

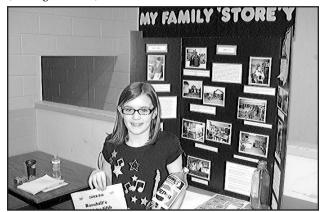
Jessie Steves can tell you lots about The Shubenacadie Canal. She just visited the site as part of her research for a Heritage Fair Project at Debert Elementary. (Harrington Photo)



Anna Staples knows all about present day hearing aids, as she has been wearing them most of her life. She decided to research Hearing Aids of the Past for her Heritage Fair project at Debert Elementary. (Harrington Photo)



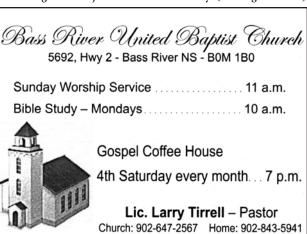
Michaela Priest presented a Heritage Fair Project at Debert Elementary on her family's Northern lights Christmas Tree Farm. (Harrington Photo)



Heritage Projects were on display at Debert Elementary on April 22nd and 23rd. Carlie Barnhill presented My Family 'Store'y, a history of Barnhill's Store in Debert. (Harrington Photo



Brian Weatherby was interested in learning more about The Londenderry Mines. He even built a model of the mines as part of his Heritage Fair Project at Debert Elementary. (Harrington Photo)



Out and About with Ken

By Ken Kennedy

What happened to summer? It was 5 degrees when I woke up this morning so I had to put a fire in the living room wood stove. Yesterday was Queen Victoria's birthday holiday so we went to Halifax to see Susie Taylor at the rehab centre on Robie Street. Susie was in the QEII for some eye problems and somehow fell and broke her hip last week. The 87-year-old church organist and choir director was in great spirits (as only Susie can be) and enjoying the food and visitors. She was a bit perturbed though that she couldn't find any church services on the radio on Sunday! We had a prayer with her and she sang us a chorus, "Father, We Thank Thee," before we left.

I have been working hard lately, trying to get the grounds up to snuff and cutting down some fallen trees out back. We had Ramona "Baby Bumps" Brown here with a crew to de-thatch and rake the lawns while I was working on my fish pond. For the past few years we have had about 30 goldfish in the pond and they have managed to survive the winter - except this past winter. Don't know what happened to them - they just disappeared. Something must have got in and ate them, as far as I can figure. When I was cleaning out the pond I found two spotted lizards but Fran Spalding says it wasn't they who ate the fish. One lizard was about a foot long and the other about 8 inches. Ugly things, they were! Gave me quite a scare at first. I put them in a bucket and now they have disappeared! I do have a golden brown bunny, however. Actually it is no bunny, it is as big and fat as a large cat. It comes around in the evenings and puts a run to the mourning doves and jays that come to the ground-feeder.

We finally got to Parrsboro a couple of weekends ago. We really enjoyed the trip but, of course, most everything was closed, except for Dianne's in Five Islands where we stopped on the way back. For me it was just like going home again. We stopped in for clams and met a few people, and Lisa

came by and gave us a hug. Lisa's husband, David White, is Velma's great nephew from the Kennetcook area. We were sad to hear that Dianne, God bless her, is not feeling all that well.

We then stopped in to see Claude and Doris Soley. That was the day after that young kayaker drowned in the river. The Soley's farm was their stopping off point and Claude and Doris got to know them quite well over the years. Have you seen Doris's ironworks art? Wow! She has kept Claude busy with the welder this past few years.

We also took a few minutes to check out the veteran's memorial garden in Bass River on the way down. It was the first time we had a close look at it. Quite impressive. Apparently, for \$50 you can have a veteran's name etched in stone there. They had just held a memorial tribute to the Jewish Holocaust on the weekend, which went over quite well, I hear, even with the inclement weather that weekend.

Speaking of Bass River, we were down to the Baptist Church's monthly coffee house on the 25th and had a good time. It was the first time we had heard Pastor Larry Tirrell sing along with Pastor David Roy. Somehow I don't think they will make it to Canadian Idol! George Linkletter was there with his harmonica. Man, can he play that thing. Where does he get all that wind!? We always enjoy Joyce Starratt's rendition of some of the older hymns and songs, and they always lay on a fine free lunch.

Spring cleanup has come and gone for another year. There seems to be less and less going out these years. We put out our old dishwasher and some small items. I put out an 3-speed bike with a flat tire and someone took it away that night. It was in pretty good shape, actually. The next day I put out about 8 feet of well-casing and it was gone the next day. It was probably worth a few bucks to the scavengers. Good for them. I know darn well, there was a lot of stuff thrown out that could have been repaired and

I finally got to get inside the new Debert Fellowship Church one Sunday morning recently and was given the cook's tour by Pastor Dave MacLean. Wow, it's a lovely building with nursery, classrooms, prayer-rooms, kitchen, and audio/visual sanctuary, and the people are very lively and friendly.(They eat more than the Baptists!)

As for Debert Happenings, there's quite a bit going on it seems. CN has finally upgraded the crossing on Plains Road but with the new asphalt there is a bit of a bump but it's better than it was. Now if they would only do the same for Middle Road crossing. It's not like the old days where men replaced the rail-ties by hand. Now they just make up a section of track, remove the old section with a crane and replace with the new section. The detour took most of the day, however. You will see quite an uplift to Debert Court Senior's Complex as you drive by. They added grass and asphalt driveways to the landscaping and it looks really nice. The complex is due to open this weekend. Vel had a tour through there the other day and met Lisa Adams, Bev McCulloch and others she knew working there.

Some of you may know that the Baptist Church was broken into last weekend. Sometime Saturday evening some heartless thieves iimmied the front door and stole the new 50" TV monitor and speakers. Sadly, the speakers were donated in memory of Charlotte MacKay and Vi Simpson but I don't think the crooks would let that bother them. (You can read about the theft at www.debertbaptist.ca). The church is presently running a dinner and movie video series called, "H20-A Journey of Faith," on Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Of

course now we have to watch it on our old 26"TV in the vestry. The ladies (and men too, if they like) are holding a knitting session on Tuesday's at 1:30. They are working on lap-robes and such for use by wheel-chair patients in nursing homes. All are welcome.

Debert Baptist is planning to hold an outdoor dedication service on June 21st in memory of Earl Stevens who willed some monies to the congregation for church improvements a few years ago. The church has just had its roof repaired with steel roofing from Community Metals of Colchester Park (former CFS Debert rec. centre.) All are welcome to this 11:00 a.m service and BBO.

The annual Debert Field Day supper is being slated for July 29th at the fire hall. We don't know if there is going to be a Field Day or not but there will be a supper if they can find enough workers. Linda Chapman tells me she will need 40 casseroles at least, along with desserts, tea, coffee, and servers. If you have suggestions, please give her a call at 662-2092 or any member of the Baptist church. More about that next issue.

Birthdays and anniversaries this month that I know of include Ken Kennedy (whoever that is). Anniversaries include Andrew and Kathleen King, Bill and Luella Martin, and Henry & Jane Boehm.

Birthdays in June include: Donna Eastcott on the 12th, Rose Carter (Wolfville) on the 13th, and Hedley Wilson (Belmont) on the 14th. Anniversaries include: Doug & Jennie Slack on the 20th and Bob and Ardath King on the 25th.

See you next time.

PENSIONS & ME Calling all Mature Women

By Jackie Ferdinand

Please join other women for a Meet & Greet Session to address the topic Canada's Pension System for Women. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 9th at the First Baptist Church Great Village from 7:00-8:30 P.M.

This is part of a continuing project sponsored by the Status of Women and directed by the Women's Centres of Nova Scotia to give rural women access to information on the different aspects of the Canada's Pension System and what entitlements and supports might be available. Many of us feel this is a long way off but it is important we have as much information as

possible so we know what to expect when the time comes to apply for our own public pensions.

During these sessions I will be sharing information on such topics as: Child Rearing Dropout, Credit Splitting and Pension Sharing to name a few. Should you have any questions that may be of a personal basis we will give the numbers to call with your issues and concerns.

If you would like to attend please call Jackie Ferdinand at (902) 893-3185 Senior Rural Co-ordinator for the Status of Women at (902) 893-3185 (h) or (902) 895-4295 to be included on a contact list for this session.



Emily Wilson and Kennedy Height, of Debert Elementary, found Maud Lewis an interesting person to research for a Heritage Project, especially since she was Kennedy's great great aunt. (Harrington Photo)



