



THE CENTRE POST



What Are You Giving this Christmas?

By Marc Potvin

Christmas is just around the corner. I would imagine that by now you have given out and received others' wish lists. I must admit that it is not always easy to find the perfect gift to give to someone who has everything. That is perhaps why the store and malls are full of people browsing the aisles, in search of something new or something different. I know some people who avoid going to the shopping districts at this time of the year.

It is not that gift giving is a bad thing. It helps us express our love to another person. Through our gift we say that the receiver is important. Plus, we all know how great the act of giving makes us feel. But we don't have to spend an enormous amount of money to do that.

What about giving something that does not cost us a dime? For example, we can give our undivided attention to a person we care about, like our spouse, our children, our grandchildren or even our parents. We can take a real interest in our loved ones' lives. Do we really know what our children's hopes are? How can we encourage them with school, or help them achieve their dreams? Do we really understand our parents' struggles as they grow older? How can we better listen to them and support them?

Time, undivided attention, encouragement and listening, among others, are free gifts that we can all give to those whom we love. They can be given out at any time and at any place. I know that these things are always on a person's unspoken wish list. Is there a better way for us to say "I love you"? I know that whoever receives these kinds of gifts always feel loved and important.

(continued on P. 2)



EDITOR'S NOTE

By Suzanne Trudeau Gormley
(a.k.a. Centre Post Lady)

Can you believe it? It's been a year since my first issue of the Centre Post! Time sure does fly when you're having fun! [Which reminds me, life is not to be taken for granted; count your blessings and go after your dreams.] Here's hoping that you will truly enjoy yourselves this Christmas and I wish you a Happy New Year! Joyeux Noël!



The Centre Post is published four times a year:

**September, December,
March and June.**

DEADLINES for news items, etc. are due by the 1st day of these months, with the Newsletter at the outlets by the 21st. It is always good to get your information in earlier than the deadline.

Thank you to all our current contributors and I encourage anyone in the community to submit your ideas, recipes, crafts, etc. for our March issue.

Centreville District Community Development Association **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS**

Where: Centreville Hall

When: Fourth Thursday of the Month

Time: 7:00 PM

Exceptions: JULY, AUGUST & DECEMBER

BY NOTIFICATION – All meetings are open to the public — come out to support your community

FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS, STORIES, ADS or INFORMATION CALL ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Set-up of newsletter, contact:

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To place an **advertisement**, call:
Mike Sweeney at 679-2780.

What Are You Giving this Christmas? (continued from P. 1)

As Christmas quickly approaches, remember that the best gift you can give is the gift of yourself. So, take the time not to shop, but to be around those who are important to you.

Have a merry and blessed Christmas!

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16.



Marc Potvin
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Good Neighbour Club News

By Gail Salmon

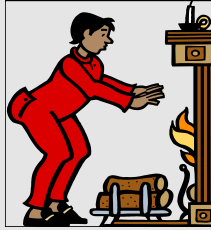
Hi. I hope this finds everyone fine and well and excited for the Christmas season.

The Centreville Good Neighbour Club closed 2008 with a Christmas Party on Thursday evening, December 4. The ladies were served an interesting meal with wonderful cheesecakes for dessert. Santa Claus made a short appearance to help hand out presents from under the tree. It is a time for the ladies to unwind after an eventful year.

We have had a busy year with fun and volunteer activities. For those unfamiliar with the Good Neighbour Club, we canvass every May for several charitable organizations. We had a good year and appreciate the community support. Speaking of community support, the Fuel Supper in October was a great success.

(continued on P. 7)

A Little Winter Levity



Poem Written While Vainly Searching for my Winter Underwear

By Harold Porter

When springtime comes and hearts are light and gay,

That's when I put my winter underwear away.
But when the winter winds blow down the lane
That's when I search for underwear again.

Chorus

Oh, I wonder where my winter woollies went -
I've looked for them until I'm nearly spent.
Did I put them in a drawer - or are they on the
attic floor?

Oh I wonder where my winter woollies went!

When summer days are gone and are no more,
And Jack Frost sulks around the kitchen door -
When I feel cold on both my front and rear -
That's when I search for winter underwear.

Chorus

Oh I wonder where my winter woollies went -
To have hidden them is what I never meant.
Did I pack them in a box, or are they with my
winter socks? Oh I wonder where my winter
woollies went!



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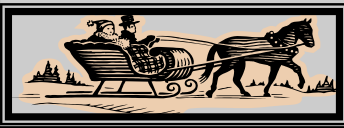
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Story from the Family Farm

By Mack Frail

The train which travelled from Kentville to Kingsport was known as the Blueberry Special. The name was applied because of the abundance of blueberries that grew along the railway tracks and because some of the people who harvested the blueberries travelled on the train.

Beginning at the Kentville station, there were train stops located at Aldershot, Steam Mill, Centreville, Sheffield Mills, Hillaton, Canning and Kingsport stations. The distance travelled by the train from Kentville to Kingsport was 21.9 km. The train began travelling this route in 1890, when it was the Cornwallis Valley Railway Line, and eventually was operated by the Dominion Atlantic Railway. The train left Kentville at 3:00 p.m. and arrived in Kingsport at 4:10 p.m. The train was then turned on the wye in Kingsport and stayed there overnight. At 7:00 a.m., the Blueberry Special was on its way to Kentville. Most of the passengers on board were high school students heading for Kings County Academy in Kentville. The train would stop at all of the stations along the way to pick up the students. It departed from Kentville and arrived in Kingsport at 12:00 p.m. where it was then turned on the wye and departed for Kentville at 1:25 p.m. I can recall waiting at the Centreville station for the train that arrived at about 2:00 p.m. and the excitement of another of the many trips to Kentville on the Blueberry Special.



The train was particularly busy during the Christmas season with many people going to Kentville to do their Christmas shopping. I can remember at a very early age going with my mother and the excitement of the season and seeing the



stores decorated for Christmas. Kentville, during these times, was a busy shopping centre. The people travelling on the train were mostly acquainted and they were friends and neighbours. It was a friendly atmosphere among the passengers and train crew. Prescott Neville was the station agent in Centreville from 1921 until the railway closed down in 1961. He was a very friendly and obliging man. I like the smell of cigars and I will always remember that Pres-

cott Neville's brand of cigars left a particular and distinct aroma in the Centreville railway station. Centreville depended on the train and it was an important service to the community. The mail was transported to the station by train and the freight service was important for the local industry and the farmers.

I could write more concerning the days of the Blueberry Special but I have promised not to make it too long, only to mention that the photos were given to me by Hazel Roscoe and she has suggested that the readers of the Centre Post would enjoy them. The Blueberry Special is on the 359 Highway crossing and approaching the Centreville station from the east. The man standing in the background near the station is Prescott Neville.



**Message from
Councillor Dick Killam
November 15, 2008**



To the residents of Centreville and surrounding areas,

As your newly elected Councillor for District 3, I want to thank those of you that took the time to come out and vote in the recent Municipal Election.

I look forward to working with you and assisting you any way I can in the next four years. We live in uncertain times and need to remind ourselves how important communities are to our quality of life. The global problems we cannot fix but we can impact our local way of life by working together and helping each other when times are tough. Local Municipal Government is closest to the people and is in my opinion the most important and direct means for citizens to participate in our so-called democratic system.

Please feel free to contact me either by phone 679-1949 or by e-mail using the address councillorkillam@county.kings.ns.ca

Once again, thank you for your support. Season's greetings!

Councillor Dick Killam



World Leaders and \$499 Wine

The leaders of some of the most influential countries in the world just met in Washington at the invitation of President Bush. They convened in order to discuss ideas and strategies for how best to deal with the global financial crisis affecting many people throughout the world.

As they gathered together around the dinner table after their meetings they sipped on fine wine priced at \$499 a bottle. Reporters who found out about this quite rightly raised the question of whether or not it was a tad hypocritical to be consuming such expensive wine when so many people have lost their homes and life savings. The public relations spokesperson replied that it was an appropriate wine for an intimate setting.

It is difficult to find the right word to describe the attitude of world leaders who think it perfectly acceptable to drink expensive wine while the people they represent suffer. The word "greed" comes to mind as does the word "hypocrisy." But perhaps the most appropriate word is "stupidity."

I do not pretend to understand the complexities of the global financial crisis. I have read everything I can get my hands on but experts too seem to be baffled. I used to think that if one had two lawyers you were guaranteed to have at least three opinions but economists have lawyers beat hands down!

After almost drowning in conflicting economic theories and studies it came to me that at heart economics is very

simple. Economics shares more with the laws of ethics than those of physics -- greed is wrong; you cannot spend more than you have; love your neighbour as yourself; do unto others as you would have others do unto you; do not lie; do not covet.

These admonitions from the field of ethics are applicable to economics as well which is why the leaders' actions are so stupid. We must all learn to be less greedy. We must recover the values of thrift and hard work which characterized our forebears. But if the very leaders we look to are busy saying one thing while greedily sucking down their \$499 a bottle wine, then citizens and business people will not be motivated to do the right thing.

The great Indian leader, Mahatma Gandhi, once claimed that there is enough in this world for everyone's need but not for everyone's greed. And that is true. But it is easier to condemn than to correct. Appropriate regulations and greater state involvement will be the case in the future and this is well and good.

My point is that if world leaders want citizens to support and adhere to such regulations then they must set an example in their behavior. When they fail to do so their very actions undermine the decisions they make and the economic crisis and overconsumption which has brought us to the point of financial and environmental ruin will simply continue -- until the whole deck of cards collapses and everyone is left with nothing.



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Pizza that's for the birds

By Catherine Nash,
HappyMailForKids.ca

Kids will love making this tasty pizza treat for their feathered friends.

This craft is enjoyable for children and grown-ups alike to make and decorate together. It's sticky and lots of fun.

You need:

- Waxed paper to work on (large enough to cover your work space)
- Bagels with visible holes in middle
- Bread that has been well toasted and cooled
- Peanut butter (if you have nut allergy concerns just use any sticky spread)
- Wild birdseed
- Craisins
- Ribbon
- Tin pie plate
- Spatula/butter knife



To make:

1. Cover your workspace with waxed paper (this will make cleaning up a little easier).
2. Cover the bottom of a tin pie plate with birdseed.
3. Using a spatula or butter knife, cover both sides of the bagel with peanut butter. Cut a hole in one corner of the cold toast before covering it with peanut butter.
4. After it's covered with peanut butter, place the bagel and toast one at a time in the pie plate of birdseed. Use your hands to spread and press the birdseed to the bagel/toast (a spoon also works well).
5. Shake off the extra seeds and lay the bagel/toast on your wax paper.
6. Dip one side of the Craisins in peanut butter then press to the bagel/toast (the Craisins act as the pepperoni). Cover any remaining exposed peanut butter with birdseed.
7. Cut a piece of ribbon and thread it through the holes in your bagels and toast. Tie the 2 ends together so you can hang the bird pizza outside.
8. Now you are ready to find a tree to hang your pizza for the birds.



Sausage, Cranberry & Apple Stuffing

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- 1 1/2 cups cubed whole wheat bread
- 3 3/4 cups cubed white bread
- 2 cups finely diced turkey sausage
- 1 cup *Country Magic™* diced onion
- 3/4 cup chopped celery
- 2 1/2 teaspoons dried sage
- 1 1/2 teaspoons dried rosemary
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 medium apple, cored and chopped
- 3/4 cup Terra Beata dried cranberries
- 1/3 cup minced fresh parsley
- 3/4 cup chicken stock
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Spread the bread cubes in a single layer on a large baking sheet. Bake for 5 to 7 minutes, or until evenly toasted. Transfer toasted bread cubes to a large bowl.
2. In a large skillet, cook the sausage and onions over medium heat, until evenly browned. Add the celery, sage, rosemary, and thyme; cook, stirring, for 2 minutes to blend flavors.
3. Pour sausage mixture over bread in bowl. Mix in chopped apple, dried cranberries and parsley. Drizzle with chicken stock and melted butter, mix lightly and spoon into turkey.



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Tuesday - Sunday: Lunch: 11:30 am - 2:30 pm

Friday - Sunday: Dinner: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Reservations recommended



Pollution in the Bay of Fundy

By Dick Killam

This article deals with pollution in the Bay of Fundy. We are more fortunate along this side of the Bay of Fundy with respect to low population; no large seaports or industrial complexes that are known to dump toxic chemicals into the sea. On the other side of the Bay there is more potential for this sort of thing especially around the City of Saint John. We do have the powerful tides that flush out the Bay every twelve hours which helps keep the Bay area less polluted.

The Nuclear Plant at Pt. Lepreau situated on the Bay of Fundy casts its potentially catastrophic radioactive shadow over all of us if indeed there is ever a major accident there. There are isotopes that are clearly attributable to the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station in the water surrounding the Plant. This 660 megawatt Candu reactor is, I believe, one of the only plants that uses seawater for cooling. Research has indicated that small amounts of radioactive material are released into the Bay and into the atmosphere. This Nuclear Plant is located 75 miles from the Annapolis Valley, and, with the prevailing westerly winds, it makes one ponder as to how a major accident would affect our lives here in the Valley and beyond. I personally feel a sense of uncertainty about potential threats from this monster. This is something we can do little about as our political masters make the decisions to build these power generating systems. Hopefully, proper monitoring systems are in place to accurately measure what levels of radioactive material are getting into our air and water.

Scientists studying toxic wastes in the marine environment are usually careful to distinguish between the terms "contamination" and "pollution." "Contamination" indicates that a particular poisonous or noxious material is present in the environment in readily detectable amounts. In contrast, the term "pollution" implies that the noxious material is not only present, but that there is enough of it to measurably harm the animals or plants living there.

Using these definitions Peter Wells, a pollution scientist with Environment Canada, has concluded that "the Bay is clearly contaminated" but that "there is relatively little evidence to date of pollution". This line between contamination and pollution is fuzzy as, although there is no obvious killing off of any species, there are other signs more subtle

disruptions in physiological or biochemical processes are happening. These range from the thinning of shells of bird eggs caused by the pesticide DDT. This was found only after the population of peregrine falcons, bald eagles and of seabirds such as gannets declined alarmingly. Frequent monitoring of populations of animals, plants and their habitats may allow us to detect such adverse changes in the Fundy ecosystem before they become critical.

On the Valley floor the large sewage treatment plants, agricultural manure and pesticide runoffs and yes even the leachate from the eighty year closed landfill site located outside Meadowview spew large amounts of waste into the Cornwallis River which empties into the Minas Basin. Who knows what effects this chemical cocktail has on the environment. If it were not for the tide's flushing action we would have major pollution problems. A study was conducted and it determined the Cornwallis River is one of the most contaminated river systems in the world. Hard to believe but this was based on research and samples taken from rivers from all over the planet.

The Bay is also influenced negatively from the industrial wastes brought up the Bay from many cities along the eastern seaboard. How much can the powerful tidal flushes handle before contamination becomes a real problem, we simply do not know at this point in time but if amounts increase from the Valley floor and from toxic waste coming in on the tide there will definitely be big problems ahead for our marine life and quite possibly human life. Drinking water is a precious resource and it needs protection.

Industries such as clamming are being threatened now, as more and more times it has to be shut down due to exposure to fecal bacteria caused by sewage treatment plants.

Mussels are periodically collected from several sites around the Bay and analyzed for a variety of different chemicals. This is part of a worldwide monitoring effort.

continued on P. 8)

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Centreville Hall Project Update

Submitted by Budd Murphy

Doesn't the hall look great?!

As we come to the end of another phase in the repair and up-grading of our Hall/Community Centre, the residents of Centreville and area should feel proud of what has been accomplished to date. With the hard work of the Good Neighbour Club, the Hall Association and other like-minded organizations we have been able to raise the funds to cover the last of the insulation and siding for the Hall.

Our last bill was \$19,763.70.

How did we pay for it?

County Community Hall Program	\$4,000.00
Good Neighbour Club	\$7,500.00
Centreville and District Community Development Association	\$1,000.00
Centre Post	\$500.00
Centreville Hall Association	\$6,763.70

Further to the insulation and siding, the Hall Association also looked after having any required painting done before winter sets in.

We'll take a bit of a rest for now but watch this space for future projects and plans for our Hall.



Seeking New Direction for Centreville Park

Suzanne Trudeau Gormley

On November 25, a meeting was held at the Centreville Hall to discuss the past, present and future of our park. Unfortunately, the turnout was very disappointing. The park is deteriorating due to lack of finances and lack of interest in the community (not to mention, a few bad apples).

What changes would you like to see happen with our park?

Some who were at this meeting have carried the ball for a long time and would like nothing better than to hand over the torch to the young families of Centreville. The infusion of new blood is desperately needed for the planning and caring of our park and, ultimately, its survival.

The next meeting will be on January 28, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. and before this meeting takes place, a survey will be distributed at the Big Breakfast on January 17. This is to start the process of fielding the community's desires. You can complete it anonymously and deposit it at the Post Office in a designated box.

We are seeking your ideas/suggestions and participation to keep our park alive and well. Young and old, we need your energy to make our park a great place to play!



Good Neighbour Club News

By Gail Salmon
(continued from P. 2)

The Good Neighbour Club has been doing this supper for well over 30 years; that's a lot of turkeys. The money goes to pay for the heating of the hall. This year we raised \$3,500 which should be enough to cover the costs. Last year the total heating bill came to \$3,770.

November 8, the GNC held a Fall Luncheon complete with bake table, white elephant table, silent auction and a tasty luncheon. This too, was a success and will help in the upkeep of the hall. We thank you again for your support.

The Club, as well as many wonderful community helpers, has worked hard on the monthly breakfasts and the success can be seen through all the renovations at the Centreville Hall. It is really nice to see the "old school" get a facelift.

On Monday, December 8th, we held our second annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. Last year was so much fun and enticed many 'Centrevillians' to come out and sing a few Christmas songs around the tree, followed by hot chocolate and cookies. This year, we had a turnout of approximately 105 people! Watch for the posters next year at local outlets for details of the 2009 ceremony.


Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Centreville "Welcome to Centreville" Signs



By Peggy Sheffield


The Centreville District Community Development Association would like to thank everyone who helped out with the erecting of the "Welcome to Centreville" signs in the 5 locations. A special thanks to Doug Brown for all his work and Lee Kent and Mervin Steadman for their help. The following companies contributed material and/or labor for the signs: Valley Power Products, Archie's Welding, Crown Fibre Tube, Dafor Construction, Auto-Trim - Centreville, V.J. Rice Concrete, S. G. Levy & Sons Lumber and Derek Wood - Kitchens. All your help and contributions are greatly appreciated.



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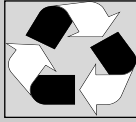
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Pollution in the Bay of Fundy

Submitted by Dick Killam
Halls Harbour, N.S, 679-1949
(continued from P.

Large oil tankers off-load cargoes of crude oil at the offshore terminal of a refinery located near Saint John. With the multi-billion dollar refinery being built by Irving, the threats of major oil spills in the Bay only increases. Large bulk oil storage tanks are present in many coastal communities. Aquaculture industries may also be affecting water quality in many areas. Accumulations of "mariculture sludge" comprised of fish feces and uneaten food in the vicinity of salmon cages can cause depletion of oxygen and production of toxic gases leading to localized impoverishment of benthic communities. A variety of chemicals such as pesticides to control parasites, hormones to enhance growth and anti-foulants to control fouling organisms on cages, are used routinely by the aquaculture industry. There are recent reports about the illegal use of highly toxic, unapproved pesticides by some fish farm operators to control parasites. The death of 60,000 lobsters being held in a pound in southeastern New Brunswick, has been blamed on heavy applications of the agricultural pesticide cypermethrin which is not approved for marine use to control sea lice in nearby salmon farms. Concentrations of this chemical in tissues of the lobsters were 10-20 times above the animals' lethal level.

Peter Wells concluded we must continue studying the effects of the many contaminants that are present in the Bay of Fundy marine environment due to the fact that we ourselves consume large quantities of fish and other marine life taken from the area. If we become more vigilant on what we dump into it, it need not inevitably be "polluted".



Keep the Environment in Mind this Holiday Season

By Andrew Garrett



Christmas is the time of year to rejoice but there are a few other R's that we should be remindful of this holiday season. You know what they are: Reduce-Reuse-Recycle. We must also remember that the 3-R's are said in their order of importance. Recycling our waste is important but what we really need to do is reduce and reuse as much waste as possible. Solid waste usually increases by approximately 25% at Christmas and some of this waste can be avoided if we keep the 3-R's in mind. Here are a few ways you can reduce your waste this holiday season. Buy gifts that are needed, and if they are needed, buy products that will last.

Make cloth "holiday bags" that can be reused year after year in place of wrapping paper.

If you do wrap presents; use the Sunday comics, old posters or recycled wrapping paper.

Buy gifts that are made from recycled products. Doing so will ensure a sustainable market for your recyclable waste.

Everyone at Valley Waste wishes you and your family a happy and safe holiday season. We hope you will make choices to reduce waste and reuse, and that you recycle and compost all you can. If you have visitors during the holidays, introduce them to our sorting system and send them home wishing for a recycling program as comprehensive as ours!

Here are a few reminders:

Christmas tree disposal: There is no special collection for Christmas trees. You can cut your tree into four foot lengths, bundle it, and set it out for regular collection. Please remember, however, that the compartment on the truck is small, so tight and neat bundles are a must. Perhaps a better alternative is to drop off your tree, free of charge, at the Management Centre in Kentville. Trees will be accepted free throughout the month of January.

2009 Waste Management Calendar: Calendars will be delivered via Canada Post in mid December. The calendars are delivered as "unaddressed admail", so if you don't normally accept flyers, you may not get one. Most Post Offices are happy to keep a few calendars on-hand, so check with them if you haven't received yours. The calendar provides important information about collection and other waste management issues.

Wrapping Paper: Did you know it is compostable? Please remove bows and ribbons and place it in your green cart. Metallic wrapping paper is garbage.

If you have questions about the waste management program please contact Valley Waste:

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A Visit to the Home and Gardens of a True Genius

By Gren & Gail Jones

Dear Centre Post Readers,

I am wondering if you have done any of these activities in the past month: driven a car, flown in a helicopter, observed the flight of birds, landed by means of a parachute, operated a backhoe, driven a tank, manned a machine gun post in a foreign land, or taken a ride on a bicycle. Perhaps many of these seem quite ordinary and are done without much thought. What if you were living in 1500s and I asked you these same questions??

During our two most recent tours (#s 24 & 25), I brought a group of adults and then a group of students to the beautiful town of Amboise, located in the heart of the Garden of France, the Loire Valley.

In the 16th century, this town played a very important role, as it was the unofficial capital of France! The king, François Ier (Francis 1st) was not particularly fond of Paris or the British. He believed that Paris was too close to England. Imagine if he only knew that today London and Paris are linked by high speed trains that can cover the distance between them in a matter of hours as they literally fly across the countryside at speeds over 300 km/h.

François was known as the enlightened king, and it was he who met Jacques Cartier at le Mont St-Michel in Normandy in 1534 and gave him permission to discover a new way to the Orient. Little did he know that Cartier would, in fact, discover Canada. The king also convinced many Italian architects, artisans and the like to come to France to carry on their work. Today, it is referred to as the Italian Renaissance

period. It was an exciting time to live in France, especially if one was fortunate enough to be in the service of the king!

It was thus, at this time that a very important man decided to leave his homeland and travel to Amboise to become a major player in the king's court. He was a very talented man who could do almost anything. He was well educated and was constantly working on one project or another... perhaps it was a painting, various drawings, designs for inventions, or perhaps it was just his thoughts which were constantly being jotted down on paper. It is said that he wrote over 15,000 pages of notes and only half of those are known today. The notes are organized in what is known as a codex and they were written backwards! One of the most fa-



Leonardo Da Vinci's house in Amboise, France.

mous is the "Codex Leicester" which belongs to a famous man of our times, Bill Gates. **(I am inviting you to correctly answer the trivia question at the end of this article- the first person to email me the answer will receive a prize.)**

When da Vinci arrived in Amboise in 1516, he was invited to take up residence in le Clos Lucé, a beautiful château that was built in 1471 and was the

summer residence of the royal family for two centuries. The king had built a magnificent walled château on the adjacent hillside looking out over the great Loire River. He also had a tunnel made in order to be able to visit his new friend Leonardo whenever he wanted. In addition to the home, he offered Leonardo an annual salary of 1,000 pieces of gold and appointed him chief architect, artist and engineer. Thus, Leonardo pursued his passion in royal service until his death in May, 1519 at the age of 67 years.

What sort of work did Leonardo do for Francis 1st? During the year 1517, his work is mentioned in the Atlanticus Codex and this included his plans for a modern city to be built not far from Amboise. The new city included the king's new residence, equipped with his own telephone, waterway, boat landing and self closing doors! The city was to be built by the water and would be on two levels. The upper level was to be reserved for the nobles and the lower level would include streets for public transport and public housing.

Le Clos Lucé offers today's visitors not only an opportunity to enjoy the residence in all its splendour, but also invites them to spend time in the park where many of his thoughts and inventions are on display! Last July, I spent a full day there with my students. Each was supplied with a workbook containing 62 pages of activities to inspire the learner! Even though we were visiting during the holidays, we were not the only school group to be there on that day. It was truly an inspirational activity for all!

(continued on P. 10)

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CANARD UNITED CHURCH NEWS
 1314 Hwy, 341, Centreville (Upper Canard), N.S.

Submitted by Isabel Tait

One Hundred and Fifty years of worshipping in the same building was celebrated during the year 2008, with a special event each month. In September, dressed in period costume, Bill and Mary Swetnam used a mode of transport of the 1800s, a horse and buggy, to get them to church on time. Mary says it took longer, the scenery was lovely but the bumpy ride wasn't as comfortable as the automobile of today: "Imagine just how bumpy the road would have been before paving." They were on time for Church and the Congregational Pot Luck luncheon that followed.


The Celebration of 150 years was completed with a Church Service held on October 19th at 7 p.m. Special music was provided by the Pereaux Baptist Church Choir with soloists Paula Rockwell-Firth and Jim Retallack. The Reverend Ivan Gregan of Dartmouth gave the main address urging the people to remember the past and then to look forward with faith to the future. A reception was held after the service at which time Mrs. Elizabeth Murdoch, our most senior active member, placed the first cut in the Anniversary Cake. The Canard United Church family thank all those from other churches and communities that helped us celebrate 150 years. An

Anniversary booklet compiled from records of the past 150 years has been printed and is for sale; anyone wishing a copy should contact Isabel Tait (678-9765).

Our Worship Service and Sunday School is held at **9:45 a.m.** This change was made so that our organist would have time to get to another church for 11 a.m., where he is also the organist. One exception will be the White Gift Service which is led by the Sunday school students and teachers; this will be held December 7th at 4 p.m. with a Congregational Pot Luck supper to follow. White Gifts are traditionally non-perishable food stuffs wrapped in white paper; these foods will be given to the Food Bank.

Hopefully by the next newsletter we will have a new minister. May the Joy of the Christmas Season be yours now and throughout the New Year.





**Visit to the Home
 and Gardens of a
 True Genius**

(cont'd from P. 9)

Our tours for adults and students often include the Loire Valley where it appears that history and tradition are so important. However, to not spend a few hours at the home of the world's greatest thinker would be a lost opportunity. We are never too old to learn and Leonardo de Vinci is the inspiration - he encourages all mankind to use their brains wisely and make a great contribution to society every day of our lives.

Here is my trivia question: How much did Bill Gates pay for the Leicester Codex?

Possible answers:


- a) \$7,500
- B) \$175,000
- C) \$1,750,000
- D) \$30,000,000

My email: gc_jones@yahoo.ca
 Visit le Clos Lucé:
www.vinci-closluce.com

Note: If you are truly interested in visiting le Clos Lucé, contact me about our next tour to the Loire Valley in 2009!

Jeffery Best

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Fundy Film Society

Bringing the World to our Community

By Marke Slipp

Brought back into the limelight in 2004 by a dedicated group of volunteers, the old Acadia Cinema building is now home to both the JustUs Café and the Al Whittle Theatre. The theatre itself, named after longtime manager Al Whittle is also home to the Fundy Film Society who brings us films from around the world, around the country, and around the province.

A volunteer nonprofit organization started back in 2001, FFS first screened films at the Empire Theatres in New Minas. Their audience grew so quickly that the dream of restoring the Acadia Cinema building soon became a reality. A newly formed Acadia Cinema Cooperative Ltd. fashioned a partnership with JustUs Café and together purchased the old Acadia Cinema building in Wolfville.

The Fundy Film Society continued its relationship with the Empire theatre while the Acadia Cinema building underwent extensive renovations to restore it to a theatre which is better than ever. The 160-seat theatre is configured to accommodate a variety of activities including live theatre, live music, films and public or private forums. The theatre is available for rent for those who require such a space. Details available at the ACC's website, <http://www.acadiacinemacoop.ca/>

Memberships are not necessary to enjoy the films FFS screens but do help to defray some of the costs involved. A large amount of the capital costs to make the theatre viable have come from a variety of community-minded people who have bought shares in the Acadia Cinema Cooperative. Shares in ACC are available for \$100 each and have an Equity Tax Credit (30%) that can be applied to your Nova Scotia income. Thus far some \$286,000 has been raised through this program, and community members—both individuals and corporations in the area—hold the shares. There is a plan in place to sell more shares in the Cooperative in order to eliminate their debt by 2011. The ACC website has more details on this program if you're interested.

ACOA's Strategic Community Investment Fund provided some healthy funding and Kings CED provided some additional assistance. As with so many successful organizations like this, there have been key individuals that have shepherded the developments along, as well as staying on top of the day-to-day management of the theatre. More information on all of this is available through their excellent website.

The films that are shown at the cinema vary in nature. There is the Main series, which screens films that you might have heard of but didn't make it to the local theatre. Then there is the Edge series, a riskier, perhaps edgier type of movie that would have less commercial appeal. There is also a regular contribution made from various countries around the world. Biweekly documentaries screened on Wednesday evenings include a variety of films, as mainstream as *Shine A Light*, the latest Rolling Stones documentary, or the Academy Award nominated *Up the Yangtze*, to rarer films such as *Strand: Under the Dark Cloth* and *Griefwalker*, a couple of offerings by Nova Scotian filmmakers.

Local filmmaker, Jason Young, had local premieres of both his films at the theatre, and last January, due to a loan of a digital projector, there were two nights of films made by local filmmakers around the Annapolis Valley. Plans are afoot to purchase a digital projector for the ACC, allowing a wider variety of films—as well as videos—for their audience's enjoyment.

Screenings of the Main series take place at 4 and 7 PM Sundays, and 7 PM on Mondays. The Edge series presentations are screened on Sundays only, 4 & 7 PM. The Documentary series screens every 2nd Wednesday at 7 PM. There are also various Special Presentations that screen throughout the year. Sometimes there are even free screenings, usually on weekends, held by W.A.C.K.Y (Wolfville & Area Cinema Kids & Youth!). To give you an idea of the type of films presented at the theatre, a partial list of films for the 2009 winter schedule is listed below (details are on the website).

Religulous (Doc) January 7

Rachel Getting Married (Main) January 11 & 12

Tell No One (Edge) January 18

The Singing Revolution (Doc) January 21

Happy Go Lucky (Main) January 25 & 26

Heaven on Earth (Edge) February 1

The Secret Life of Bees (Main) February 8 & 9

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas (Edge) Feb. 15

The Duchess (Main) February 22 & 23

Priceless (Edge) March 1

Flow (Doc) March 4

I've Loved You So Long (Main) March 8 & 9

Stone of Destiny (Edge) March 15

Waltz With Bashir (Doc) March 18

The Necessities of Life (Edge) March 29

More information is available through the FFS website:

<http://fundyfilm.ca/>

Programs with detailed notes on the films are available in the theatre lobby. Please note that some of these films are tentative and subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Best to check their website prior to attending a show, or call 542-5157. Tickets are \$8 each although 6-packs can be purchased at the January 7, 2009 screening for \$36, a savings of \$12 for the 6 shows.

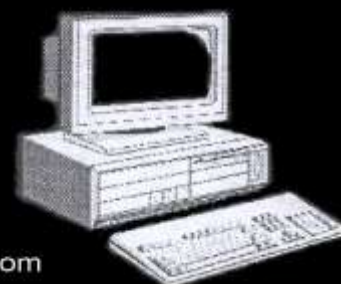


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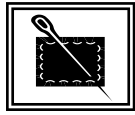
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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Centreville Baptist Church:

The Christmas Eve service is on Wednesday, December 24 at 6:30 pm. Everyone is invited.



Pins and Needles News

By Ruth Peskett

The Centreville Pins and Needles group continue to keep busy sewing comfort quilts for various community organizations such as Chrysalis House, and for needy families.

Forty-five comfort quilts were given away in November with a few extra kept on hand for emergencies.

The first Tuesday of each month, from 9 a.m. on, we meet to work on these quilts at the Centreville Hall.

We'd love to have you join us!

GNC's BIG BREAKFAST

Monthly—3rd Saturday

(Except for July and August)

Sheffield Mills & District Women's Institute - 3rd Monday, 2 p.m.

Canard United Church - Sunday Worship Service - **9:45 a.m.**, with exception for Dec. 7th, White Gift Service @ 4:00 PM, led by the Sunday School
www.canardunitedchurch.org

TOPS: - Mondays 6:00 – 7:00 PM

TOPS meet at Centreville Baptist Church on Murray Drive. (In the nursery room)

Monday evening:
Weigh in from 6:00 to 6:30 PM with a short meeting to follow.

We are open to new members at the cost of \$30.00 yearly which includes a magazine from headquarters with "Eating Sensibly" ideas and recipes. You can drop by for one free night.

For more information contact Leader Jean Bond at 679-1284 or Madeline Sheffield at 678-7584.

THE GOOD NEIGHBOUR CLUB (GNC) meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Hall **(Except for July and August)**.

All ladies of Centreville are welcome to attend and join the Club.

Blueberry Acres

Blueberry Acres Commercial Pick and U-pick would like to take this opportunity to thank all the loyal pickers who helped with this year's harvest. We hope to see you again next year..



Pictures of Centreville District and Surrounding Area

Did you know that the Centreville website has an email address you may send pictures to? If you have pictures you want to share with others you can send them to:

centrevillepictures@centreville-kings-county.com

Pictures of interest could be Old Historical, Nature, Business or People, whatever you think others would be interested in.
The pictures sent will be put on the Centreville website:

www.centreville-kings-county.com

ACADIA LIFELONG LEARNING CENTRE (ALL)

The ALL Centre provides courses, seminars, outings and special events for adults 50+ in environmental science, fine arts, writing, and more.

ALL membership benefits include free Acadia credit course audits and access to the Vaughan Memorial Library; reduced course and special event fees; and free seminars, lectures and readings. The annual membership fee is \$20.

The ALL Centre now has a new phone information option. For course updates, cancellations, room changes and ALL announcements call 902-585-1434 or 1-800-565-6568, at the prompt press 1. This is a recorded message that will be changed daily. If you want to join ALL or sign up for a course call the same number but press 4 at the prompt to speak to a client service specialist. When you call our office our voice message will guide you through these options. Or you can simply email all@acadiau.ca. We will continue to update our membership through our website all.acadiau.ca and via emails.



To view Winter and Spring courses offered through ALL, Acadia University Calendars will be available from the Centreville Post Office or through the following website:
all.acadiau.ca

ALL Brown Baggers

The ALL Brown Baggers program is intended to fill our need for discussion of some of the important, and perhaps not-so-important developments in our world. This is a truly informal time, when we can meet some new people who are lively and interesting, and who love learning every day; and we actually do eat lunch during the presentation.

The baggers meet every Thursday at noon in the beautiful Sheldon L. Fountain Learning Commons located right in the middle of the Acadia University campus.

Please mark your calendar: Every Thursday at noon. We will advise you by email of upcoming programs.

Comments and questions: mike@seataalk.info
<http://www.acadiau.ca/fountaincommons/>
<http://all.acadiau.ca>