



Bell Island Community Policing Newsletter

March 2006

*The Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Avalon East District – Bell Island
Executive Editor: Donna Kubik*

“The Special Olympians are doing their part for sure....but are we?”

From the Corporal's Desk

Bell Island Special Olympics Committee

Once in everyone's life there should be the requirement to see a Special Olympics event.

The reason for this is not for the fierce competition or for the raging battles but for the feeling you get inside when you watch. The important part of this event is how it makes you feel.....and how it makes the participants feel.

The Special Olympics, as best I can remember from participating in the early Law Enforcement Torch Runs, started in the early 1900's in this province. Participants from all over this province would meet annually in St. John's to compete in events such as running, swimming, bowling and track and field such as various throwing and jumping events. These events being similar to other Olympic style events in different venues. The athletes practice all

year long for this purpose and the Bell Island athletes were no different. Historically our athletes have done very well at these events and we want to see this continue. But we have some issues to address.

Bell Island also participates in the Winter Special Olympics which this year is being held in Bay Roberts, Hr Grace area. By the time this article comes to print we will have learned that as many as 7 of our local Special Olympians participated at these games. I will venture to guess all had been successful in winning medals while representing Bell Island. My personal congratulations to you all! I may also be bold enough to extend the “congrats” from all the residents of the Island as well. Well Done!

The winter Special Olympics events include snowshoeing

and skiing events. We may even have had an athlete picked from the winter games to compete nationally at the Canadian Special Olympics in the future....at least I hope so.

The Special Olympians are doing their part for sure....but are we? We could be more organized.

Each participant of the SO is required to pay entrance registration to these events which is usually around 60 to 70 dollars. In addition to this each athlete has to look after getting to and from the event from their home towns. Considering the event is usually held in mainland Newfoundland this has raised many issues for athletes from the small outports, Labrador, Northern Peninsula etc. In the end just to participate an athlete may have to come up with hundreds of dollars or they couldn't go.

(From the Corporal's Desk continued...)

Traditionally if no committees were set up to assist then the families were asked to pay these amounts. A lot of families couldn't. Well to me that just isn't good enough. If an athlete of any structure, ability, age or background wishes to represent our Island then we have a responsibility to make sure they get there and in relative style! We do it for hockey, figure skating, school events and church events and we will be doing it for this as well. But first off we need to get organized and strike up a committee...so we did.

On February 23rd, 2006 the Bell Island Special Olympic Committee was established with the following members: Lorne MORGAN - Coach/Trainer **Chairman of this Committee**, Josephine LEWIS - Coach/Trainer, Lori HANN - Social Services, Boyd MERRILL - Law Enforcement Torch Run/RCMP rep. In addition a list of at least ten volunteers gave their name to assist in any ventures deemed necessary by the committee.

The committee established and echoed the feelings of many persons on the Island as far as goals for our Special Olympians were concerned. It was felt that the community should try to assist in the funding of the costs to compete in these events. The goal would include obtaining appropriate

uniforms and t-shirts for the athletes to wear to signify they belong to the best part of the province. When they leave here in June to go to the Olympics then they all should be wearing the same uniform. The main goal would be to assist in the funding of these events so that it would be a dignified experience for all involved. This would be done in the following ways:

Businesses/ Organizations/ individuals in Bell Island will be canvassed in the near future by mail to "**Adopt an Athlete**". This means the committee is asking for a minimum of 16 groups or individuals to sponsor one of the 16 athletes who compete in these events on an annual basis. (We have 16 Special Olympians in total). Each sponsorship would be a donation of \$200.00 dollars for which a tax receipt can be issued. This donation would cover your athlete's registration costs, travel costs and uniform costs. Your logo or business name could be embroidered on the outside uniform jacket (if one wanted such). You will be informed of your sponsor athlete once your donation is received. A certificate for your sponsorship will be presented to hang in public wherever you choose!

It is not necessary for you to be from the Island to sponsor an individual either. We accept any donations of support. Any questions

please call Boyd Merrill at 488-3312.

A Walkathon is planned for late May to coincide with the Law Enforcement Torch Run in support of the Special Olympics. Students and teachers and community members will be asked to participate in the events by bringing a "loonie" or more to school to donate to the cause. T-Shirts from the Special Olympics main organizing committee in St. John's will also be for sale around this same time. Any proceeds from the t-shirt sales go to expenses involved in setting up the actual events of the Summer Olympics themselves and not to locals. It is all a good cause and necessary for the events to go forward.

Anyone wishing to support an individual athlete or to make a donation please speak to any member of the committee or myself.

Cheques can be made out to the Bell Island Special Olympics and can be mailed to the RCMP station: Box 1179, Bell Island, NL., A0A4H0 Attn: Cpl. MERRILL. Please add a note if you would like a receipt.

Let's all get together and make this year's event in June month the best ever witnessed by these hardworking and spirited athletes and ambassadors of our Island.

Thank you on behalf of all involved.

Corporal Boyd Merrill
Bell Island RCMP



Greetings from the Anglican Parish of Bell Island



We are about to start the Holy season of Lent.

Tuesday, Feb. 28th is Shrove Tuesday which heralds the beginning of Lent, which starts the next day, Ash Wednesday.

The name Lent comes from the old English word lengthen which simply refers to the lengthening of days and the coming of Spring. It is however a very specific season in the Church's year, and lasts for 40 days. Sundays are always celebrated as the Day of Resurrection, and therefore do not count as Lent, so the Lent finishes on Easter Saturday evening.

The 40 days are a reminder of the time Jesus spent in the wilderness before the beginning of His public ministry. He spent this time alone with God seeking His closeness and guidance for the future. The writers of the Gospels tell us how the devil tried to persuade Jesus to go his way by tempting Him with popularity and power. Jesus resisted, choosing instead a way of suffering and death.

"Many people today still see Lent as a time of self denial and fasting, of "giving up" something. Others observe Lent by doing something positive, acts of kindness, Bible reading and study."

This period was once a time of preparation for new Christians, who were to be baptized on Easter Sunday. Now it has become a time for reflection on our own spiritual life so that celebrating the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter comes out of hearts we try to make right with God. Many people today still see Lent as a time of self denial and fasting, of "giving up" something. Others observe Lent by doing something positive, acts of kindness, Bible reading and study.

In some Orthodox Countries today, as in days gone by, the Lenten fast is a very serious thing. During the fast, no meat, cream, butter or eggs were eaten, and that is why people ate pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, as a way of using up the eggs and cream which would not keep until Easter. In the North of England it is still called "Collop Day" (a collop is a piece of meat). At one time any meat in the house was cut up into small pieces, to be dried or salted for keeping until

Easter. So, with the coming austerity in mind, Shrove Tuesday has traditionally become the day for a last fling. "Carnival" literally means "goodbye meat" and "Mardi Gras" means "fat Tuesday". In Germany, and other European Countries, both Monday and Tuesday are carnival days. In South America and the United States Mardi Gras is a time of great merriment.

Whatever our practice has become in our world today, we should all make an effort to prepare ourselves for the great Season of Easter.

**With every blessing,
Canon Shirley Gosse
Priest in charge**

*Reference: **Fasting for Festivals** Customs and recipes to celebrate the Christian year by Jan Wilson*

A LOOK INTO THE PAST



Today I was destroying some old files at our office and came across this letter from a lady who had lost (not really lost but ripped from her) her deceased mother's family ring. I hope this time you are listening. The letter goes like this:

IS ANYBODY LISTENING

DOES ANYBODY CARE

IN MY OPINION:

Bell Island is gone to the dogs. People should stand up for what's right. So many homes are broken into, property destroyed. Someone has to know something or is everyone walking in the dark? Do parents know where their children are or what they're up to? Are you content to sit back and be walked over, or become a part of those people who vandalize others by buying their stolen goods?

Please take a stand for what's right, and take action or your home could be next. Bell Island used to be a place where you didn't have to lock your doors at night, before going to bed. Now you need to lock them during daylight hours, just to visit a neighbor. So please if you know of anyone trying to sell TV's, VCR, CD players, CD's, Super Nintendo System, remember there's

innocent children doing without because someone was bold enough to take what doesn't belong to them. Even if you know a person who bought a TV lately or any items that would raise suspicion, please find it in your heart to do the right thing.

Those items can be replaced in time but those people took something from me that no amount of money could ever replace, "MY MOTHER'S FAMILY RING. You see my mother passed away 9 years ago and left me her family ring. It's all I had left of her. Along with this ring was her death certificate. This shows how very cruel people can be.

We need your help. The people of Bell Island need your help. Those manipulating people need to be stopped. But until the community reaches out to bring Bell Island back to the peaceful place it used to be, those people will continue and the gang will just get bigger and worse.

PLEASE REACH OUT YOUR HAND AND HELP INNOCENT PEOPLE.
Drop a line to P.O. Box _____, Bell Island, NF. AOA 4H0 or phone 488-____ or have some real courage and call the police at 488-3312.

Let those people know you're not going to be pushed around. Don't let them persuade you to hide the truth. Confidentiality is guaranteed. Use a pay phone if you need to. PLEASE HELP.

GOD BLESS

From: A vandalized Family.

When I came across this, I remembered the file and the family. The person writing this letter was broken hearted as this piece of jewelry was the only material thing she had left of her mother. Yes she had her memories. But what good was this ring to another person. The stones in the ring represent the love of a family. They are no good only to the person to whom it belonged.

My mother also died 16 years ago and left me her family ring and each of my sisters a piece of jewelry. I know we would be broken hearted to lose these items, ever the sewing thimble that she so lovingly sewed our blankets with. It is such a small item, and can be bought at such a small price, but can never be replaced in your heart and mind, we only have

one mother, don't take a part of this lady's mother away.

I blanked out the address and the phone number as I don't know if these are still valid and I would not wish to have others disturbed by any number of letters or phone calls, but I have them here on file and can pass along any information.

Perhaps the people who took part in this crime were young and have grown up or grown a conscience. Wouldn't it be wonderful if this ring could be returned so many years later!

Like the lady said, look in your heart, find the ring, find the courage to return it, after so long a time what would it hurt you to give it back if you either took it in the first place or bought it from the person who took it. Drop it in an envelope to P.O. Box 1179, Bell Island, NL A0A 4H0.

I repeat her blessing:

God Bless if you can find it in your heart.

**Submitted by:
Dale Fitzgerald**

This is Peace!

It's 7 am and the house becomes alive with movement as the family begins stirring to greet the new day. The old man lights the fire in the stove and places the kettle on it to boil for tea. His wife makes the porridge and cooks the eggs for her husband and their young grand-daughter.

After breakfast, the wife busies herself with the routine of the day. There are dishes to be washed, laundry to begin and a house to clean. The grand-daughter watches intently as her grandmother mixes the flour, salt, sugar, butter and yeast together. After all the woman's kneading, the ingredients magically combine to form the soft dough. The little girl is enchanted with the swishing sound of her grandmother's hands gently slapping against the light, fluffy mixture. When she is satisfied that the dough is the perfect consistency, the old woman makes the sign of the cross over the pan. She tells her grand-daughter that she is thanking God for having the strength in her body and the materials in their home to make the bread.

In the background, is the steady drone of the wringer washer accompanied by the low voices of callers to a phone in radio talk show.

It's 11 am and the wife is not to be seen. The grand-daughter knows exactly where to find her. The child glances to the left of the living room and spots her grandmother. She is sitting on the side of the bed she shares with her husband. The tangy fragrance of lemon oil used by the old woman to polish the furniture permeates the air. The

antique wood shines in the sunlight streaming through the bedroom window. The grand-daughter watches quietly as the woman holds her prayer beads. The clear glass beads that once sparkled in the light have become smooth and dull from the rhythmic, gentle caressing of the old woman's fingers. Her demeanor is one of serenity and peace.

With trusting eyes that are growing dim with age, she lovingly gazes on the statue of the Blessed Virgin sitting in a place of honor on her dresser. It was a wedding gift from a then elderly neighbour who had long since entered the gates of Heaven. The grandmother is thanking God for this beautiful day and all it will bring. Dear Lord, this day is for You. I give You all my thoughts, words and actions. Help me live this day with love in my heart.

It's 7 p.m.. The evening meal has ended. The dishes have been washed and put away for tomorrow. The house is warm and comforting with the aroma of food that was so lovingly prepared and so proudly served to the family lingering in the kitchen, the very heart of this home. This is combined with the scent of fresh laundry that has been dried outside on the clothesline which the woman and her grand-daughter have just finished folding and sorting.

The kindly old man enters the kitchen and reverently says, "It's time." He kneels next to the daybed at one end of the kitchen table and gazes out the

window at the powerful waves of the cold, Atlantic ocean crashing against the rocky shores of the beach located just a short distance from their home. The only noise is the sound of the wind howling off the back of the Island. The rough, jagged cliffs rise majestically out of the sea. They are standing guard against the foamy whitecaps that constantly batter the shoreline.

His wife takes her place beside her husband, as she has done every day for over fifty years. The grand-daughter is passed a set of pink, plastic prayer beads and kindly told to "sit next to Nan." The family begins. "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."

It's 8:30 p.m.. The elderly lady gently places the covers over the little dark haired girl and tenderly kisses her forehead and cheeks. "As I lay down on my right side with Almighty God to be my guide, if any evil troubles me, Blessed Virgin, awaken me."

The wrinkled, calloused hands carefully brush a wisp of freshly washed hair from the sleeping child's face. "Nan loves you, my Duckie," she says as she tiptoes from the room. Dear God, guide us safely through the night.

It's years later. The old man has left his home on earth to dwell in the presence of the
(continued on next page)

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Lord he so lovingly and faithfully served. The grand-daughter has grown and has married and has children of her own. The young, dark haired woman sits on the hospital bed gently cradling the frail, old woman in her arms. They are surrounded by other family members yet they are only aware of each other. For each of them, only the other exists.

Their roles have been reversed. The grand-daughter holds the old woman's head securely to her breast where she is sure that every beat of her breaking heart can be felt by the woman who's given her so much love. The young woman softly brushes wisps of white hair from the old

woman's face. She rocks her grandmother in her arms just as she rocks her young babies. As she rocks, she sings in a voice strong and clear,

Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star so strong and bright.

Gentle mother, peaceful dove, teach us wisdom. Teach us love.

(Rev. Carey Landry, 1980, Glory and Praise, Vol.1, p. 27)

The young woman gazes into the beautiful blue eyes, so like the crystal blue eyes of her own daughter. These eyes, that have long ago lost the ability to see, try to focus on her face. For a moment, the women's eyes meet and time stands still. The young woman

says, "It's okay, Nan, I'll be alright. You go to the Light."

With dignity and grace, the grandmother passes peacefully away in the arms of the child she loved and raised as her own. Sleep well, Precious Angel, you've earned your rest.

The young woman quietly enters the bedroom. She stops for a long time to lovingly gaze at the sleeping children. The three little girls, whose golden hair is so unlike that of her own, stir as their mother kisses each of them. In a voice, soft and gentle, she begins, "As I lay down on my right side..."

Bell Island

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 • If you can start the day without caffeine or pep pills,
 • If you can be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,
 • If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,
 • If you can eat the same food everyday and be grateful for it,
 • If you can understand when loved ones are too busy to give you time,
 • If you can overlook when people take things out on you when through no fault of yours,
 • something goes wrong,
 • If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,
 • If you can face the world without lies and deceit,
 • If you can conquer tension without medical help,
 • If you can relax without liquor,
 • If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,
 • If you can do all these things,
 • Then you are probably the family dog.



Submitted by:
Dorothy Clemens

Wabana Town Council News



Signing of Union Contract

The Town of Wabana and the Transport & Allied Workers Union, Local 855, which represents the council workers, officially signed an agreement on Tuesday, February 21. The four year agreement is retroactive to January 1, 2006.

Snow clearing and bicycles

It has come to our attention that some residents have been riding bicycles during snow storms and coming dangerously close to snow clearing equipment. We are advising all residents that bicycles should not be used during a snow storm especially in the vicinity of snow clearing equipment. This practice could lead to serious or fatal injuries.

Economic Development Officer

Over the past ten years, Paul Connors has served as the Economic Development Officer in this community. During that time, it was a constant struggle but we were able to get funding for that position through federal and provincial programs. During the past year we have not been able to get funding to maintain the position and Mr. Connors has moved on to new employment. We are currently exploring other avenues of funding and hope to be able to hire someone in the near future.

We would like to thank Mr. Connors for his service to the people of the island over the past ten years and wish him every success in his new employment.

Killick Coast Chamber of Commerce

Over the past few months a group of business persons in the area encompassed by the Killick Coast Tourism Association on the Northeast Avalon have met to form the Killick Coast Chamber of Commerce. Presently there are about thirty individual businesses involved in this enterprise. Since the Town of Wabana is part of the Killick Coast Tourism Association, we have been asked to inform the business people of the island about this new organization. If any business people have an interest in the organization, they can call the Town Hall and a meeting will be arranged with the Killick Coast Chamber of Commerce.

Submitted by
Councillor Patrick Craig

The Profession of Social Work

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ACCESSIBILITY
 ADDICTIONS
 ADVOCATOR
 ALLAN
 ASSESSMENT
 AUTHORITY
 BEST INTERESTS OF CHILD
 BSW
 CASE MANAGER
 CHANGE
 CLASSISM
 CODE OF ETHICS
 COLLABORATION
 COMMUNICATION
 COMMUNITIES
 COMPETENCE
 CONFIDENTIALITY
 CONSULTATION
 COUNSELLOR
 DEGREE
 DIGNITY
 DISABILITIES

DIVERSITY
 DOUG
 EDUCATOR
 EMPATHY
 ENVIRONMENT
 EQUALITY
 EQUITY
 ETHICAL
 FACILITATOR
 FAMILIES
 FIELD PLACEMENT
 GENDER
 GROUPS
 HELPING
 HONESTY
 HUMANITY
 HUMAN RIGHTS
 IMPARTIALITY
 INDIVIDUALS
 INFORMED CONSENT
 INTEGRITY
 KNOWLEDGE

KNOWLEDGE
 LEAST INTRUSION
 LIASION
 MANDATE
 MEDIATOR
 MENTAL HEALTH
 MULTIDISCIPLINARY
 NONJUDGEMENTAL
 POLICY
 POVERTY
 POWER
 PRESERVATION
 PREVENTION
 PRIVATE PRACTICE
 PROFESSION
 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE
 RACISM
 RELATIONSHIPS
 RELIABILITY
 RESEARCHER
 RESOURCES
 RESPECT

SELF DETERMINATION
 SENIORS
 SENSITIVITY
 SEXISM
 SKILL
 SOCIAL JUSTICE
 SOCIAL WORK
 STRENGTHS
 STUDENTS
 SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
 TRUST
 UNEMPLOYMENT
 VOLUNTARY

SOCIAL WORK WEEK MARCH 20- 24th, 2006

Social Workers – Advancing & Strengthening Communities



Hello, our names are Allan Horwood and Doug Butt and we're Memorial University social work students presently doing our 5th year field placement (work term) with Eastern Health, Bell Island from January 10 - April 7, 2006.

Since our profession will be celebrating social work week from March 20-24, we thought we would use your newsletter to give you some information, not only to promote our profession, but to also clear up any misunderstandings.

Within the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, there are currently 1030 social workers. Approximately 85% of social workers are female.

To work as a social worker in our province you must have a

university degree, (Bachelor of Social Work) and also become a registered member of the social work association called NLASW (Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Social Workers). The bachelor of Social Work program is five years at Memorial University. Emphasis on entry into the program is placed on references, volunteer work, grades and a social work admissions test. Further education includes Masters of Social work, PhD or Doctorate of Social Work.

“What is Social Work???”

Social Work is a profession concerned with helping individuals, families, groups and communities to enhance their well-being. Social workers help people overcome troubles in their lives that interfere with their well being and finding their strengths. Social work aims to help people develop skills and their ability to use

their own resources and those of the community to resolve problems. It is not only concerned with individuals and personal problems but also with broader social issues such as poverty, unemployment and domestic violence. Human rights and social justice are the ideas underpinning social work practice.

What do social workers believe in???

Social workers believe that people have the right to make their own decisions (i.e., self-determination); in their own lives and that all people should be accepted for who they are. More importantly, they believe that all people have the right to access resources to meet their own basic human needs and that all people are worthy of our time and effort to achieve social justice for all people. Social workers are dedicated to the well being of individuals, the development of resources and in building relationships to meet individual, group, and community needs.

(Continued on next page...)

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The profession of social work is sometimes misunderstood. For example, social work often sounds like other professions, which may cause confusion.

The media shows social workers in one way, i.e., removing children. Registered Social Workers in our province, help people with a wide variety of personal problems, but they are equally responsive to social problems; such as, poverty, unemployment, racism, sexism and other emerging social needs.

As you can see below social workers are

employed in a variety of settings.

Where do social worker work??

Social workers work in settings such as: family services agencies, children's aid agencies, general and psychiatric hospitals, school boards, correctional institutions, welfare administration agencies and federal and provincial departments.

An increasing number of social workers work in private practices in areas such as mental health and marriage counseling. For

example, in Newfoundland and Labrador, social workers are employed in areas such as Child, Youth and Family Services, Shelters & Women's Centers such as Naomi Center, Recreation Centers such as Boys & Girls Club and the YM/YWCA.

Many social workers are employed in government offices within policy/research positions. Others are employed in a long-term care environment such as the Agnes Pratt Home and Saint Luke's Home.

The ultimate mission of the social work

profession: ***To work for change with our clients to create environments in which they can fulfill their potential.*** SocialWorkers... enriching lives and relationships.

Thanks,
Allan and Doug

Any questions about social work??? We can be reached between the hours of 8:30 and 4:30, Monday-Friday.... Phone 488-2708.

St. Michael's High School will be holding its
Annual Dinner Theatre and Silent Auction on
Friday, April 7th.

For ticket information:
Please call the school at 488-2828
(Contact Angela)



Wabana Boys & Girls Club "Every Kid Has Potential"



Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada | Clubs Garçons & Filles du Canada
A good place to be | Un bon endroit où se trouver

Most of our programs have started and our numbers are beginning to pick up. The **"Girls Decide"** program has a brand new committee of 12 members that were chosen to be on this committee. These young ladies will be helping to run programs for other girls at our club. The programs are girls' only programs and a range in age from 5-9, 10-12, and 13 & over. There are fun games in the gym, making lip gloss in the kitchen, and the list goes on. If a girl would like to do something in particular, all they have to do is suggest their idea to a girl on the committee. It is the girls who decide the activities. Even though we have our committee picked, we still invite ALL girls between the ages of 5-18 to come and have fun at our Girls Decide Days! (And everyday)

Another new program we are offering is called **"Kids ArTalented"**. This is not just another arts & crafts program, there is so much more. We are offering different programs involving the performing arts (maybe a trip to see a play at the Arts & Culture Centre), the visual arts.....different ways to paint and express yourself creatively. There will be pottery, ceramics, woodworking, and so on. This is for the boys & girls of all club ages. Please check out the main board at the clubs for the weeks activities.

The V.I.E.W. (Visioning Interest in Education & Work) is our third new program that we are offering this winter. It has committee members chosen and is off to a wonderful start. There will be tours of Memorial University, College of the North Atlantic, and other educational facilities being offered. There will be guest speakers with different careers – such as a Police Officer.....to discuss how they got into training for the RCMP, what goes on at the school, and how their career is now. The members will be able to help develop plan for their futures. Other areas of this program will cover resume writing, how to get a student loan, how to get into school, and the list goes on. This program is mainly for level 3 (grade 12) students who have questions about post secondary education.

Our weekly schedule for our 3 new programs is posted below.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<i>Girls Decide Gym Time 3:00 – 4:00 (Ages5-9) 4:00 – 5:00 (Ages10-14)</i>	<i>Kids ArTalented Programs 3:30 – 5:00 (All ages)</i>	<i>V.I.E.W. 3:30 (meetings, but not every week)</i>	<i>Kids ArTalented Programs 3:30 – 5:00 (All ages)</i>	<i>Girls Decide Programs 3:00 -5:00</i>
7:00 – 9:00	7:00 – 9:00	7:00 – 9:00	7:00 – 9:00	7:00 – 9:00
<i>Boys 14-18 Basketball (7:30)</i>	<i>Girls Decide Activities (Committee s Members)</i>	<i>Kids ArTalented Programs</i>	<i>Girls Decide Activities (Committee s Members)</i>	<i>Other club activities offered</i>

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(Boys and Girls Club continued from pg. 10)

There are many more programs that are offered to other members at the club at the same time of the scheduled programs above. There is always enjoyable to do at the club, even if it's just sitting and having a chat with a friend.

On Friday January 26th, we held our 8th graduation for the members who took part in our Like Skills programs. We would like to congratulate the members who graduated from the program: **Cody Beeso, Ashley Boone, Kristen Brown, Gerald Byrne, Jordan Earle, Ryan Fleming, Dylan Keels, Matthew Lewis, Kyle Sweeney, Keely Tobin, Jared Bursey, Christopher Carbage, Shane Doyle, Shauna Doyle, Sheena Doyle, Serina Earle, Jordan Sweeney, and Kelsey Tobin.**

A big thank you to all of the parents who made donations of food for the graduation.

To all of the family members of the graduates, friends, and RCMP, we thank you. Your presence and assistance made the graduation party a huge success.

The club is currently looking for volunteers to serve on our Board of Directors. We have 12 members serving on this board and we are hoping to get some interested people of our community to serve. We are looking for people who can assist us with fundraising project and way that we can make our organization a better place for the children of our community to attend.

On February 20th, we started the ninth cycle of the Life Skills Program and we only have one more cycle remaining before our project is finished. Although we have a long wait list for the Just for Kids (ages 5-8 yrs), we do have some spaces left in the Skills & Thrills (9-12 yrs) old group. If you wish your child to participate in this worthwhile program, please contact any staff members at the club @ 488-3801/2288. We would be delighted to provide you with more info about the program and its many benefits to the children.

As many of you are aware, the Life Skills Program is about Bullying, Teasing, Problem Solving, & How to make good choices. These skills are very important that many children need to learn about, to help them in the future.

On behalf of the Staff & Board of Directors of the Boys & Girls Club

we would like to send Sincere Sympathy to the family of the late Marion Sweeney. Mrs. Sweeney was a true supporter of the club especially to our Monthly Card games and our weekly Bingos. She will be truly missed on these nights. May her family and friends seek comfort in her many memories that they have.

I'm sure all of you who are reading this newsletter are quite aware of the accomplishment our province/country achieved through the Team Canada Curling Team. This team not only stole many ends in their games at the Olympics but also the hearts of all Canadians.

We would like to congratulate Brad Gushue and his rink on winning the GOLD medal.

**Submitted by:
Joe Somerton**

Beautiful True Story

At the prodding of my friends, I am writing this story.

My name is Mildred Hondorf. I am a former elementary school music teacher from Des Moines, Iowa. I've always supplemented my income by teaching piano lessons- something I've done for over 30 years. Over the years I found that children have many levels of musical ability. I've never had the pleasure of having a prodigy though I have taught some talented students. However I've also had my share of what I call "musically challenged" pupils. One such student was Robby.

Robby was 11 years old when his mother (a single Mom) dropped him off for his first piano lesson. I prefer that students (especially boys!) begin at an earlier age, which I explained to Robby.

But Robby said that it had always been his mother's dream to hear him play the piano. So I took him as a student. Well, Robby began with his piano lessons and from the beginning I thought it was a hopeless endeavor.

As much as Robby tried, he lacked the sense of tone and basic rhythm

needed to excel. But he dutifully reviewed his scales and some elementary pieces that I require all my students to learn.

Over the months he tried and tried while I listened and cringed and tried to encourage him. At the end of each weekly lesson he'd always say, "My mom's going to hear me play someday."

But it seemed hopeless. He just did not have any inborn ability. I only knew his mother from a distance as she dropped Robby off or waited in her aged car to pick him up. She always waved and smiled but never stopped in.

Then one day Robby stopped coming to our lessons. I thought about calling him but assumed because of his lack of ability, that he had decided to pursue something else. I also was glad that he stopped coming. He was a bad advertisement for my teaching!

Several weeks later I mailed to the student's homes a flyer on the upcoming recital. To my surprise Robby (who received a flyer) asked me if he could be in the recital. I told him that the recital was for current pupils and because he had dropped out he really did not qualify. He said that his mother had been sick and unable to take him to piano lessons but he was still practicing.

"Miss Hondorf . I've just got to play!"

he insisted.

I don't know what led me to allow him to play in the recital. Maybe it was his persistence or maybe it was something inside of me saying that it would be all right. The night for the recital came. The high school gymnasium was packed with parents, friends and relatives. I put Robby up last in the program before I was to come up and thank all the students and play a finishing piece. I thought that any damage he would do would come at the end of the program and I could always salvage his poor performance through my "curtain closer."

Well, the recital went off without a hitch. The students had been practicing and it showed. Then Robby came up on stage. His clothes were wrinkled and his hair looked like he'd run an eggbeater through it. "Why didn't he dress up like the other students?" I thought. "Why didn't his mother at least make him comb his hair for this special night?"

Robby pulled out the piano bench and he began. I was surprised when he announced that he had

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chosen Mozart's Concerto #21 in C Major. I was not prepared for what I heard next.

His fingers were light on the keys, they even danced nimbly on the ivories. He went from pianissimo to fortissimo. From allegro to virtuoso. His suspended chords that Mozart demands were Magnificent! Never had I heard Mozart played so well by people his age.

After six and a half minutes he ended in a grand crescendo and everyone was on their feet in wild applause.

Overcome and in tears I ran up on stage and put my arms around Robby in joy. "I've never heard you play like that Robby! How'd you do it?"

Through the microphone Robby explained: "Well Miss Hondorf remember I told you my Mom was sick? Well, actually she had cancer and passed away this morning. And well . . . she was born deaf so tonight was the first time she ever heard me play. I wanted to make it special."

There wasn't a dry eye in the house that evening. As the people from Social Services led Robby from the stage to be placed into foster care, noticed that even their eyes were red and puffy and I thought to myself how much richer my life had been for taking Robby as my pupil.

No, I've never had a prodigy but that night I became a prodigy. . . of Robby's. He was the teacher and I was the pupil For it is he

that taught me the meaning of perseverance and love and believing in yourself and maybe even taking a chance in someone and you don't know why.

Robby was killed in the senseless bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City in April of 1995.

Something to think about....

So many seemingly trivial interactions between two people present us with a choice: Do we act with compassion or do we pass up that opportunity and leave the world a bit colder in the process?

**Submitted by
Father Wayne Dohey**

Winners of the Annual RCMP Klondike Night ticket draw

The RCMP on Bell Island would like to thank all those who bought tickets.

We will have a winner from the Island soon!

***1st Prize - Jerry Hearn 368-7027
Seller - Sharon McDonald (Down Syndrome)***

***2nd Prize - Mark Power 364-1105
Goulds, NL***

***3rd Prize - Ron Flynn
237 O'Connell Dr
Corner Brook 364-6660 (Lions Club)***



R.C.M.P Community Concerns



This month's Highway Traffic Act submission has to do with Insurance. It seems a few people here on the island think they may operate a motor vehicle on our roadways without possessing valid insurance. What is even more alarming is these same people will loan out their vehicle, allowing someone else to operate it, knowing it is not insured. It is a serious offence to do so and if caught they will be dealt with accordingly. These people are taking a huge risk and if they are involved in a motor vehicle collision where someone is injured, they may very well be hung out to dry in the event of a lawsuit. As a note of interest, the fine for such an offence is over \$1000.00. The relevant section in the Highway Traffic Act is Section 75, as seen below.

MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE

Uninsured vehicle

75. (1) A person shall not operate, or, being the owner, allow another person to operate, a motor vehicle on a highway unless there is in force in respect of the motor vehicle a policy of insurance. (2) The owner of a motor vehicle or, where the owner is not the operator of the motor vehicle, the person

operating it, shall, when requested to by a traffic officer, produce proof that a policy of insurance is in force with respect to the motor vehicle.

(3) The production of a policy at a police station within 48 hours after a request is made under subsection (2) is considered to be sufficient production of proof of a policy.

(4) A policy or a certificate evidencing a policy is proof of financial responsibility in the circumstances where that proof is required by a person to whom this section applies.

(5) A person who

(a) obtains the registration of a motor vehicle when that motor vehicle is not insured by a policy;

(b) fails to comply with subsection (1); or

(c) fails to produce proof in accordance with subsection (2) that a policy is in force in respect of his or her motor vehicle,

is guilty of an offence.

(6) In addition to the penalties set out in the Schedule for a violation of subsection (5), the court shall

(a) report the conviction to the registrar who shall order that the identification plates and motor vehicle licence of the person convicted under that subsection be returned to the registrar; or

(b) order the person convicted under that subsection to return the identification plates and motor vehicle licence to the registrar and advise the registrar of the order.

(6.1) A court that convicts a person for a violation of paragraph (5)(a) or (b) shall report the conviction to the registrar who shall by order in writing

(a) suspend the driver's licence of the owner of the vehicle for a period of 90 days beginning on the date determined by the registrar and set out in the order; and

(b) direct the seizure and impoundment of the motor vehicle by a peace officer or a traffic officer for a period of 90 days beginning on the day the peace officer or traffic officer takes possession of the vehicle.

(6.2) Notwithstanding subsection (6.1), where the person who is convicted of a violation of paragraph (5)(a) or (b) is not the owner of the vehicle and has not been driving the vehicle with the consent of the owner, the registrar shall suspend the driver's licence of the person who was convicted instead of the owner and shall not order the seizure and impoundment of the motor vehicle, but, if the person whose licence is being suspended is the owner of a vehicle, the registrar shall order the seizure and impoundment of that vehicle for a period of 90 days beginning on the date the

Contact Us:

If you have any comments, concerns, or questions about the newsletter please contact us:

Cpl. Boyd Merrill at:
boyd.merrill@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

We can also be reached at the RCMP Detachment at 116 Memorial Street. (709) 488-3312.

The newsletter is also available on the internet at website: www.bellisland.net

peace officer or traffic officer takes possession of the vehicle.

(6.3) A person whose driver's licence is suspended under paragraph (6.1)(a) or subsection (6.2) shall immediately return his or her licence to the registrar.

(7) A motor vehicle liability policy referred to in this Part shall be in the form prescribed by the Automobile Insurance Act and approved under that Act by the Superintendent of Insurance for the purpose of this Part.

1988 c33 s74; 2004 c27
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Excluded driver provision

75.1 (1) Notwithstanding there is in force a policy of insurance in respect of a motor vehicle, the vehicle is considered to be an uninsured vehicle for the purpose of this Act while it is being operated by an excluded driver as defined in the Automobile

Insurance Act with respect to that policy unless the excluded driver is insured under another policy of insurance in respect of the vehicle being operated.

(2) An operator of a motor vehicle who is named as an excluded driver under a policy of insurance under which the vehicle is insured shall, when requested to do so by a traffic officer, produce proof that the operator is a named insured under another policy of insurance with respect to the vehicle being operated.

(3) Subsections 75(3) to (6.1) apply, with the necessary changes, to an excluded driver under this section.

2004 c27 s22

So, let's all be smart and make sure our vehicles are insured!

Cst. Rayner
Bell Island RCMP