

Construction Begins In Eaton Park

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Construction finally began in Eaton Park in mid February. The project was undertaken by the Village Commission in the late fall of 2008 and the early winter in 2009. The waterfront walkway had washed out following two severe fall storms and plans to have the walkway paved were put on hold as it had become apparent that more significant measures were needed to prevent the problem from reoccurring on an annual basis. It was at that point that the (then) Commission Chair Mary Lou Trenholm directed the Clerk to contact other levels of government looking for funding sources.

The Commission has built strong relationships with the Federal, Provincial and Municipal representatives and in record time, a funding formula was accepted and the Commission had partners on board with the project which is projected to cost \$196,000. The lion's share of the cost comes from the Federal Government and the Province. The County is contributing \$50,000 and the Village Commission will fund the remainder from its reserves approximately \$20,000.

The project consists of raising the waterfront by as much as three feet in places to a common elevation the length of the Park. That portion of the project has already been completed. Granite guard rocks will be placed along the entire waterfront to prevent future washouts and an attractive wooden boardwalk will run from the municipal parking lot behind Monty's to the dining hall on the Eaton Estate. Ten 14 foot tall light standards will be placed along the waterfront and the lawn will be back filled to the new height of the boardwalk then covered with sod. The project is expected to be completed by June 15th just in time for the Gathering of the Clans on July 1st.

It Takes a Village Newsletter is published quarterly — the first Tuesday of June, September, December and March. The deadline for our next issue is **May 10, 2010** Maximum word count of 250. We reserve the right to edit for length and readability. Photos or graphics will be used as space allows. Send articles by email to:
villagecommission@pugwashvillage.com
For more info call:
902-243-2946.

Still Waiting..... For A Utility and Review Board Ruling

As of the date of publication, the Village Commission has received no word from the Utility and Review Board of Nova Scotia as to when they expect to release a ruling on the application by certain rate-payers to change the Village boundaries.

Despite the spectre hanging over the Village, the Commission has continued to push ahead with its projects and objectives. "We'll deal with it when it comes, regardless of which way the ruling goes" says Village Commission Chairman Rod Benjamin.

In the mean time, the Commission has been busy with the waterfront restoration project, setting up the animal issues committee, organizing committees for sidewalk development and plans for a multi-purpose centre which will house a new library. The Commission is working closely with our partners at CREDA who have come on board to to assist with all aspects of planning and finding funding for the new centre.



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The volleyball court in Eaton Park will not be affected.

The Commission has also been in discussions with the Pugwash Park Commission – owners of Thinker's Lodge as how to best connect the improvements in the Park to their restoration project. The goal will be to present a seamless transition from Eaton Park onto the National Historic Site. Once completed, these two projects will present a true heritage treasure set against a beautifully rustic waterfront and Park for the public to enjoy for generations to come.

The Waterfront restoration, boardwalk and lights will compliment the new children's play areas that was installed in the Park last fall. The Harbour is one of the Village's most valuable attractions for tourism, presenting attractive areas where visitors can come to enjoy a stroll or a picnic while their little ones play in safety are key elements to bolstering the sagging tourism figures.

Additional projects currently in the works include a partnership with Communities in Bloom to purchase newly designed banners for placement throughout the Village, new litter and recycling bins and eventually the restoration of the historic Train Station on Durham Street. Those are in addition to ongoing plans to develop signage policies and a by-law to improve the appearance and placement of the multitude of signs currently in use around the Village.

Pugwash Village Commission administration
regular office hours:

**Monday to Friday
8:30am to 4:30pm**
(closed noon to 1pm)

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MEALS-ON- WHEELS PUGWASH

Is a service organized and operated by a Volunteer program committee under the sponsorship of the Pugwash Royal Canadian Legion, Branch # 60.

Further information about the service can be obtained by calling the Program Coordinator or any other committee member.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank
McQueen
66 King Street
P.O. Box 315
Pugwash, NS
B0K 1L0
902-243-2907



Pugwash C@P Site
Open Daily from 9 AM
to Noon and from
12:30 PM to 4 PM
124 Water Street

Pugwash Farmer's Market

The Pugwash Farmers Market is hosting an IncrEDIBLE Community Supper on March 6th, at the friendly and cozy Chatterbox Café here in the heart of Pugwash. This supper is a fundraiser for the Farmers Market and the Friends of the Library. Tickets are \$15 available at the Chatterbox Café or by calling 243-2918 (Ben or Jennifer Smith)

Here is the menu:

Maple Glazed Squash
Cranberry Couscous
Honey Grilled Scallops
Blueberry Cheesecake
Music provided by Ben Smith



We are being sponsored by Select Nova Scotia, an organization who's mandate is to increase awareness and knowledge surrounding local produced food, help industry with new opportunities, promote the benefits of buying Nova Scotia products, and increase opportunities for agriculture's growth and development.

So in a nutshell, why buy something that comes from Mexico or Africa when you can get it just down the road, and avoid the negative environmental impact of transporting products so far.

On their website , www.selectnovascotia.ca there are several articles supporting local food and delicious recipes, along with where to get all the wonderful products Nova Scotian's provide for us.

We hope you can join us for a great evening, and please come out and see us this summer. The Farmers Market will be held at the Pugwash District High School this year from mid - June until September, Saturdays 9am - 1pm.
Cheers!

Village Commission Tackling Animal Issues

"Its not just about abandoned cats" says Commissioner Linda Langille, head of the Village's animal issuer committee. "We're concerned with many issues such as canine distemper which has been identified in the local raccoon population, back yard puppy mills, deer jacking and many other issues which pose both a concern to local residents and which may place residents' pets at risk."

In December the Village Commission gave a grant of \$500 for the L.A. Animal Shelter's spay assistance program. The Committee plans to meet with Dept. of Natural Resources soon to discuss these and other issues.



Linda Langille

Kirsteen Thomson

Restoration Of Thinkers' Lodge/Eaton Estate Underway

By John Eaton

The Cyrus Eaton Estate, normally quiet and serene under a blanket of snow this time of year, has been a beehive of activity this winter. Much needed stabilization and restoration work on Thinkers' Lodge began in earnest in November and will continue well into the spring.

I welcome this opportunity to bring residents of Pugwash and the surrounding area up to date about our progress on the first phase of our collaborative, phased, long term project to restore the Thinkers' Lodge historical site and the Cyrus Eaton Estate.



Working collaboratively.

In 2008, Thinkers' Lodge was designated a National Historic Site and the Nova Scotia Department of Economic and Rural Development made a

grant in support of restoring the Lodge. The Pugwash Park Commission and the Cumberland Regional Economic Development Association convened a steering committee that included local Cumberland and Pugwash citizens to make initial plans to stabilize and restore the Lodge. This group considered bid proposals from architect/planners and unanimously picked WHW Architects of Halifax to be the lead. In 2009, collaboration was expanded to include the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA).

Working with the best. In late 2009, we finally began restoration. Through award winning WHW, our team was joined by Gary Hanley, who has considerable experience and expertise in restoring wooden structures including being the architect responsible for the restoration of St. George's Anglican Church in Halifax. Also new to the team is construction manager Ron Cahoon, who led the restoration of St. John's Anglican Church in Lunenburg after the fire in 2001 and was also directly involved in St. George's.

Working locally. An important objective of both the Eaton family and CREDA is to benefit the local community. To date 75% of the money allocated for construction has been spent in the Cumberland region. The foundation work is being done by McClearn's based out of Wallace while the custom roofing and much of the carpentry is being done by Rafe's Construction out of Parrsboro. Of course, we are using local materials whenever possible.

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Community outreach. Moving forward, a major objective is to open the Lodge and the Lobster Factory to more community activities. Similarly, community input is sought on what these activities should include and on projects like landscaping. Back in 1929 after two destructive fires there was overwhelming community support for rebuilding Pugwash. Among Cyrus Eaton's personal papers is a list of supporters. People contributed what they could – cash and labour of course, one offer of 3 days of trucking and, perhaps most interesting, 21 different residents volunteered a “team and driver” for a total of 124 days! What is needed now is ideas!

Regrettably, the Pugwash Park Commission was faced with the very difficult decision to remove a number of large trees from the property. We are all saddened by the loss of the trees on the Estate.

Experts checked and found these Poplar trees to be diseased and a growing threat to the Lobster Factory. In March of 2009 there was more than \$1,000 of damage caused by these trees during the ice storm but we were very fortunate the damage was not more extensive. Now, part of the Commission's plan is to raise the Lobster Factory and then plant new trees as part of a new landscaping effort that will help define how the property will look for the next 50 years. The Park Commission is currently being advised by Peter Romkey, Director of the Harriett Irving Botanical Gardens at Acadia University but input from all is encouraged.

To date, the Lodge's six chimneys have been rebuilt from the roof up; the roof is being re-shingled with western cedar and asphalt shingles; and remedial foundation work is ongoing. The decks have been removed and will be replaced and repairs have been made to the dormer windows. Additional exterior work to be carried out as weather conditions improve will include the replacement of missing and damaged wooden eaves, troughs and downspouts; stripping, refinishing and painting of the wood clapboards and windows; and repairing door sills.

The next phase of restoration, to begin as soon as funding is secured, will address the interior of the lodge including replacing and repairing damaged plaster, repainting walls and ceilings, and stripping and repainting wood trim and windows. The character-defining exterior and interior elements of Thinkers' Lodge will not be impacted, as the materials used will match the existing elements in form and detail.

Also to be addressed in the coming months, upon completion of the Lodge interior, will be the refurbishment of the lobster factory (dining hall) and the staff house and property landscaping.

Community collaboration will be the key to success for this next great Pugwash revitalization project - one which would have made Cyrus Eaton proud.

Please send comments and questions to info@pugwashparkcommission.org



Pictured here: Commissioner Linda Langille tours the site with Paolo Brenciaglia touring the site.

Help Haiti

Submitted by Joanne Cottrill

Several cities and communities across Canada are collecting items to pack containers for an orphanage in Haiti. God's Littlest Angels Orphanage is located in the mountains about 10 miles from Port-au-Prince. The orphanage was not damaged by the earthquake but many of the villages nearby were severely hit. Some of these communities received their first aid almost six weeks after the earthquake! GLA is distributing aid to these smaller villages as the majority of aid is being directed to Port-au-Prince.

Our job is to fill a container with the items requested. Shipping of the 40' containers will be provided by GLA Canada. Joanne Cottrill is the contact person in Cumberland County.

There are boxes collecting items at many sites in the Pugwash/Wallace area. Please donate to these boxes. If anyone is interested in collecting in Oxford, Amherst or any of the other surrounding communities, please contact Joanne at 243-3122. Let's do all we can to fill a container from our county. For more information, visit www.glaacanada.ca or www.glahaiti.org



Preparations for 59th Gathering of the Clans Well Under Way

Céad míle fáilte

The Pugwash Village Commission is pleased to announce that the Gathering of the Clans Coordinator for Canada Day will be Gulf Shore resident, Lisa Betts.

Lisa is well known in the area for her carpentry work, as a volunteer firefighter in the Wallace Fire Department and is chair of the Gulf Shore Preservation Association. She plans to use her local knowledge along with her experience as a stage manager in UK theatre in this challenging job of bringing together pipe bands, highland games and dancers, music entertainers, vendors and the Grand Parade on July 1st.

We are very excited about the headline band booked for the evening. This band is enjoying international success in recent times and will be signing contracts with us shortly. Keep an eye in the local press for the announcement of who is coming to rock your July 1st evening this year!

There is a tremendous amount of work ahead to prepare and execute the plans for the big day. An initial meeting of volunteers is planned for Wednesday March 10th at 7pm at the Village Commission Hall. Returning volunteers and new volunteers are all welcome.

Plans are already in motion to honour the tradition of the Gathering which will run very much as it has over the decades, reinstating some older aspects while moving ahead with newer ideas. There will be more attention paid to the Scottish origins of the festival with more tartans, kilts, pipes and Celtic music.

We are always open to hearing any ideas and suggestions, new or old, to make it even better than it has been over the past 59 years.

Lisa can be contacted at 243 3538 or at pugwashgoc@gmail.com

Slàinte!!





WANT-

Be a part of history - get involved with the 59th Gathering of the Clans Festival!

Festival Coordinator Lisa Betts is looking for

Volunteers to help mount this year's Gathering of the Clans Festival. You will have fun while gaining valuable planning and organization experience preparing for the largest festival in Northern Nova Scotia.

You can help out with the vendors, the parade, entertainers, the pipes and drums competition or the highland dancing competition and much more...

For more information Contact: Lisa Betts
243-3538



Pugwash and Area Community Health

The Pugwash and Area Community Health Board (CHB) has been involved in several activities in recent weeks. The Pugwash CHB is the "eyes and ears" of the local area in regard to health issues, particularly those issues related to wellness and pursuing a healthy lifestyle. The Board has welcomed two new members recently; they are Joanne Cottrill and Greg Nix.

Wellness Grants have been received from the area; the deadline was January 31; the Grants will be reviewed on February 19. An announcement of the successful applicants will be made shortly thereafter. The Pugwash and Area (CHB) has about \$11000 available for grants this year.

Prior to Christmas, the new Community Health Plan was approved by the Cumberland Health Authority. This is a three year Plan which lasts until late 2012. As part of the Plan development, the Pugwash CHB had input. Additionally a survey was carried out, by telephone, of local residents by St. Mary's University. Five main issues were identified for the Plan; these are: smoking rates among pregnant women and new mothers, youth substance abuse, our aging population, obesity and physical activity and chronic disease. The Plan is broken into several action steps for each of the five main issues.

The Pugwash CHB is organizing a diabetes presentation as part of the action steps under the major issue of chronic disease. The presentation is tentatively scheduled for mid-April. The Diabetes Association is providing the speaker and materials for participants. Posters will be available locally as this event approaches. Under the major issue of obesity and physical activity, the Board is in the early stages of planning its involvement in The Walk Around the World program. Briefly, the program encourages physical activity in many forms. The activities are converted to "steps" depending on the intensity of the activity. Groups add their "steps" together - thereby 'Walking Around the World'.

Submitted by Peter Lewis, Chairperson

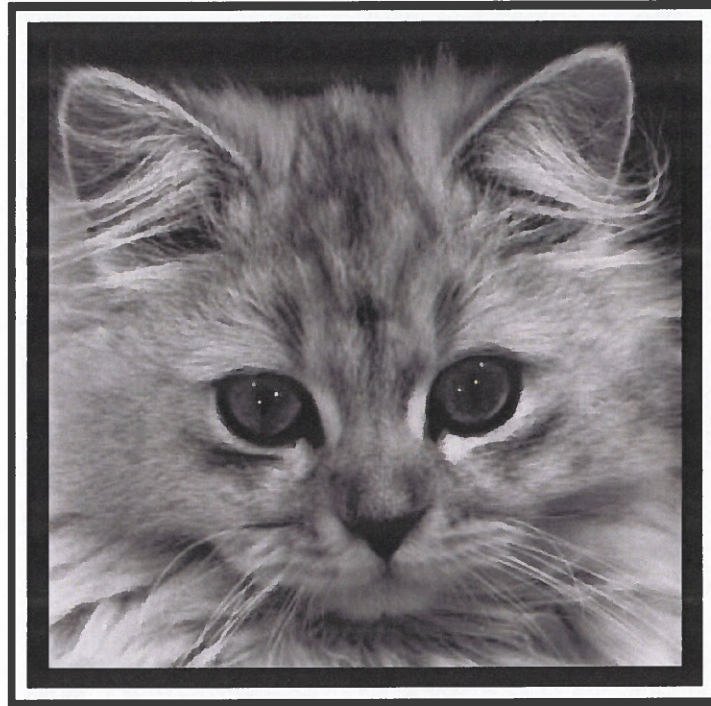
Northumberland Community Curling Club

With the beginning of March curlers sense the beginning of the end of the 2009/10 season. We have had a fantastic year with approximately 200 curlers using our facility each week. Regular Evening Leagues, Mens' and Women' morning curling, Sunset, Juniors, Little Rocks, The Commercial League, the Invitational Bonspiel, Home and Away visitors and Funspiels have kept the ice occupied, the lounge hopping and the parking lot packed. On March 26, 27, 28 NCCC will hold its closing funspiel, the Codiac Cup, and its closing BBQ. On April 4 the ice makers will turn off the ice plant and the ice will melt away leaving fond memories of a fun packed year.



The Annual General Meeting brought a number of significant changes and informed members of new developments. John Van de Wiel retired as chair and was replaced by Al Gillis. Hazel Felderhof retired as secretary and was replaced by Marilyn Kinnear. Alice Power and Norval Benjamin retired as Directors of the Board and were replaced by Karen Jost and Brian Gordon, joining our nine existing Directors to make a full complement of capable individuals to keep our Community Club functioning. In his retiring speech John Van de Wiel informed the Board that we are debt free and have been declared property tax exempt by the Municipality of Cumberland. Our volunteerism and not-for profit status have earned us this distinction. Well done members and volunteers of NCCC!


This baby can have babies of her own.....



Most people don't know that a cat can have her first litter at the age of five months, and just one litter means that five more good homes must be found! That is why there are so many strays, and why our shelters are full of cats. Do your cat, and everyone, a favour...

**SPAY YOUR CAT BY THE AGE OF FIVE MONTHS ~
BEFORE HER FIRST LITTER!**

NORTHUMBERLAND VETERINARY SERVICES LTD.



LIVESTOCK AND COMPANION ANIMALS
11072 Rt. 6 Pugwash, Nova Scotia
Hours:
Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
(902)-243-3999

