



The Centre Post

Next Issue:
June 21, 2006
Submissions due
by June 1.



Welcome Spring!

Spring is finally here! Although some would say that our usual welcoming of spring with winter at our backs somehow doesn't seem as triumphant as it has in past years. When I first moved from the 'balmy' winters of Ontario, I was told that I would love living in Nova Scotia, as the winters were so much warmer. Our first winter here we saw a monster snow dump that left us shovelling out for days, then came the "White Juan" with other winter horror stories to speak of. My family would call several times each of these winters to make sure we were all right and we weren't freezing to death. This however has been the first winter that I have called my family in Ontario to make sure they weren't freezing to death! What a nice change.

Being Canadian we are allowed the opportunity to plan and prepare for each season. This seems to usually involve gathering provisions, bringing out appropriate tools, or putting them away and of course preparing the wardrobe. Spring always reminds me of bringing in the new, whether it is getting into the garden or buying new spring/summer clothes as winter hibernation has not been so kind. My favourite thing to prepare for is the wonderful change that takes place in our landscape every year.

BRINGING YOUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER!

Newsletter Committee

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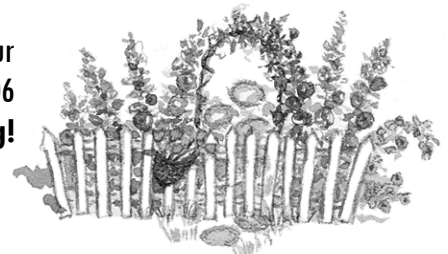
As an amateur gardener, spring has always brought to mind all of the great tours around nurseries, digging in the dirt and watching things grow each year. This year is no exception other than finding a place to park a stroller with my new lit-

tle one and feeding her between weeding. This winter was a blessing in more ways than just mild temperatures and lack of snowfall; we also had our first child. Madisun showed up five weeks early, in time for Christmas. Probably because "someone" knew that I would need more time than the average new mom to adjust to our new bundle of joy. So this spring, I will also have the opportunity to watch my child grow along with my garden.

As a new mom that has decided to nurse, I have been given the 'time' to read many books as well as become intimately knowledgeable of our two channels on peasantvision. (Defined as: not having cable but bunny ears with extra tinfoil for better reception for those people that try not to watch too much TV but eventually get sucked in anyway) I thought I would share a few of my favourite books on the last page of this edition for those of you that like to spend a rainy day curled up with a book. Not only was I able to immerse myself in stories for the past three months but am able to share some local stories within this edition. Thankfully Centreville is filled with talented contributors who have graced us with their writing. I hope you enjoy these stories and articles while you are waiting to get into your garden this spring. I look forward to your contributions for the next edition. In the meantime, enjoy this budding new world and the sunshine it will bring. ☀️

With spring in my step,
Shari McKenzie-Ramsay

Issue Four
March 21, 2006
Welcome Spring!



Centreville Secondary Planning Strategy Given First Reading

by Kirk Starratt (Printed with permission from The Advertiser)

After more than two years of community consultations, Kings County council has given first reading to the Centreville Secondary Planning Strategy. The secondary plan for the Centreville Growth Centre will adopt Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) policies and Land Use Bylaw (LUB) amendments that consider the unique characteristics of the community.

Councillor Madonna Spinazola said coming up with the secondary planning strategy was a long process for the community of Centreville. She said the Federation of Agriculture has been involved in consultations. About three quarters of the way through the process, Spinazola said they lost the planner working on the project but Planning Manager Chrystal Fuller took over and did a great job.

She said the community has planned for up to 20 years down the road with the strategy and no one from the community at a public meeting had anything negative to say about the proposed document. That was probably because the process was so open and because so many people were involved. "It's a good plan for Centreville and a good plan for the municipality," she said.

Fuller presented the proposed strategy to council at the Tuesday, Oct. 4 session. She said staff and the committee working on the strategy met about 27 times over two-and-a-half years, held an open house, completed a community survey and sought considerable public input. The planning advisory committee (PAC) recommended first reading to council. She said each growth centre is different and secondary planning strategies therefore contain specific policies, objectives and goals. Since Centreville is a residential growth centre, the strategy focuses on future residential development.

The strategy would add areas to the growth centre. For example, agricultural land to be added to the growth centre has been reduced from 70 acres to 26 acres. This would allow for the development of a clubhouse in the future at the Eagle Crest Golf Course. An area zoned R2, residential one or two unit, would be added to the growth centre as well as a parkland area.

Fuller said there is a high growth trend in Centreville and it has been projected that the community would be built out in 39 years if this trend continues. Recreational infrastructure is viewed as one means to help support a growing residential community. "Open space trails and recreation was a major focus of the planning group," Fuller said.

In terms of transportation, it is hoped that an efficient network of roads, walkways and public transit links can be developed as part of the secondary planning strategy.

The community wants the highest reasonable level of environmentally sustainable sewage treatment. In terms of water supply management, the goal is to work with private water utilities to ensure the highest quality water at the lowest possible cost and to ensure a continuous supply of potable water. In terms of storm water management, the goal is to manage surface drainage to prevent flooding and promote groundwater recharge.

It is a goal of the strategy as well to put the community on the map as a tourism and heritage destination. 🌸



Centreville District Community Development Association

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

Where: Centreville Hall

When: Fourth Thursday of the
Month at 7.00 P.M.

Exceptions:

JULY, AUGUST & DECEMBER
BY NOTIFICATION

*All meetings are open to the
public - come out to support
your community development!*

Centreville Hall Update

By now many in the community and surrounding area have noticed the steps and barrier free access at the Centreville Hall. The steps and ramp are just some of the areas of need at the Hall being addressed.

A sub committee of the Centreville Hall Association has been busy identifying and carrying out upgrades to the Hall. Along with new steps (front and back) and ramp, upgrades to date include emergency lighting and exit signs, main electrical panel replacement, wiring improvements, basement entrance replacement, emergency exit doors, roof repairs, basement wall repairs and sewer line replacement. The committee members are Vicki Johnston, Pauline Harris, Minnie Sheffield, Mike Sweeney, Budd Murphy and chairman Merv Steadman.

The replacement of the front steps was carried out by a group of students from Customized Training at the Kingstec Campus of the Nova Scotia Community College. The students working on the project were members of a Skilled Trades class made up of Stephen Salsman, Tim Zwicker, Neil Noseworthy, Stephen Noseworthy and Scott Fancy working under the direction of coordinator Fred Ross. The building committee secured the building materials and Centreville resident Clarie Misner provided construction plans and technical support/advice throughout the project.

The building committee would like to thank Fred Ross and his students for constructing the front steps and ramp and Clarie Misner for volunteering his time. Other Centreville residents that we would like to thank are Melvyn Bartlett and Ted Davison. Melvyn has started scraping and painting some of the finish on the Hall. Even though weather conditions caught up to him this fall, we anticipate his help in the spring. Melvyn has also agreed to clear the snow from the Hall steps this winter. Ted Davison provided his backhoe and time to help install new sewer pipes and Scott Farms donated materials to the sewer project as well.

Build Along Construction, owned by Al Halliday, has been the general contractor for work done at the Centreville Hall and it is noteworthy that the cost of the completed work has come in under bid.

Hall improvements have been made possible through the generous financial support from the Centreville Good Neighbour Club, the Centreville Hall Association and the Centreville and District Community Development Association. Provincial grant information and funding was provided by MLA Mark Parent and Sport and Recreation Regional Representative Mike Trinacty.

NB: Centreville Hall Association can now provide tax receipts for charitable donations. ♻️

Submitted by Budd Murphy

Edgewood Estates Subdivision

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 * **May 14th: Mothers Day** *
 * **June 18th: Fathers Day** *
 * **July 1st: Canada Day** *

Community Announcements

CENTREVILLE'S 6TH ANNUAL PIG ROAST

When: MAY 13, 2006 Two Sittings – 5:00 & 6:00 P.M.

Where: CENTREVILLE HALL

Cost: \$10.00 ADULT – CHILD \$5.00

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MERVIN STEADMAN 678-4472

BEFORE MAY 5, 2006

SPONSORED BY CENTREVILLE DIST. COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

The **Annual General Meeting** of the Centreville District Community Development Association will be held on **MAY 25, 2006 AT 7:30 P.M.** at the Centreville Community Hall. Everyone welcome!

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Getting to know you... Featuring Roscoe Fillmore

A GARDEN IS the way life should be: honest effort brings glorious reward. It is a lesson and a triumph. Roscoe Fillmore knew this.

You can see it still in the gardens he gave us at Grand Pré. Roscoe considered gardening "a much needed escape from the machine existence of modern living." He declared, "I am going to prescribe that these suburban dwellers get their hands into the mud and never mind the rubber gloves."

Roscoe became Head Gardener at Grand Pré Memorial Park in 1938. His passion for socialist politics had provided food for the soul, but offered little chance of putting food on his table. The job at Grand Pré gave Roscoe a chance to follow a new direction. The Fillmore's had been trying to make a go of a greenhouse operation from their home in Centreville. The Fillmores had bought land next door to fellow socialist Charles Macdonald, who gave them enough building materials to build a home and the greenhouse. The Fillmores and the Macdonalds became close friends. The Fillmore children often slipped through the hedge and into the Macdonald house, where Mabel gave them cookies and Charlie would help them with their homework. Charlie often said that he had modelled his statue, "Woman Washing her Hair," after Ruth Fillmore.

Roscoe's wife and five children peddled flowers door-to-door, sold plants on consignment, and made apple-tree grafts in the living room. Now Roscoe and his brother Frank threw themselves into turning their little greenhouse into a fulltime business. Soon the Valley Nurseries flower beds stretched half a mile behind his house. Many of the rows filled with plants Roscoe developed and adapted to thrive in the Nova Scotia climate. His experiments yielded forty new strains of rhododendron alone. Nobody called it

flower power then, but Roscoe had no doubts. When his wife Margaret died in 1954 he wrote that gardeners know nature's "infinite patience in repairing the wounds and scars administered by life. My interest in my plant experiments, heathers, rhododendrons, new shrubs and trees has helped me to overcome the terrible sense of loss." Fillmore wrote a gardening series: Green Thumbs (1953), The Growing Question (1957), Roses for Canadian Gardens (1959), and The Perennial Border and Rock Garden (1961). He wrote for the "thousands of people who hanker for a little beauty and colour around their homes and who know little if anything of how to start." Roscoe became "Mr. Green Thumbs" to thousands of everyday folks who just wanted to touch the earth and rejoice in the quiet pleasure of green growing things.

**"...nature's "infinite patience
in repairing the wounds and
scars administered by life."**

His style was open and friendly with all the Latin names and scientific jargon left on the potting shed floor. People loved it. His books sold well. His lectures were full. His radio talks a hit. Roscoe Fillmore had run a Siberian collective farm, been president of the New Brunswick Fruit Growers' Association, helped found the Canadian Workers' Party, written scores of articles promoting socialism, run for political office and had introduced tens of thousands to the joy and pleasure of gardens and gardening. He had found a time for every purpose and a season for everything- just like in a garden. Our connection to the park at Grand Pré The Green Thumbs of Roscoe Fillmore Roscoe and crew during planting of the original gardens at Grand Pré Memorial Park c. 1938 Roscoe Fillmore published many popular gardening books in the 50s and 60s and became known as 'Mr. Green Thumbs'🌱

Steven Slipp, courtesy of the Charles Macdonald House of Centreville Society.



From the desk of Mark Parent (MLA) February 28, 2006

Nearing the height of his professional career, Wendell Berry made a momentous decision. He resigned from his prestigious teaching position at an important New York City University and he returned to his native rural Kentucky. He made this decision under great pressure from his university colleagues who tried to talk him out of making such a move. On the surface, Wendell Berry's colleagues were correct. His decision to move back to rural Kentucky seemed like a bad one. However, Wendell Berry knew something which his colleagues had not yet discovered. He knew that he had to reconnect with the rural perspective of his childhood in order to see more clearly the problems of our modern society and, more importantly, the solutions to those problems.

You see, in spite of the wealth and power and technological advances of our western society, there are great problems looming on the horizon. We are poisoning our air and water and earth. We are losing our sense of community and of responsibility for the other which was key to our growth and success. Depression is one of the faster growing illnesses in North America today. Environmental diseases are increasing. In spite of great efforts, cancer is still killing its victims. Diseases such as AIDS are taking their tragic toll, often on our best and our brightest. Superbugs, created in large part by our overdependence on drugs, threaten us. And underneath it all there seems to be an unhappiness which is chronic and which is growing.

Wendell Berry saw all this. He saw the economic injustices which not only have created an imbalanced world but which have turned the United States (and are threatening to turn Canada) into a nation of have and have nots. But he also saw something else. He saw in rural Kentucky the elements for a new way of approaching life which could solve some

of the problems which cripple us today. He called this new vision – agrarianism.

By **agrarianism**, Berry was not calling for a return to the land like many of the hippies in the 1960s did. He knew we could not return to a rural lifestyle. We westerners are a profoundly urban society. This is even truer of Canadian society as more Canadians, on a per capita basis, live in urban centers than do our southern neighbours.

And so through countless essays and books, since returning to his native Kentucky, Berry calls upon us to abandon the modern industrial mindset which values growth solely in the production of more and more material goods. To do away with the mindset which views the construction of prisons and the production of military arms as economic benefits. To reintegrate the material and the spiritual. To cultivate a spirit of restraint where restraint is needed. To seek balance and harmony in life, a spirit of gratitude rather than that of greed.

What excites me about Berry's vision, besides the fact that he is right, is that in communities such as Centreville and in the county of Kings we have some of the elements of this agrarian vision. To be sure not all is right here in Kings County. But it seems to me that we have the tools needed to model the way for a better lifestyle not only for ourselves and our children but for our fellow Canadians as well. Many national pundits and commentators feel that the future in Canada belongs to the industrial heartland of Ontario or increasingly to the prosperous provinces of the West. If Wendell Berry is right, the reverse is true. The future, at least a future where life is not an endless treadmill of frenzied activity and accumulation of goods, lies right here in Kings County. ♻️

“...we have the tools needed to model the way for a better lifestyle...”


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Featured Business: Footes Farm Market

Many of you probably remember Brad from selling Kent homes before his new adventure into selling produce wholesale. Why produce? "Well it felt like the right thing to do", said Brad. Following your heart always tends to take you back to your roots, which was farming as a youngster with his father and grandfather.

It's hard to imagine that it has been thirteen years since I started helping Brad and Mike peddle produce at the Halifax flea market. Times that I will never forget and the memories that will last forever during those impressionable years as a youngster myself. I remember packing potatoes, carrots and everything else on Saturdays, in the small building Brad owned in Centreville, we'd get ready to leave at 3 am Sunday morning to go to the market. We had to get there early to get a good spot and start setting up the tables – presentation is everything! With Brad being the salesman and Mike and I trying to follow lead and stocking the table, we would put in a full day's work. I learned a lot from Brad during these years, such as visual presentation, how to become a great sales person, and of course, how to do the book work. Eventually the business started to grow a little at a time creating more avenues. We were now selling wholesale to restaurants and stores in areas as far as Halifax, eventually as far as Digby. We did this until we realized that we needed more room to expand and cooler space. We rented a two story warehouse in Port Williams and for several years worked from there to do local, city and Digby's sales and deliveries with only a staff of four (Brad, Mike, myself and the odd driver). Mike and I tried to convince Brad to open a fruit and vegetable market to serve the public, however he wasn't really interested at this time as he wanted to clean up the warehouse to see if we could make it work. Mike and I tried to get the warehouse up and

running but no matter what we did, there was not enough space to use it as a warehouse and market.

Brad decided that the amount of time spent working and travelling long hours unloading and loading trucks, and moving produce from one level of the warehouse to another using a homemade wooden elevator, and ensuring the old coolers were always working was taking its toll and it would be nice to have a warehouse closer to home. That's when Brad decided to put a cooler in the small building he already owned here in Centreville. Mike and I, wanting to be young entrepreneurs, decided to try to sell produce to the public from a trailer in our own yard; trying again, to convince Brad that people would stop to buy fruit and vegetables. While doing this, Brad was only thinking of expanding storage for his new wholesale business. With determination and a little more convincing, Brad built a movable dividing wall in the warehouse so that we could give the market concept a try. To his surprise, after only operating the market for one year, he had to move the wall back to make more room to expand the market.

We are now into our fourth year, and have a farm market staff of eleven employee's (including Brad), and are open year round. We continue to try our best to keep up the good quality and great pricing for our customers. We thank you all for making our first years here a success and look forward to serving you for many years to come. ☺

Footes Farm Market
Submitted by Kimberly
1744 Hwy #359
Centreville N.S

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How Much Is That Puppy In The Window? *Your guide to buying your family pet!*

A pet can be a wonderful addition to your family. Dogs are loyal, social animals that blend well into our modern lives. Whether you have owned a pet in the past or not there are a few things to consider before adding a dog to your family. Take some time to consider the type of dog you want. **Size** can vary from a few pounds to over one hundred. Have you thought about the differences between **males and females**? **Hair coats** can be short and require little maintenance or be long and need regular grooming. Puppies are a lot of fun but require a lot more work and time than an older dog who is already **house trained**. It may be easier to house train a dog if the weather is warm so consider the **time of year** when getting a dog. Find out how much **exercise** is required for different types of dogs and what **behavioral traits** are common to different breeds. Will a few short walks a day be enough or does the dog require lots of physical activity each day? What will happen to your dog when you are at work or on vacation? **Obedience classes** are offered at many locations in the Valley and are a great way to help you learn about and bond with your dog. Are all the members in your house going to look after the dog or will **daily chores** like feeding and exercise be only one persons job? Are there **family members who have health problems** that may worsen with a pet in the house? It is important to consider the **costs** of owning a dog. Initial purchase of a dog varies greatly depending on where you acquire your dog. Daily costs like feeding will be more for a larger dog. Medical expenses like and spay or neuter surgery may be more initially but dogs should have regular health checks and vet visits each year to prevent illness.

Where to go for Information

There are lots of places to get information on dogs. It can be as simple as going to the **library** to do some reading, looking on the Internet for dog related sites or talking to local animal groups like the **SPCA**, **local shelters** and **Kings Co. Dog control**. Call the

local kennel clubs and **breeders** or go to their events so you can talk to them in person and see different types of purebred dogs. **Veterinarians** can give you lots of information on animal health and the initial health checks the animal will need. You will get lots of information so take the time to sort out what things are most important for you and your family.

Where to go to Find a Dog

It is not difficult to find a dog but it may be difficult to **find the right dog**. Shelters, SPCA's and Animal Control are wonderful places to start looking. You can help save the life of a homeless animal who may otherwise have no chance. Many local people have dogs and puppies to give away. Make sure you get as much information about the dog's background, parents, behaviors, medical history and temperament as you can so you can make an informed decision. Make sure to ask them why they aren't keeping the dog. There are many wonderful Breeders of purebred dogs in this area and with Internet access you can access breeders from across the country. If you buy a dog from a breeder make sure to get information on the parents of the dog, other dogs at the kennel and lots of information on the kennel itself. A dog breeder should put you through a screening process and can help you determine if their dog or puppy is for you.

There are many places to avoid when buying a dog. Puppy mills are alive and well in Kings Co. These mills produce hundreds of dogs a year and many die from starvation and neglect. Animals at these mills suffer in filthy surroundings and always suffer from lack of human contact often leaving them with serious behavioral problems over the course of their lives.. They keep prices down and profits up by neglecting health care and facilities. Any breeder or store who sells animals for profit and treats animals as a commodity has the potential to neglect or

(Continued on page 9)



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Side Hill Cows

Nova Scotia is one of Canada's most beautiful Provinces. It has almost everything other Provinces have in the way of scenery. It is just squeezed together and more compact. If you stood on a hill or a mountain, high enough that you could see all of Nova Scotia at once, this is what you would see. Hills upon hills, dressed in flowing green grass. In between the hills, you would see low lying golden meadows and green fertile valleys. The hills are fringed with trees, such as maple, birch, poplar, fir, spruce and sometimes apple trees. Beyond the hills is the sea. The sea almost surrounds Nova Scotia, all but a bit of land that joins to New Brunswick. This makes Nova Scotia a peninsula. With all these hills, you can see how a farmer might have a problem finding fields to pasture his cows in. But that isn't the case. Nova Scotia farmers have special cows. They are called " Side Hill Cows."

"...I will put the cows that limp on the opposite side hill pasture then they won't fall down."

What's so special about "Side Hill Cows" you might ask. The cows must graze on the side of the hill (graze means eat the grass). So they don't fall and roll down the hill, they have two legs on one side shorter than the legs on the other side. That way they are level with the hill and won't fall.

Farmers must be careful when adding to their herds. When buying a Side Hill Cow, they must be sure to get the shortest legs on the proper side. For example: if the farmer lives on the left side of a hill, the cow must have the short legs on her left side. If one lives on the right side of the hill the cows must have the shorter legs on the right side.

You see, if you put the cows shortest legs on the



down hill side of a hill, she will roll all the way to the bottom and not be able to get back up to the barn for milking. Of course it would never do to put a Side Hill Cow on level land as they would limp terribly.

Now you know more about Side Hill Cows than Jim and Betty did, when they decided to move from Toronto, Ontario, to a farm in Nova Scotia. Jim had grown up on a big dairy farm in Ontario and his eldest brother now ran the farm. Jim worked as an electrician in the city, but his heart was really into farming. His wife Betty was a teacher until their twins were born. Jill and Richard were just two years old when their father saw an ad in the Farmers Herald. The ad read, Vacant Farm for Sale, reasonable. Jim showed the ad to Betty and they wrote for the particulars. Although Betty hadn't grown up on a farm, she knew that it would be just the place to bring up the twins. That summer Jim and Betty and the twins Jill and Richard took their van camping trailer and drove to Nova Scotia. They looked at the farm.




The farm house and barn sat on a little hill at the foot of several larger hills. Green grass grew on the smaller hills, just right for cows to graze on, the larger hills had lots of trees to break the wind and to provide firewood for the cold winters. Betty and Jim fell in love with the farm and since the price was so reasonable, made a down payment right then.

That fall they moved to Nova Scotia, they painted the house white with red trim and the barn red with white trim. The barn was filled with hay and Jim bought two milk cows. These cows did well on the

(Continued on page 9)

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REPAIR

STEVENSON

(Continued from page 8)

level ground around the house and barn. Jim said he would fix the fences and next year then cows could roam the hills. In the spring Betty prepared her garden and Jim bought several more cows. Now he had eight cows and two calves. His milk cows had a calf each and he put them all in the side hill pasture. But the cows weren't happy and they didn't give much milk. Jim observed them carefully. Some of the cows limped when on the flat ground, some couldn't walk on the side hill as they fell down. He was puzzled until the twins said, (as they always did together, and no one could understand them), "their legs are wrong. "

"What do you mean?" said their father. "Some of the cows have four legs the same length and they can walk on the flat ground, some have two legs shorter on the up-hill side and they can walk on the hill. The others have shorter legs on the down-hill side and fall down."

Jim scratched his beard and thought and looked and sure enough the twins were right. "I know he said I will put the cows that limp on the opposite side hill pasture then they won't fall down." Then I'll keep the ones that like the flat near the barn for milking. The others are fine where they are. " The next time I will make sure which side-hill cows I buy.

Anytime you pass along a road and you see cows on the side hill, look to see if they are standing straight. If so, their backs would be parallel with the hill. The two legs on the uphill side should be shorter than the ones on the other side. Watch and see how she walks, is she a right or a left Side Hill Cow. Of course these cows give the best milk, just ask one the next time you see her. ♻️

The End

Isabel Tait



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How Much Is That Puppy Continued...

(Continued from page 7)

abuse animals to make more money. The "Guarantee" that comes with your dog from many of these mills and stores is designed to protect them, not you or your dog. Never buy an animal from an ad on the Internet or in a parking lot from the back of a van!!!

Getting a dog is lifelong commitment. Take your time to make sure you are adding the right dog to your family, then you can enjoy all the loyalty and companionship a furry friend can offer. ♻️

Submitted by Cathy Allen,
Cornwallis Veterinarians Ltd., Belcher Street



"The true fisherman approaches the first day of fishing with all the sense of wonder and awe of a child approaching Christmas"
 -Robert Traver *Trout Madness 1960*

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Story From The Family Farm: Part Two

There were more than thirty family farms in the community of Centreville before the 1950's. It was after this date when the small family farms became less profitable to operate. Less than five of the larger of these family farms have survived as a family farming operation.

Most of these family farms were small by today's standards. The smaller family farms did not provide a living for those farming families, but they did provide them with farm produce and the sale from their produce was a supplement for their income. Three of the larger farms that were located in the area of Centreville (now referred to as the growth), area are the former Andrew and his son Prescott Neville family farm. Neville Court Subdivision and Ellsworth Estate Subdivision are included in this previous farm property.

The former Clyde and Edith Whalen family farm property included the area where Pine Crest Subdivision is located on the east side of Sherman Belcher Road. The Percy Lydiard farm that included most of the property that is bordered by Sherman Belcher Road, Saxon Street, Lydiard Road and west beyond Hwy. 359. Included in this property is Lydiard Park. Percy Lydiard bequeathed this natural forested area to the community of Centreville as a nature park.

Park Side Estate Subdivision and several residential properties outside of the subdivision are included in this former Percy Lydiard property. Percy Lydiard was employed as a bookkeeper and he was a gentleman farmer. He was born in 1874 and he died in 1948. I can remember riding in his car when I was eight years of age. There were not many cars in Centreville in 1943 and Percy Lydiard being a kind and considerate gentleman believed in offering rides to his friends and neighbors.

Percy's father was Harry Lydiard who was born in 1848 and died in 1928. Harry Lydiard's wife's name was Laura; she was born in 1852 and died in 1926. There were several generations of Lydiard's that lived on their family farm in Centreville. Harry Lydiard owned several famous trotting horses. The horses were named; Border One, Border Two and Border Three.

During his younger years, Percy was involved with helping his father with the trotting horses. They had a racetrack on their

family farm for training the horses that were in racing competitions with trotting horses as far away as the United States.

Bill Porter and his wife Maud lived in the large white house east of highway 359 and opposite Butler Road. This was not a large property, but they worked hard and provided for their family. Growing and selling fruit and vegetables was part of their income. Bill made regular trips to Halifax in his 1927 Model T Ford truck loaded with fruit and vegetables to sell in that city. He had mentioned concerning these long and tiresome four hour trips to Halifax and the terrible conditions of the narrow dirt roads with ruts so deep that sometimes when he began to fall to sleep, his Model T Ford followed these deep ruts. Bill with his great sense of humor remarked that he had made so many trips to Halifax in his old truck that it could find the way back home without him. He would blow his horn when approaching the corners to warn those traveling from the opposite direction.

Bill Porter also kept dairy cows and he delivered quart bottles of milk from his cart or sled to his customers in the community of Centreville. He was active well into his advanced years when he operated a greenhouse and nursery business on his property. Bill was well known and respected in the community of Centreville.

The next small family farm operation going north on Highway 359 included the entire property along Murray Drive. The house on the corner of Murray Drive and Highway 359 was the original farmhouse. It is one of the older homes in Centreville. The age of these older homes can be identified by their closeness to the highway. It was constructed when the highway was a narrow dirt road and horse and oxen provided transportation.

The old home has had many owners over the years. It is presently occupied by Tony Hazel. She has recently had renovations done that have changed the appearance of this old home. Harold and Carrie Shankle moved into this house in about 1915. There was a barn and farm buildings on the property that included the entire developed area west of the farm home.

Harold and Carrie had retired from their respective careers before they had settled into their small family farm in Centreville.

(Continued on page 11)

Gerry's Nursery

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Centreville, N.S.

(Continued from page 10)

Carrie was a schoolteacher and Harold was a qualified cook. They had lived in California before settling in Centreville. Harold was employed as a cook in the California lumber camps and Carrie was teaching school. Carrie was a Hawbolt and she was from Chester, Lunenburg county Nova Scotia. Her father, David Hawbolt, began a cooperage business in 1870. He later became a successful merchant in Chester. Carrie was the first of seven children that were born to David and Mary (Hennigar) Hawbolt. Carrie was born in 1871. The forth born child and brother to Carrie was Foreman who was born in 1879. He married Eva Evans in 1902. From an early age, Foreman Hawbolt had a great interest in experimenting with engines. He made modifications and improvements until he developed the much improved Hawbolt Engine. The Hawbolt Engine was very much in demand as a marine engine and for other purposes.

“...it would be a true statement that they lived for each other.”

Foreman Hawbolt owned Hawbolt Industries in Chester where he manufactured his popular engine. There are a lot of achievements concerning Carrie's brother Foreman that I could mention. Harold and Carrie were together in the city of San Francisco on April 8 1906 when the terrible earthquake and fire that left 315 people dead and 250 000 homeless and 350 missing. Harold and Carrie became separated during this disastrous earthquake and fire that lasted for three days and nights. And Harold and Carrie were among the missing. Their search and not knowing the fate of each other during this long period of time was an ordeal for both of them that they never forgot.

It was not long after this terrible experience that Harold and Carrie came back to Nova Scotia where they were relieved to have each other and to begin their happy life together on their small family farm in Centreville. They would not return to California where they could be reminded of their traumatic experience.

The Shankles were a very close couple who were very much in love. I believe that it would be a true statement that they lived for each other. Carries name for Harold was always Hal and his name for her was Kit. They were a wonderful couple who were very kind and they were respected in the community. They did not have children of their own, but they loved children. The children in the community were welcomed to their home and the children loved to visit with the Shankles. Carrie would often

make use of her teaching ability to help the children that came to their home. My eldest brother John recalls her excellent and effective teaching technique and that she used a simple and amusing description for each letter. Her method was very effective for the children to learn and to remember their letters.

The Shankel's kept hens and a few cows in their barn that was behind their home. They sold milk and eggs. They also had a large vegetable garden from which they sold some vegetables. Much of their produce from their farm was given to their neighbors and to those in need. The large house and property became too much work for Harold and Carrie to take care of and in 1947, they sold their small farm and moved into a smaller house on Sherman Belcher Road.

My brother Ron recalls that he was twenty-one years of age, when he was the teamster of our father's team of horses and wagon that moved the Shankles furniture to their new home on Sherman Belcher Road. This house has been remodeled and it is larger then when the Shankles lived there.

The house on the corner of Lydiard Road and Sherman Belcher Road where Leon and Wanetta Ward now live was the home of Burgess and Jennie Kinsman and their daughter Olivia who was seven years of age when the Shankles became her close neighbor and moved into the house on the east side of Sherman Belcher Road. From the time that the Shankles first moved into this home until Olivia moved to Ontario with her parents in the early 1950's she would cross the road practically every day to visit with the Shankles.

Olivia enjoyed the special times with Harold who would often read to her. It was difficult for Olivia to leave her good friends and move to Ontario, and it was sad for the Shankles to see her go so far away. Carrie passed away in 1955 and Harold died about one year later. Those who were close to Harold, said that he died from a broken heart and loneliness for his much-loved wife Kit.

I have only mentioned a few of the families that lived on the many family farms that were located in the village of Centreville. There are more stories that could be told about these families and their life on the family farms. ☺

Mack Frail

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Book Reviews...For your night table or the beach!

Just a few of my favorites—Shari McKenzie-Ramsay

Business/Inspirational

“Let My People Go Surfing”, Yvon Chouinard

*This was one of the best business autobiographies that I have read in a long time. The author, as the founder of **patagonia** gear and clothing, offers inspiring insights into a new way of looking at business. He is a non-conventional individual that shaped his business around what was important to him and his way of life. This is a must read for those who need a little inspiration in their business or life.*

Chicklit (light reading generally geared toward women)

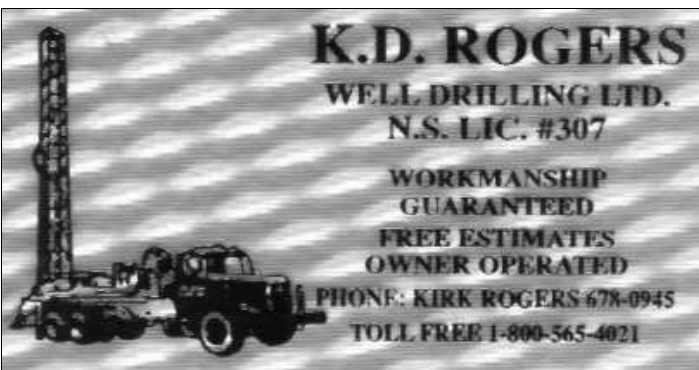
The Shopaholic series, Sophie Kinsella

I have to admit, I looked at these in the bookstore for a long time before actually picking it up. My initial thought was that it was going to be a flaky book. Well alright it can be a little flaky BUT if you are looking for a great series that won't stretch your brain too much after a long day at work or on the beach—this is for you. One word of caution though...don't read it on a day that you might be influenced to go shopping. Even those of us that only shop as needed felt a strange urge to buy something frivolous!

For the new dad (or as a great gift for a dad to be)

“The Guy's Guide to Surviving Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the First year of Fatherhood”, Michael Crider

This is a must for every new father's bedside reading list. It is absolutely hilarious and definitely needed levity at 4:30 in the morning when the little one has decided to play. Crider helps fathers (and moms) look at the humorous side of this life changing experience. Worth every penny!☺



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Getting ready for spring—Cleaning tips for Patio Furniture! Excerpts from page 108, “Talking Dirty with the Queen of Clean” Linda Cobb

Furniture Cushions: *To mix your own solution, in a spray bottle combine 1 teaspoon of dishwashing liquid and 1 teaspoon of borax per quart of warm water. Spray this on the cushion on both sides and let it sit for about 15 minutes. Then take out the hose and, using a strong spray, rinse the solution and the dirt off the cushions. Put them back on chairs and set them out in the direct sunshine to dry. Once they have dried to just damp, apply a good coating of Scotch guard Fabric Protector to protect the cushions and make cleaning easier the next time.*

Aluminum with Baked-Enamel Finish: *Use a sponge soaked in detergent and wash well, rinse and dry. To protect, apply a coat of good-quality car wax. This will make cleaning easier and maintain the shine. It can be used on baked enamel finish, too.*

If you have read a book lately that you would like to recommend or have any tips that you would like to share with other readers, please email submissions to learn@spiritustraining.com—your input is always welcome!

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