE SALUTE OUR YEAR 2006 INVERNESS COUNTY VOLUNTEERS



**PAULINE LEFORT
PETIT-ÉTANG**



**BILL MACDONALD
JUDIQUE**



**JONNA MACDONALD
GLENDALE**



**JOHN MACDONALD
VALLEY MILLS ROAD**



**MARY THERESA
MACDONALD
PORT HOOD**



**PERRY MACDONALD
WEST BAY**



**TONY MACDONALD
INVERNESS**



**COLLETTE MACDONELL
EAST MARGAREE ROAD**



**JOHN J. (J.J.) MACEACHERN
MABOU**

WE SALUTE OUR YEAR 2006 INVERNESS COUNTY VOLUNTEERS



**ISAAC MACINNIS
SKYE GLEN**



**JESSIE MACKENZIE
RIVER DENYS**



**CHARLOTTE MACLEAN
CREIGNISH**



**PAULINE MACMILLAN
LITTLE JUDIQUÉ**



**MARGARET (PEGGY) MARPLE
PORT HOOD**



**MARGARET MARPLE
MARGAREE VALLEY**



**MARY MCDANIEL
MARGAREE FORKS**



**ROSE ANN ROACH
CHÉTICAMP**



**JANET SPARES
MARGAREE CENTRE**

WE SALUTE OUR YEAR 2006 INVERNESS COUNTY VOLUNTEERS

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for the Alzheimer's Association for six years. As busy as these activities keep her, she still finds time to give of her talents as trainer for the Port Hood Midget Girls' hockey team.

Peggy has always been an active volunteer in our community and is known to go that little bit further to help those in need.

The Port Hood & District Volunteer Fire Department salutes you Peggy for your dedication to the community and the Department. We appreciate all that you do.



**MARGARET MARPLE
MARGAREE VALLEY**

The Wilson UCW is proud to nominate Margaret Marple as their Volunteer of the year.

Through her quiet and generous manner, Margaret has won many dear and beloved friends. She has graced many fund raising sales and suppers with her handiwork and goodies from her kitchen.

Her presence and friendly smile at community events makes her a perfect example of a true volunteer.

Congratulations, and thank you Margaret for the contributions you have made and continue to make to our community.

**REBECCA LYNNE
MACDONALD-MAY
MARGAREE HARBOUR**

The Lake Ainslie Weavers and Craft Guild wishes to nominate Rebecca Lynne MacDonald-May as their volunteer of the year.

Rebecca Lynne has long been active in promoting Gaelic language and culture in Cape Breton. She has co-hosted an internationally syndicated Gaelic radio program for the past ten years, performs with Gaelic Singers, and is a frequent participant in traditional milling frolics and other cultural events. She has been a volunteer for the Girl Guides and, since joining the Lake Ainslie Weavers, has been especially generous in providing high quality Scottish baked goods for our ceilidhs.

Thank you, Rebecca Lynne for the many hours you have devoted to your community.

**MARY MCDANIEL
MARGAREE FORKS**

The St. Patrick's Catholic Women's League is proud to nominate Mary McDaniel as their volunteer of the year.

Mary is one of St. Patrick's CWL's Charter members. She has been actively involved in the council since its conception 23 years ago. Mary is an active member of St. Patrick's Parish and can be found lending a helpful hand at the many community functions held throughout the community.

Mary is also an active member in the NE Margaree Seniors group and works endlessly raising money by making quilts which are available throughout the community. We would like to thank Mary for her many years of dedication and hard work and spiritual contributions which she continues to make to her community.

**SEAN NEARY
MARGAREE VALLEY**

The North East Margaree Volunteer Fire Department would like to nominate Sean Neary as their volunteer of the year.

Sean comes from a volunteer firefighting family. Since he joined the North East Margaree Volunteer Fire Department in 2004, Sean has actively taken part in training activities, fundraising, and whatever else has to be done for the fire department.

Sean continues to portray what a devoted fireman is all about. Congratulations, and thank you Sean, keep up the good work.

**ROSE ANN ROACH
CHÉTICAMP**

The Sacred Heart Community Health Centre Auxiliary is pleased to nominate Rose Ann Roach as their volunteer of the Year.

Rose Anne has been a member of the Auxiliary for five years serving meals, fundraising and volunteering at craft sales. In the past she has worked with the Chéticamp Canadian Legion

Do you know someone who volunteers in your community? Why not stop and thank them for all that they do to help make Inverness County a great place to live. Better still, invite them to lunch!!

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WE SALUTE OUR YEAR 2006 INVERNESS COUNTY VOLUNTEERS

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Auxiliary as well as volunteering at the Foyer Père Fiset and at the Chéticamp Senior Citizen's Club.

A valued member of her church she gracefully volunteers with Palliative Care whenever she can.

The Sacred Heart Community Health Centre Auxiliary would like to thank Rose Ann for her dedication and hard work.

**TONY ROOYAKKERS
WEST BAY ROAD**

The West Bay Road Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary is proud to nominate Tony Rooyakkers as their volunteer of the year.

Tony and his wife came to our community more than forty years ago after emigrating to Canada from Holland in 1955.

Tony has always helped out with functions provided by both the auxiliary and the fire department. He is also an active member of St. Margaret's Parish

where he takes up the collection in church.

Thank you Tony for your continued support of events at the fire hall, and for the sense of community spirit you have shown over the past years.

**JANET SPARES
MARGAREE CENTRE**

It is with pleasure that the North East Margaree Seniors' Club nominates Janet Spares as their Volunteer of the Year.

Since arriving in the North East Margaree area, Janet has been a willing and energetic volunteer. When she is not knitting articles for various organizations, she can be found lending her services at health clinics and preparing food for the Margaree Highlanders Ski Doo Rally.

With her ready smile and jolly laugh, Janet always brings a ray of sunshine wherever she goes and she is a pleasure to work with.

Congratulations and thank you Janet, keep up the good work.

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This portion of the entire trip may have taken as long as 12 hours, (depending on the intervals between connecting trains.) Unfortunately, I don't have timetables that old in my collection - and at that time the schedule were subject to so many changes, they normally only appeared in newspapers instead of the brochures we expect today.

The first complete train from Halifax to the West Coast was the first train on the Canadian Pacific Railway from Montreal July 4 1886 to Vancouver in 1885. That would have required two trains - The Intercolonial's Maritime Express from Halifax to Montreal, and the Canadian Pacific from Montreal westward.

That trip would have taken about seven days - two from Halifax to Montreal, five from Montreal to Vancouver (again depending on the weather - winter travel in the Prairies and the Rockies could frequently be held up for days by snow drifts.) At that time there was no west coast train from British Columbia to San Francisco, that trip would have been made by steamer down the coast.

It was still much quicker to take the train rather than a ship from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific, because at that time there was no Panama Canal, and the voyage would have gone far south around Cape Horn, and back up the Pacific coast of South America - not an easy trip - and a voyage that would have taken weeks. This was the route more often than not taken by

Continued on page 23...TRAVEL

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU TO ALL INVERNESS COUNTY VOLUNTEERS. WE SALUTE YOUR HARD WORK AND THE EFFORT YOU EXPEND IN ORDER TO MAKE OUR COUNTY A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE.

- INVERNESS COUNTY CENTRE FOR THE ARTS - EXHIBITS
- May Ken Lywood
- June 2 - 30 Virginia McCoy *Full Circle*, a retrospective
- July 9 -
- August 4 *Hands Dancing* - Inverness County artists
- August 11 -
- September 4 Textile Festival - A celebration of fiber
- September 8 -
- October 1 F. Scott MacLeod

TRANS CANADA TRAIL – UPDATE

Cape Breton including Inverness County



The Trans Canada Trail is a massive project that, once completed, will be the longest recreational trail in the world, and will span over 18,000 kilometres from coast to coast. It will wind its way through every province and territory, linking over 800 communities along the way.

On Cape Breton Island, the Trans Canada Trail had been identified and promoted as a linear trail that travels from Port Hastings to Inverness, to Little Narrows to Grand Narrows and on to North Sydney. The Inverness Trails Federation, in partnership with Cape Breton Island Pathways and the Trans Canada Trail Foundation, are actively developing the Trans Canada Trail on Cape Breton Island.

A trail assessment on the rail line from Port Hastings to Inverness was completed in January. Conducted by Terry Fisher, the assessment was to determine the extent of work and costs associated with bringing the trail up to Trans Canada Trail multi-use standards. A strategic Development Plan has already been completed and has been presented to funding partners. The plan is Phase I and II of a III-phase project. Phase I involves the construction of the infrastructure from the Causeway to Inverness. The main aspects of this trail infrastructure development are right-of-way clearing, ditching and culverts, slope stabilization, bullard placement, information kiosks, look-offs and rest areas.

Phase II will involve developing community route selection, trail assessment and costings to finish the trail from Inverness to North Sydney. Phase III will include the construction of the infrastructure to complete the trail. The Project will extend over 2 years with planned completion of Phase I by March 31, 2008 and Phase II completed by March 31, 2007.

The Project will help communities along the Trail to expand opportunities for economic growth. The economic impact and the communication of intrinsic values of a highly developed trail system will be vital to the well-being of our local communities. Cape Breton residents will have an important asset to use which provides exercise, recreational opportunities, education and easier access to our natural assets.

Besides the development of the plan, the work continues on the Trail both from volunteer efforts and a Human Resources Canada work project. A substantial number of kilometers have been worked on with regard to right-of-way clearance. Also, some ditching and top coating have been completed from Judique to Creignish.

The Inverness Trails Federation, in conjunction with the Municipality of Inverness, recently conducted a "Name the Trail" contest. Troy Jessome has just been hired to work on the establishment of the route from Inverness to North Sydney and costing to complete it.

Of particular interest to many of our residents is the news that the Torch Relay for the 2010 Olympics will travel all completed parts of the Trans Canada Trail. It is the goal of the partners involved in the Cape Breton section of the trail to have it 100% completed by 2010, in order that our communities can all be a part of the Torch Relay.



It is extremely important that our funding partners capture the essence and ideals of this Trail, and that our volunteers are continuously motivated. More volunteers are always welcome. To become involved contact the Inverness County Trails Federation, c/o John Austin, 945-2588 or the Cape Breton Island Pathways Association, c/o Mary Ann Cranton, 295-3177. Or one of the other local trails groups. [Contact

information for all of the trails groups is listed on page 22 of this issue.]



*Lets work together to make a Trail that will bind our communities together
and make all of us proud.*



News and Notes on Inverness County Trails

Blaise MacEachern, is Chair of the Judique Flyer Trail Association and board member of the Cape Breton Island Pathways, replacing Allan MacDonald. Blaise works closely with other trail groups in Inverness County, and is a strong advocate for a comprehensive network of trails on the island. Featured in our September 2004 newsletter, Blaise stressed the key role of trails in community and economic development.

Hiking and outdoor recreation is a growth industry, and, as part of the leisure industry, consumer spending on recreation is increasing each year. Although all visitors to the trails may not be hikers, well-managed trails running through communities can foster substantial, sustainable economic activity through business development and tourism.

Trails through communities have encouraged the establishment of "clean" industries and businesses such as cafés, bike shops, and Bed & Breakfasts in communities along trail routes. In addition to the new businesses that emerge, the entire area surrounding a trail can profit from the visitors who come to hike and bike on well-maintained, mapped and advertised trails.

Trails can also be an enjoyable, versatile, and practical means of engaging in healthy physical activity. The characteristics of our communities - such as proximity to facilities, street design, and availability of pedestrian and bicycle facilities can help promote a healthier lifestyle. They can play a significant role in helping communities become more physically active. Physical activity doesn't need to be strenuous to be beneficial: people of all ages benefit from moderate physical activity, such as 30 minutes of brisk walking five or more times a week.

Trails can also create healthy recreation and transportation opportunities by providing people of all ages with attractive, safe, and accessible places to bike, walk, hike, jog, snow-shoe or ski. Trails can connect people with places, enabling them to walk or cycle to run errands or commute to work. A majority of the daily trips people make are short; this can provide opportunities for physical activity that can be built in to one's daily routine.

Trails provide natural, scenic areas that cause people to actually want to be outside and physically active; they offer cost-effective places to exercise. Low income families can not afford gyms, but they can afford to go for a walk together if they have a safe trail near their home.

It is interesting to note that research has found that a lack of social support is often a barrier to participation in exercise. Trails, gyms and health clubs all help alleviate this problem. All of these activities allow for people to interact with others. Just one more reason why trails are becoming more and more attractive options for those who wish to engage in an active healthy lifestyle.

Here, in Inverness County we benefit from the hard work of several volunteer trails groups. These group are engaged in the maintenance and growth of trails systems in various areas of the community.

Nevertheless, there are still many communities in the county which could take advantage of what nature has already provided. Communities which could incorporate a trails system which would, no doubt, benefit the local economy. Furthermore, not only would the trails attract tourists and visitors, members of the communities would be likely to benefit from a health and fitness perspective.

Perhaps there is a historical but presently

Continued next page... TRAILS

Bicycling or hiking on trails can be a fun and healthy activity for children and parents to enjoy together. It can also be a learning experience for children, as parents teach them about the wonderful natural environment that surrounds them.



Continued from previous page...TRAILS

unmanaged trail in your community? Or perhaps there is a section of abandoned rail line passing through your area. Possibly there is an area of wilderness that your community wants to safely share with others.

If you are interested in becoming involved and organizing a trails group in your area, the Nova Scotia Trails Federation (or NS Trails) is a not-for-profit organization that represents trail user interests and community-based recreational trail groups in Nova Scotia. NS Trails supports the work of community groups in the planning, building, maintaining and managing of recreational trails.



As the provincial trail organization the primary goal of NS Trails is to promote the development and responsible use of recreational trails for the benefit and enjoyment of all Nova Scotians and visitors to our province. Membership is available to trail users groups, community trail builders, other organizations with an interest in trail development (such as municipal governments) and individuals.

Member privileges in the NS Trails Federation includes the following:

- Insurance coverage through the General Insurance Program.
- Voting representative on the Board of Directors of the NS Trails.
- Use of the Charitable Number of the NS Trails for fund-raising projects for trail construction.
- Be the recognized organizing body for the development of the Trans Canada Trail in their area of Nova Scotia.

Contact the NS Trails Federation for further information and details of the requirements for Community Group Member status. Or download their excellent Workbook, available at their website: www.novascotiatrails.com/

A REMINDER OF TRAIL ETIQUETTE FOR THOSE USING THE TRAILS ALREADY ESTABLISHED IN THE COUNTY:

Safety on the Trail

It is every trail users responsibility and right to ensure their own safety and to expect safe practice from other trail users. Exercise caution at all times, follow guidelines and the rules of the trails. Preventing accidents or injuries is the first step, acting responsibly if something does happen is the second. Always try to think clearly!

What is Trail Etiquette?

A basic etiquette rule is “Wheels yield to heels”. Keep this in mind when approaching other trail users. Bicyclists, dirt bike riders or ATV riders must yield to all other users. Hikers, walkers, skiers yield to horse back riders.

Trail etiquette can be described as the polite way to use trails. It outlines guidelines for the many users that ride, walk, hike, bike, or ski trails. If you have never considered trail etiquette to be one of the more important aspects of trail use, you may want to reconsider - trail etiquette should be a major part of any trail users experience.

Remember that trail use is a privilege that should not be abused or disrespected, so making trail etiquette a priority allows everyone to enjoy the outdoors. Also remember that everyone is out there for the same reason, to enjoy nature and to enjoy what they are doing.

When travelling multi-use trails, you may encounter many different forms of trail use, such as hikers, bikers, horse back riders, snowmobilers, etc. Therefore the user must adjust to different regulations (who passes first, who slows down, who gets the right-of-way).

If trail users conduct themselves in an appropriate manner with respect to the environment and other users, the trail experience will only get better. Keep safety and etiquette in mind when you are participating in trail use, this way trails in Nova Scotia will stay in good condition and the privilege will remain accessible for everyone.



Take only memories - leave only footprints!

CONTACT INFORMATION - TRAILS

Cape Breton Island Pathways Association

Attn: Mary Ann Cranton
 PO Box 41 Margaree Centre, NS
 B0E 2H0
 295-3177
 www.pathwayscb.ca
 [Central resource for trails and waterways]

Cape Mabou Trail System

c/o Ian Sherman
 PO Box 528
 Inverness, NS
 B0E 1N0
 258-2848

Ceilidh Coastal Trails Association

c/o Gerard Graham
 2638 Highway 19
 Creignish, NS
 B9A 1B1
 625-3643

Inverness County Trails Federation

c/o John Austin
 RR 2 Whycomomagh
 NS B0E 3M0
 945-2588

Judique Flyer Trails Association

c/o Blaise MacEachern
 206 Hillsdale Road
 Judique, NS
 B0E 1P0
 787-3251

Maple Ridge Runners ATV Club

c/o Bernie MacNeil
 1301 Highway 19
 Troy, NS
 B9A 1E7
 625-3675

Margaree & Area Development Association

c/o Gordon Laurence
 General Delivery
 Margaree Harbour, NS
 B0E 1C0
 235-2658

Margaree Lifestyles Association

c/o Brooks Hart
 PO Box 533, Margaree Forks
 NS, B0E 2A0
 248-2551

Meat Cove Trails

c/o Derrick MacLellan
 2348 Meat Cove Road
 Meat Cove, NS
 B0E 1E0
 383-3381

West Mabou Trails

c/o Nadine Hunt
 RR 2 Port Hood
 West Mabou, NS
 B0E 2W0
 945-2408

Whycomomagh Development Association Office

Marilyn MacLeod
 Po Box 329
 Whycomomagh, NS
 B0E 3M0
 756-2627

Cape Breton Highlands National Park

1 888-773-8888
 Locally: 224-2306

TRAIL WEBSITES: 

Cape Breton Island Pathways: www.pathwayscb.ca
 Nova Scotia Trails Federation: www.novascotiatrials.com
 NS Trans Canada Trail Website: www.trailtc.ns.ca

Continued from page 19...TRAVEL

the miners of the 1849 gold rush to California...the overland route was even longer!

Note the dates: The Intercolonial Railway that would eventually link Halifax to Trois Rivieres - and then Montreal by the Grand Trunk - was still four years from completion. In 1872 (November) the



Intercolonial opened from Halifax to Moncton, and then to Saint John or Shediac NB. Any of these boys headed west to Central Canada before November 1872 would face a train ride from Halifax to Pictou, then a steamer to Quebec City, then a train ride from Levis (across the river from Quebec City) to Montreal, then to Toronto (Grand Trunk Railway)...then perhaps by rail to Collingwood, Ontario. (Northern Railway.) From there by

boat to Fort William (now Thunder Bay) and a long wagon ride into the prairies. This trip would have been made in "colonist" class accommodations. Meaning spartan passenger cars, (sometimes just box cars) with hard benches on which to sleep, and cold boxed lunches. This was long before the days when "getting there was half the fun!"

Show Off Students! 2006 Inverness County Centre for the Arts Exhibit

Always the first exhibit of the season, Show Off Students reminds us what art is all about - freedom, imagination and passion. Participating schools this year were Bayview Elementary, Dalbrae Academy, Inverness Academy/Education Centre and Cape Breton Highlands Education Centre.

This year a prize was presented to the best in show for both elementary and high school, as voted for by visitors to the exhibit. This year's winners were Fabrice Goosens, grade 10 Cape Breton Highlands Education Centre and Annie MacDonald, grade 2 Inverness Academy/Education Centre. Congratulations to both of them.

Pictured here, just a few pieces of the artwork from the exhibit.



The official opening of the exhibit.



*Above: Teddy Peters, Gr. 6,
Inverness Academy*



*Above:
Series of drawings,
unknown
artist*



*Above: Melanie
MacDonald, Gr. 7,
Bayview*



*Above: Michael Fawcett,
Gr. 4, Bayview*



*Above: Alexandra McLennan,
Cape Breton Highlands*



Kelsey Campbell, Gr 7, Inverness Academy

*Right: Salmon
running upriver,
sculpted from
Cape Breton
marble by Colin
Ingraham,
Fabrice Goosens,
and Jonah
Camus.*



The Participaper

Old Traditions Made New

By Virginia MacIsaac

We celebrate the rite of spring with Easter eggs, spring cleaning, outdoor activities and other events. Barbeques are uncovered and cleaned up, patios get a new coat of paint, and attention is lavished on flower beds.

Not so long ago - in the 1930s and '40s - children and teens around Inverness County looked forward to the bright sunshine of spring, the warm ground under their bare feet, the gleam of brook trout or smelts dangling on home-made lines, and, they eagerly awaited the "goileachan".

"The goileachan," Effie Rankin of Mabou told me, "it was a new one on me." She had never heard of it outside of Inverness County, although she took an educated guess at the spelling. Since "Goil" is Gaelic for boil, then "goileachan" should mean "a boiling."

This translation would seem reasonable. At the "goileachan", eggs were boiled out of doors. This was followed by an egg eating contest and the consumption of sweets. All of this taking place after a long session of Lent.

In some situations it seems to have been a bit more than just the usual festivities (depending on the age of the participants.) About a year ago, I had asked Dorothy Pottie of the Glendale area - who knows Gaelic and its traditions - about "goileachans", she respectfully said that she thought it was something that happened more often on the western side of the county. Perhaps her response had more to do with what I later learned from others around the county as apparently some young men would take the opportunity to celebrate a "goileachan" by setting beer in the woods and indulging in their own version of a spring fling.

Vincent (Angie) MacDonald, one of the oldest residents of Judique, remembers the last "goileachan" he attended up in the field behind Buddy MacMaster's old place. He told me that one particular young man was having so much fun, he forgot he was to serve on the altar at Mass. In a panic to get to the church, he tumbled a time or two in mud puddles and arrived fairly dishevelled at the church door. And no, the young man was not Buddy.

For most of the children, however, the "goileachan" was a wonderful time to eat, play games, tell stories, and celebrate Easter Sunday with their neighbours after a long cold winter. Flora MacLean from Long Point - who lived on Campbell's Road as a child - remembers, "We'd have a "goileachan" ourselves, at our own home. Well, ourselves and the neighbours, the O'Hanleys, that is. They would come over and we'd play games and tell stories all day long." When asked about cooking eggs, she said, "Who ever could eat the most eggs? Yes, we'd have that."

In Judique South, there were "goileachans" held in a field where Roddie Gillis once had a boat shed. Inside on

Continued next page...TRADITIONS



Easter Sunday a fire would be lit and on the low wood stove a big iron pot for boiling the eggs and a pot of cocoa would be simmering. Roddie Gillis built two boats in that shed, but on Easter mornings a long table would be the centre of attention.

Some members of the MacDonald family who hosted the "goileachan" remember the boat shed and remember hiding eggs in the barn under the hay for a while before Easter. Clair MacDonald remembers, "A year when all the eggs that were gathered froze." His sister, Peggy Beaton of Halifax recalls, "... a sunny day, but some Easters there'd be snow. There would be a big pot of eggs. Everybody would bring eggs. I remember once there were John Willie's [Grahams], Pat's [Smyths], Hughie R.'s [Grahams], Roddy Graham's, and our own house. Five dozen eggs, maybe more, and grandma used to come over to see everybody was served. And the neighbours would bring a cake or cookies...it was a regular "goileachan". And we'd play Hide-and-Seek in the trees."



Clair MacDonald says that in later years the event was held in the little school on Campbell's Road, "The last one was probably in 1949. One time I remember the children from Johnny MacEachern's brought decorated eggs. It was the first time I remember seeing that, and we were amazed when they ate them. But they brought the eggs already boiled."

Mae MacDonald, daughter of Angus MacDonnell, remembers that in Port Hood Mines, "We used to take everything that was in the house. We used to build a shack in the woods and haul everything we could. We used to have a ball." She said, "Poppa built for us - when we lived up at the lighthouse - a little cabin, a shed really, half-way between the lighthouse and the road. He built it for us to play in and we had "goileachans" there, and the neighbours would come. You'd have to see how many eggs you could eat." "At other times", she went on, "We used to go up to Archie Beaton's for "goileachans". They had a beautiful log cabin, an up-to-date-place, right by the brook."

Her cousin, Kay MacDonald, formerly from Seaside, said, "We'd have a clear ball. The boys used to make a camp in the woods, and the mothers would get things for the boys to take to the camp, and they'd have to have boiled eggs. A camp was up in Murdock Beaton's high pasture." She continued, "One time, when the school was new, the girls from around Seaside, Eva, Theresa, the Campbells, went to the school for Easter "goileachan". We put the food on the table in the Home Economics. room and we talked and told stories and some would have a supply of candy. They'd all brought food." Kay explained the anticipation this way, "Old Fr. MacPherson warned us to fast. 'You're going to fast!' he said in church. So we fasted all the way through Lent. All during Lent we'd look forward to the "goileachan"."

Mary MacIsaac, from Hawthorne, now Judique, said she didn't attend those outdoors, but remembers the talking and the excitement of her brothers and sisters as the "goileachan" approached. She remembers her sister Margaret baking a cake and getting all dressed up to go to the neighbour's. "Usually a camp was built in the woods over a period of a few weeks, and a fire built to cook the eggs, and seats of some kind were set up. Neighbours who had laying hens all brought a dozen eggs and others brought what they could."

Mary's grandchildren and their friends now have a 12 or 13 year tradition of an Egg Hunt on Easter morning. The Easter Bunny is busy the night before hiding eggs all along a stretch of the neighbourhood. Candace MacIsaac and her sister Brittany make up team rosters and colour-coded maps. Cousins and friends gather - there are usually almost 40 children on Easter Sunday morning, out searching for coloured candy eggs. The prize for the winning team is (as for all the teams) whatever candy eggs they find and the fun of getting together on a spring morning to celebrate the arrival of a new season.



Our traditions move with us and change with our surroundings, but the sources remain the same. Vincent MacDonald remembers getting up early on Easter Sunday morning "to see the sun dancing, and only on Easter Sunday," he says. In an account recorded by Alexander Carmichael in the 19th Century (found in his *Carmina Gadelica*) a woman in the Outer Hebrides tells of climbing the highest hill on Easter and seeing the sun dancing in delight.

We are lucky, we can see the sun dancing on the waters of St. George's Bay all summer long and we can take pleasure in the colourful wildflowers that grow all over Inverness County. But we should remember that the excitement of the "goileachan" springs from a time of being without. This past winter was a time of loss and change for many of us in the county. This coming season may we all find time to live with delight and continue to joyfully share what we have with our neighbours. After all, that is also a tradition of ours.



Waste Inspections Continue

Residents and businesses are reminded that garbage bags left curbside for collection or taken to Municipal landfills are subject to inspection. Recyclables and organic waste that can be composted in a backyard composter are banned from landfill disposal and may be returned to the owner for proper separation. Please note, a maximum of 4 garbage bags and blue bags combined will be collected each week from any one residence.

Composting is Recycling Too!

Making Black Gold

Compost is often called the Cadillac of fertilizers and is otherwise known as "Black Gold". Add compost to your garden, spread on lawns, flowerbeds and around trees and shrubs. Compost can also be used as potting soil for flowers, plants and for transplant mixes.

Getting Started...

- Place your composter in a shaded location on level ground convenient to your house and garden.
- Line the bottom of your composter with a 2-inch layer of dried leaves, grass or shredded paper.
- Collect food scraps in your kitchen using a plastic container, such as an ice cream container, placed on the counter or under the sink.
- Add a container of food scraps "greens" and then cover with two containers of dried leaves, grass or shredded paper "browns".
- Turn or mix your pile once a week to add air, an important ingredient for composting.
- Your compost pile should be as damp as a wrung out sponge. If your compost is too dry add water. If your compost is too wet add shredded paper, leaves or dried grass.
- Do not add too much soil to your compost pile. This will weigh your compost pile down squeezing out much needed air.

Trouble Shooting Problems:

Bad odour: Add more dried leaves, grass or shredded newspaper to your pile. Turn pile more often to add air.

Pile is dry and not composting: Moisten with water until pile is damp.

Flies around pile: Ensure all food is covered with dried leaves, grass or shredded newspaper.

Did You Know..

Insert a piece of PVC pipe with holes upright into your pile. This will ensure air is circulated throughout the pile.

Rid your pile of ants by sprinkling borax onto a piece of wood and place on top of your pile.

Borax is harmless to everything except ants - within a day or two the ants will be gone!



REGIONAL LIBRARY NEWS



GET CONNECTED @ YOUR LIBRARY

The library has recently released a new step-by-step guide to the Online Library catalogue, now featuring book cover graphics, excerpts, book summaries and reviews. All you need is your library card to access the catalogue 24 hours a day/7 days a week at: <http://ecrl.library.ns.ca> - from your home or office computer.

Once online, you can search for books and other materials in the ECRL catalogue; place requests; access your account for information on your loans and requests; renew items or ask a reference question.

While there, check out our current lineup of free database resources including the General Reference Center, Health and Wellness Centre, World Book Online and Chilton's Auto Repair guide for selected models/years.

AUTHOR TOUR

Library staff will be hosting children's author Lian Goodall as she visits students at the Cape Breton Highlands Education Centre on April 24 to do a reading from her book, *Singing Towards the Future, The Story of Portia White*. This book has been nominated for a 2006 Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Join us this summer for the TD Summer Reading Club. This year's theme is "Quest for Heroes", which includes community heroes, family heroes, heroes in myths and legends, modern heroes - the whole works!

BOOKS BY MAIL

We provide a free mail-out service for library books for persons who live in the more rural areas of the County. Just call in or e-mail us your request.

VISITING LIBRARY SERVICE

For persons who, because of a physical handicap or other reason, cannot easily leave their home, we will bring or mail to you a selection of reading materials chosen by our staff to reflect your preferences. Let us know your specific needs and tastes.

For further information, please contact Eastern Counties Regional Library headquarters, by telephone: 747-2597. E-mail: info@nsme.library.ns.ca or visit our Website www.ecrl.library.ns.ca

Note: With reference to hours/dates listed below: Summer hours come into effect July 4 for the Mulgrave and Port Hawkesbury branches. Check with the branches for the new hours.

BRANCHES: HOURS: MAY 1 - JULY 15, 2006

MARGAREE FORKS Tel/Fax: 248-2821 Monday 1:30 - 4:30 & 6:30 - 8:30 Tuesday & Wednesday 6:30 - 8:30 Thursday 10:00 - 12:00 1:30 - 4:30 & 6:30 - 8:30 Friday 1:30 - 4:30 Saturday 1:30 - 4:00	MULGRAVE Tel: 747-2597 Fax: 747-2500 Monday 10:30 - 12:30 & 2:00 - 6:00 Tuesday & Wednesday 2:30 - 7:30 Thursday 1:00 - 4:00 Friday CLOSED Saturday 1:00 - 4:00	PT HAWKESBURY Tel/Fax 625-2729 Monday to Friday 3:00 - 8:00 Saturday 11:00 - 2:00
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HOURS: LIBR@RY LINKS: MAY 1 - JULY 15, 2006

INVERNESS EDUCATION CENTRE (every 2 weeks) Thursday 2:00 - 5:30 & 6:00 - 8:00 May 4, 18 June 1, 15, 29 July 13 Summer hours may change. TBA.	JUDIQUÉ COMMUNITY CENTRE (every 4 weeks) Wednesday 4:30 - 5:30 & 6:00 - 7:30 May 17 June 14 July 12	PORT HOOD RESOURCE CENTRE (every 4 weeks) Tuesday 3:30 - 5:30 & 6:00 - 7:30 May 9 June 6 July 4
MABOU, DALBRAE ACADEMY (every 2 weeks) Wednesday 3:45 - 5:30 & 6:00 - 8:00 May 10, 24 June 7, 21 July 5	ST. JOSEPH DU MOINE/ CENTRE SAINT-JOSEPH (every 2 weeks) Thursday 12:00 - 5:15 & 6:00 - 8:00 May 11, 25 June 8, 22 July 6	WHYCOCOMAGH EDUCATION CTR (every 4 weeks) Wednesday 3:30 - 5:30 & 6:00 - 8:00 May 3, 31 June 28

Inverness County Seniors' Games 2006 June 3rd at the Inverness Education Centre/Academy



Under the sponsorship of the Municipality's Department of Recreation/Tourism, seniors from Inverness County are invited to attend the 10th Annual Seniors' Games scheduled for Saturday, June 3rd, at Inverness Education Centre/Academy. The theme this year is "Be Active and Healthy Your Way Every Day". The day will include a bit of friendly competition, fun workshops and an opportunity to spend time with friends and acquaintances. A new workshop/presentation added this year is reflexology; this was a big hit at the Inverness County on the Move...Health Fairs held a few months ago.

Anyone 50 years of age or older who wishes to attend the Seniors' Games 2006 - either as a competitor or a spectator - must register through his/her local seniors' club. The registration fee of \$5.00 includes a delicious luncheon buffet meal. Registration packages will be handed out between 9:00 - 9:40 am at the venue. The games will be officially declared open at a 9:45 am. All competitive activities and workshops will run between 10:00 am and noon.



Competitive activities this year include cribbage, 45's, bridge, scrabble, darts, horseshoes and - a new addition - the washer toss. For non-competitors, hobby displays and information booths will be available throughout the morning. These provide valuable subject material on Senior's Services, Health and Nutrition, Fitness, Gardening and much more. We encourage everyone to wear comfortable clothing and

footwear to participate in the fun fitness sessions.

A buffet lunch will be provided at noon. This will be followed by an entertainment segment where each club may enter a performance of their choice (skit, instrumental, choir, solo, personal story, comedy routine, etc.) 1st, 2nd, & 3rd, (gold, silver and bronze) medals will be awarded for each competitive activity and the overall winning clubs will be appropriately recognized during the Awards Presentation scheduled for 2:30 pm.



For further information on the 2006 Senior Games, you may phone the Inverness County Recreation/Tourism Department at (902) 787-3508 or email amaceachern@invernessco.com.

29TH ANNUAL INVERNESS COUNTY CRIBBAGE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

WINNER'S DIVISION

1st Place

Simon Joe and Jeanne Bourgeois
Chéticamp

2nd Place

John A. MacEachern and George Dunford
Mabou

3rd Place

Donald and Judy MacEachern - Creignish

RUNNER'S-UP DIVISION

1st Place

Jessie Tompkins and Sheila Fortune
NE Margaree

2nd Place

Bob and Marie Willis - Port Hood

3rd Place

Ed and Mary Jesse MacDonald
Port Hastings

Inverness County on the Move...Active Your Way Every Day contest winners:

Winning poster

- Frank Schmidt, age 9, of Port Hood

Winning Youth composition

- Mary MacCalder, age 12, of Orangedale

Winning Family composition

- Tina Bernard and family of Waycobah

The winning entries will be published in the next issue of *The Participaper*, usually delivered to mailboxes early-July.

**COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM
CELEBRATE YOUR COMMUNITY....
PEOPLE, PLANTS AND
PRIDE....GROWING TOGETHER!**

The Municipality offers a community enhancement grant under the name "Communities in Bloom".

This grant enables residents to work together to improve on the appearance of their communities as well as maintain and focus on a greener, healthier environment.

The "Communities in Bloom" grant is available through the Recreation/Tourism Department on a 50/50 basis up to a maximum of \$500. For more information on how you can get involved, contact your local development association or the Recreation/Tourism office at 787-3508.

**INSTRUCTORS WANTED:
Inverness County Recreation/Tourism
Summer Recreation Programming**

The Inverness County Recreation/Tourism Department is in the process of planning summer recreation programs for Inverness County children/youth and adults. These programs include recreational day camps for children, morning and evening recreational classes for youth and adults, as well as sport clinics and workshops.

We are looking for instructors for various activities relating to:

Fitness: Activity Days, Hiking, Yoga, Martial Arts.



Sport: Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis, Flag Football, Red Cross Swimming Program.

Dance: Children's Hip-Hop/Jazz, Ballet, Ballroom.



Crafts: Jewellery Making, Bead Work, Painting, Weaving.

Hobbies: Photography, Woodworking, Cooking, Home Maintenance.

Music: Guitar, Piano, Fiddle, Song (Group or individual lessons).



Please contact us if you have experience and/or talent in any of these areas (or in any other area not listed here), and would like to instruct a workshop or a class. Information on rate of pay, hours and locations, etc., available by calling our office at (902) 787-3508 or Email: amaceachern@invernessco.com.

**ATTENTION ALL TEXTILE ARTISTS
AND THOSE WHO APPRECIATE TEXTILE ARTS!!**

A Textile Arts Festival, entitled "A Celebration of Fiber", will be held August 11th to September 4th at the Inverness County Centre for the Arts. This will be an Exhibition of quilts, rugs, clothing, weaving, soft sculptures and more in the textile vein. These are creative works by our Textile Artists. Workshops on rug hooking, weaving, quilting, dyeing, and more, will be held in conjunction with the festival. For more information on this upcoming event you may contact the Inverness County Centre for the Arts, at (902) 258-2533 or email: kathy@invernessarts.ca ■



Director's Desk continued from page 2...

INVERNESS COUNTY TOURISM NEWSLETTER AND VISITOR'S GUIDE

Inverness County's 2006 Visitor's Guide to the Sunset Side of Cape Breton will soon be available at all visitor information centres on Cape Breton Island, and various centres on the mainland.

Through our partnership with Inverness Communications, the guide provides visitors with a wonderful resource of community information, folklore, festivals and events information, as well as information on tourism businesses and attractions. If you would like a copy for yourself, or to send to friends and family, please drop in to Recreation/Tourism office at the Municipal building in Port Hood or give us a call.

Visitor Information Centres in the County are located in Chécicamp, Margaree Forks, Inverness, Port Hood and Port Hastings.

SUMMER/FALL EVENTS BROCHURE

To complement the Visitor's Guide, our office also produces the annual Summer & Fall Events brochure. These are available to residents and visitors and will be delivered to County mailboxes and VICs on Cape Breton Island the first week of June.

Along with our regular line up of community celebrations and festivals, one of 2006's highlights will include the 50th Anniversary of the Broad Cove Concert. Be sure to keep this brochure on hand for family and friends visiting this summer! A listing of festivals and events will be included in the summer issue of *The Participaper*.

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF INVERNESS DIRECTORY

MAIN SWITCHBOARD	787-2274
Fax - All Departments	787-3110
BUILDING INSPECTOR:	
Port Hawkesbury	625-1572
Port Hood	787-2900
ENGINEERING & PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:	
Administration	787-3502
.....	787-3503
Water Utilities	787-3503
Emergency Sewer & Water Maintenance 24 Hrs	258-3335
EXECUTIVE OFFICES:	
Warden	787-3514
Chief Administrative Clerk	787-3500
CAO Secretary	787-3501
FINANCE DEPARTMENT:	
Director	787-3511
Tax Collector	787-3510
Accounting	787-3505
Data Processing	787-3505
INVERNESS COUNTY HOME CARE	787-3449
Municipal Homes:	
Foyer Père Fiset	224-2087
Inverary Manor	258-2842
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:	
Divisions:	
Building Inspector:	
Port Hawkesbury	625-1572
Building Inspector:	
Port Hood	787-2900
Development Control	625-1572
Policy: MDP Office	625-1572
RECREATION AND TOURISM	
Director, Recreation & Tourism	787-3506
Director, Community Development & Culture	787-3506
Assistant /Recreation & Tourism	787-3507
Adult Education & School Program Coordinator	787-3508
Tourism Toll-Free	1-800-567-2400
COMMUNITY SERVICES	787-4000
Toll-Free	1-800-252-2275
Strait Highlands Regional Development Agency (SH-RDA)	
Port Hawkesbury	625-3929

OUR WEBSITE & EMAIL ADDRESSES ARE:

www.invernessco.com email: recreation@invernessco.com

The Participaper cover pages are printed in the municipal colours of blue and yellow. However, the Christmas issue is printed with a red cover in celebration of that season.

“My purpose in life is to live a life with purpose,” - Victor Cormier



July 18, 1924 - April 29, 2006

A man of courage and determination, Victor Cormier of Belle Côte succeeded in his goal to “live a life with purpose”. He is pictured here with some of the many awards he received through the years for his outstanding fundraising efforts.

Rest in Peace Victor.