

Have I Got e- for You!



News from the Communities in and around the
Old Barns and Hilden United Churches



No 25

October 2023

Message from Your Editor

If you are reading this, you have survived the past few months! We have had forest fires, flooding, a train of thunder storms, rain, wind, hurricanes ... it has been a summer to remember!

For the farming community, the wet weather made it difficult to get crops in – very little hay was made, haylage was a challenge, grain was late being harvested resulting in poor quality, corn silage was given a break in late September when we had almost two weeks without rain and now we are battling rain every two days while we try to harvest soy beans and high moisture corn.

We have much to be thankful for, living in caring communities, the blessings of good neighbours and family. While we may face day-to-day challenges, we also need to take time to count our many blessings.

~ *Leslie*

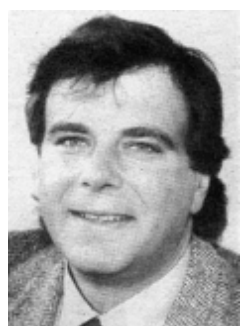
*“This is my wish for you:
Comfort on difficult days,
smiles when sadness intrudes,
rainbows to follow the clouds,
laughter to kiss your lips,
sunsets to warm your heart,
hugs when spirits sag,
beauty for your eyes to see,
friendships to brighten your being,
faith so that you can believe,
confidence for when you doubt,
courage to know yourself,
patience to accept the truth,
Love to complete your life.”*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Good Bye, Dear Friends



Brenton Lee Reader
April 4, 1939 – June 14, 2023
Hilden



Stephen Vaughan "Basil" Babineau
1958 – August 23, 2023
Beaver Brook



Mildred "Millie" McKim
May 14, 1934 – September 13, 2023
Old Barns

Sympathy is extended to those community members who have lost family and friends from within and outside our communities.

Always missed, forever remembered.

Fear

by: Kahlil Gibran

*It is said that before entering the sea
a river trembles with fear.
She looks back at the path she has traveled,
from the peaks of the mountains,
the long winding road crossing forests and
villages.
And in front of her,
she sees an ocean so vast,
that to enter
there seems nothing more than to disappear
forever.
But there is no other way.
The river can not go back.
Nobody can go back.
To go back is impossible in existence.
The river needs to take the risk
of entering the ocean
because only then will fear disappear,
because that's where the river will know
it's not about disappearing into the ocean,
but of becoming the ocean.*

Happy Days!

80 + Birthdays:

Wayne Smith – October
Kathie Chisholm – October

Sybil McCurdy – November
Glenda Kent – November
Gary Saunders – November

Sylvia Patterson – December
Marnie Smith – December

Fran Fiddes – January
Bob Wynn – January
Stu Mann – January
Wayne Smith – January

50 + Anniversaries:

October – Harry & Darlene McCormick

Wedding Congratulations

October – Alison Trenholm & Tom Savary

*Up-Coming Services in
Old Barns and Hilden*

- October 15 9:30 a.m. in Hilden
11:00 a.m. in Old Barns
- October 22 9:30 a.m. in Hilden
11:00 p.m. in Old Barns
- October 29 7:00 p.m. in Old Barns
Joint Service featuring
the Sante Family Singers
- November 5 9:30 a.m. in Old Barns
11:00 a.m. in Hilden
Remembrance Service
- November 12 11:00 a.m. in Old Barns
Joint Service with guest worship leader
The Rev. Shannon MacLean
- November 19 9:30 a.m. in Hilden
11:00 a.m. in Old Barns
- November 26 9:30 a.m. in Hilden
11:00 a.m. in Old Barns
- December 3 9:30 a.m. in Old Barns
11:00 a.m. in Hilden
First Sunday of Advent
- December 10 9:30 a.m. in Hilden
11:00 a.m. in Old Barns
Second Sunday of Advent
- December 17 9:30 a.m. in Hilden
11:00 a.m. in Old Barns
Third Sunday of Advent
- December 24 11:00 a.m. in Old Barns
7:00 p.m. in Hilden
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Christmas Eve
- December 31 9:30 a.m. in Hilden
- Service from Old Barns will be pre-taped
Available on the 31st
- January 07 9:30 a.m. in Old Barns
11:00 p.m. in Hilden

Watch in New Year for service times on the website.

Mark Your Calendars!



Saturday, December 2 at 7:00 p.m.

Food Auction to raise money for the Colchester Food Bank. We will be looking for cakes, pies and Christmas Cookies (one dozen packages)

Poem

contributed by Sylvia Patterson

**Ruby Throated Hummingbirds
in Nova Scotia**

by Hope Bridgewater

*On this early September morn
Even the front yard looks forlorn
The humming birds have gone away
I only wish that they could stay
These hummingbirds will fly so far
So many miles it seems bizarre
These tiny birds can go so far.
They fear the cold of Scotia's snow
It is a mystery how they know
The need for warmth so far away
I understand, but wish they'd stay.
I miss their beauty and how fast they sped
With colours violet, green, white,
black, and red;
I miss their humming hovering flight
From sunlit dawn to darkening night
May they be safe and on their guard
So they'll be back in this same yard.*



Terry Fox Walk

Heather MacLeod

Summary of this years Old Barns Walk:

\$ 170 Local donations
\$3 050 Participants with sponsors
\$3 220 Total

Placement based on donation totals: 11th out of 53 events

I want to thank everyone who donates to the Terry Fox Foundation, it is never too late to give: <https://run.terryfox.ca/29105>

It has been 43 years since Terry Fox began his cross-country run to raise funds for Cancer research. He was 19 years old at the time, himself a victim of this horrible disease.

Terry was a young athlete and student at Simon Fraser Univ. at the time he was affected by osteogenic sarcoma. He never saw himself as remarkable, like we do today. He was known for his determination, dedication and hard work. He favourite sports were athletics and basketball. He was studying Physical Education and likely would have become a teacher. Despite his loss of life he has influenced many including children over the years We admire his maturity, resilience, determination and desire to help others and every year we are re-inspired by his example. He wanted to help decrease people's suffering. He is truly a Canadian hero.

Not only are there events in communities large and small in Canada but also in the US and Internationally. In Nova Scotia alone there are 53 events plus school events and online events. In the local area Truro and Brookfield host large events, many other communities host smaller events. Local schools host events giving everyone an opportunity to sponsor a child attending that school and during the year the Terry Fox foundation accepts donations, memorials and sells merchandise. There are truly many ways to give. The foundation office staff in Halifax supports our local events.

Terry Fox Foundation has evolved since those early days. Those early events were often somewhat informal, and unique to each community and ours was no exception. Florence Yuill hosted a yearly event at the house where she had Bed and Breakfast on the Milltown Road, it was sandwiches, sweets and walk to the gate at the end of Milltown Rd., very few of those early participants remain and we miss them all. When she became unable to host this event, I promised to keep it going until such time as "we ran out of participants". As ever I remember Florence fondly and it is an honour to participate in this event.

While our walk still generates a good amount of funds, the bulk of those funds come from 2 sponsored participants who do not live or have connection to our local area, it is very kind of them to help us out. Unfortunately, cash can no longer be processed at this event.

While the onsite administration and management of these events has become complex (due to liability and other factors), the option of donating individually online or by mail is quite easy and our local walk (Old Barns #1652) is given credit.

There are required training events throughout the year, while interesting they are time consuming and often not relevant to our very small event.

Covid19 directly impacted the live Terry Fox events but benefited through the online platform. This year, Hurricane Lee caused Nova Scotia events to be cancelled, delayed or postponed and given the time of year Terry Fox events are held, we are often impacted by post tropical weather (rain and wind).



Pictures from over the Past Few Months



Morning after "apocalyptic" rain in July



Above three pictures from August Worship led by Laurie Sandeson



August 25 – Lane Joseph Hunka – 2nd birthday



The Blair Girls on the first day of school:
Brynn (grade 2), Kori (primary), Nola (grade 3)



Rev. Philip, on far left, with group that did the Nova Scotia Camino Walk the end of September

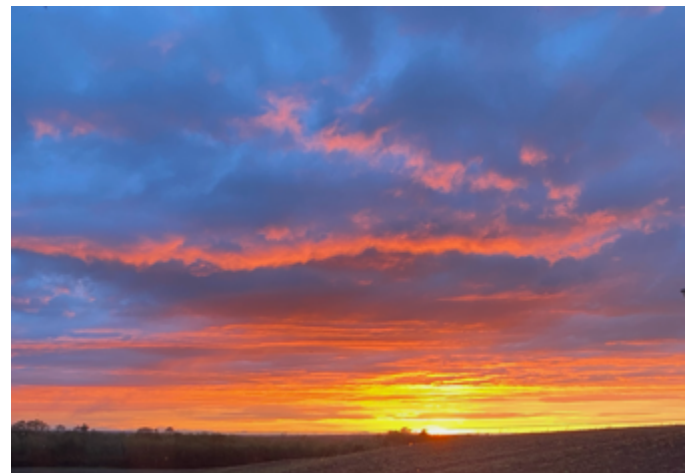


Hanging on – from a walk in Victoria Park

Hilden UCW had their October meeting with Karen Stratton & Bailey joining us as our special guest speaker. We had a very informative, interesting and fun meeting. Bailey sure enjoyed the attention after her working vest came off!



Sunrise viewed from inside the barn



One of the many stunning sunsets enjoyed over the past few months



Thank you to all who borrow and leave books in the Little Free Library. Shelves are in need of more books. If you have any, drop off anytime at the library or to Leslie, Renatta or Karen.

Food Bank Garden Update

The Food Bank Gardens, located at the home of John and Mary Heukshorst in Beaver Brook, has again provided fresh produce weekly to the Colchester Food Bank.

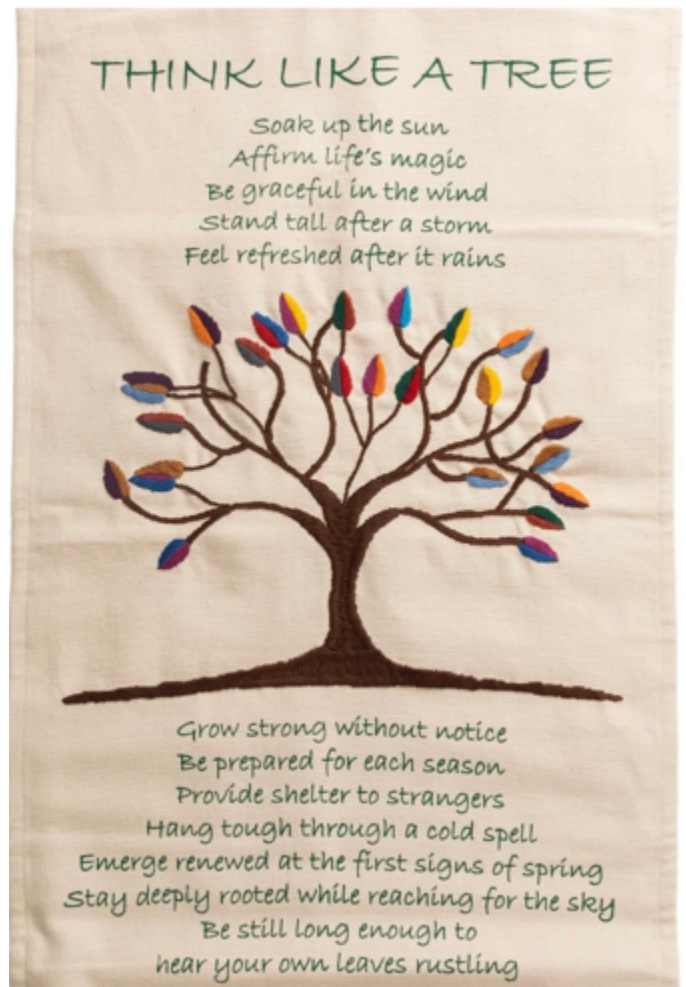
As any year, some crops are more successful than others, as the weather has transitioned from dry conditions in the early summer to excess moisture throughout the summer.

We are into September now, and are harvesting corn, tomatoes, beans, cabbage, onions, kale, Swiss chard, leek and zucchini.

The garden is smaller this year but very manageable with the workers from the Knights of Columbus of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Truro and the Old Barns Men's Club.

To September 12th, the garden has contributed over 5000 pounds of fresh produce.

Thanks to everyone who has helped with the success of the garden, those who provide land and manure, plant, weed and harvest and deliver produce. It is truly a labour of love.



Wall Hanging available from the website:
<https://www.tenthousandvillages.com/>

What3words

Submitted by: Garry Matthews

Another way to navigate around the world!

Street addresses aren't accurate enough to specify precise locations, such as building entrances, and don't exist for parks and many rural areas.

This makes it hard to find places and prevents people from describing exactly where help is needed in an emergency.

There is an app for that!

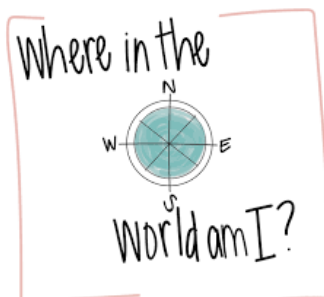
What3words divided the world into 3 metre squares and gave each square a unique combination of three words. It's the easiest way to find and share exact locations.

For example, the address for the front door of Old Barns United Church is:
"embroidery.meadows.boardroom"

The app is available free for Apple and android phones. It is increasingly used by first responders and emergency organizations to precisely locate people or pinpoint emergency locations.

Without phone signal, the app functions the same as when you have no data connection: you can view the location of any what3words address you enter. You can also navigate to it using compass mode.

To share a what3words address over the phone or in a text message you need phone signal. To load maps, or share in other apps or social media, you need a data connection.



Poetry

Submitted by: Elva Haggarty

I have been very happy to have been chosen for inclusion in the 1995 and the 1997 national library of poetry for two very different poems. I am a great proponent of vacationing in the wonderful island of Bermuda. I fell in love with the island while visiting my long time pen pal, whom I met through the Youth training program, teaching United youth leadership, at the center in Tatamagouche. Below is one of the poems.

Bermudan Affair

*Tiny, clustered, emerald islands
Faceted by sparkling sun,
Garlanded by sandy beaches
And crowned by verdant palms.*

*Drawing on my heart and soul
And calling out, "Return",
Again to tread exotic shores
Caressed by flowers and ferns*

*The air is heavy laden.
Hibiscus smells so sweet,
Lifting spirits higher,
Each breath a perfumed treat.*

*The ear is not forgotten
By rush of wave, swish of tree.
Small motors purr, the long-tails squeal
As they soar out to sea.*

*Bermuda always draws me
Back into her gentle arms.
I cannot leave far behind
Her all-encompassing charms.*



A Greener Footprint in Old Barns

Submitted by: Laurie Sandeson

An affirming church in a progressive community, the Old Barns United Church has and continues to be a focal point for worship, community outreach and spiritual reflection. Faced with increasing operating costs and a shrinking congregation, the church congregation decided to go green. Climate change and a desire to live with respect for creation were big motivators in addition to sustainability grants and rebates offered locally and by the United Church of Canada. Reverend Phillip Kennedy, new to Old Barns United in 2020, came from a church in Dartmouth that had installed solar panels and he was happy to share his experience with that project.

A working group led by Robert Francis, church member and resident of Lower Truro, learned about a program called Faithful Footprints. With funding from that program together with matching funding and rebates from Efficiency Nova Scotia's Business Savings and Rebates Program, the desire to go green was off to the races. Mr. Francis also found a local electrician willing to install equipment on his own time after hours.

In just a few months, the church was transformed into a building with significantly less greenhouse gas emissions, lower operating costs and a more comfortable space for visitors and congregants. The church now displays solar panels, heat pumps, new LED lighting and baseboard heaters plus programmable thermostats. Mr. Francis is happy to share the Old Barns experience with other churches in the Colchester area should they wish to go green.

The communities of Lower Truro and Old Barns are blessed to have Colchester's Cobequid Trail which runs along the Bay of Fundy from the Fundy Discovery Site to the Shore Road. In an attempt to welcome more people to the Old Barns Church property, the congregation supported the construction of a "Spirituality Circle" on the grounds. Circles in indigenous spirituality have been healing circles, sharing circles and talking circles and have symbolized

the interdependence of all forms of life. Circles have been used to symbolize the whole earth and creation, the seasons and the recurring patterns in both nature and social life.

Coupled with the Cobequid Trail, members of Old Barns United hope this place becomes a quiet space for personal reflection, a place of celebration of life events, a gathering social space and a focus for pilgrimage or camino-type experiences. Oh, and by the way, when you are in the area, check out the Clifton Free Library in the parking lot of the church. All are welcome in this place. Come visit!



Old Barns Sanctuary Thanksgiving Service

*Nothing you love is lost.
Not really.
Things, people – they always go away,
sooner or later.
You can't hold them,
any more than you can hold moonlight.
But if they've touched you,
if they're inside you,
then they're still yours.
The only things you ever really have
are the ones you hold inside your heart.*

Bruce Coville



Old Barns Progressive Club

Celebrates 80 Years

Submitted by: Glenda Kent

Eighty years and still meeting! Progressive in many ways but not a political party. Calling the community ladies together in service and friendship was the suggestion of Mrs. MacLean whose husband was the minister of the United Churches in Green Oak, Princeport, and Old Barns. She hosted the first meeting on October 26 1943 at the Manse. Dues were set at twenty-five cents a year which stayed that amount for many years. Bit-by-bit dues were increased to the toonie, which is expected at each meeting now as a collection. It has become known as "Carol's Closet Funds".



Can you identify who is who? In no particular order, you will find the following ladies in this picture:

Liney Archibald, Vera Baxter, Mae Blackburn, Hattie Chisholm, Inez Creelman, Georgie Crowe, Ruth Crowe, Vi Forbes, Rowena Loughhead, Margie McCurdy, Mary McCurdy, Pearl McCurdy, Betty Murray, Hettie Stirling, Zella Tanner, Florence (Ike) Yuill

Miss Ruth Crowe was the first President with Rowena (Mrs. Frank) Loughhead as Secretary Treasurer. Twenty-two names are listed in the first year.

At the formation meeting, a decision was made to have a "sale" with a Pantry Table, a Refreshment Table, and a Gift Table. The December 1943 meeting records a successful sale with \$72.68 proceeds. With this, a motion was made, "We buy at least twenty-five chairs for the church".

The club has supported the church, Old Barns Community hall, and local school, and was involved in many other worthwhile projects. I will report on a few accomplishments.

The earlier years saw the ladies knitting, quilting, sewing, and baking for the yearly Christmas Tea and Sale as well as rummage and pantry sales. Each summer a Strawberry Supper was held.

Reading the minute books (which we have had possession of for many years) shows the church has been the recipient of many items such as; the red runner in the sanctuary center aisle, in 1949, kitchen cupboards at a cost of \$37.50, in 1946 paid \$65 for lumber to cover the cement steps at the front of the church, paint supplied for church entry, donated to building fund, varnishing done in the basement, buying a new card table, and 2 also supported the Old Barns hall by making curtains, purchase window blinds, and having broken window panes replaced. We have also been involved by providing prizes for school closings, adopting Korean girl through the Unitarian Committee (DR. Hirschmanoua), compiling and selling cookbooks on two separate occasions, assisting with the Christmas dinner at the Debert Military Hospital, serving a chicken dinner (including plum pudding) to the Debert Soldiers in May of 1945, been hosts of many showers and wedding celebrations, raised money by having a dance for Springhill Disasters Fund, supported Rotary Club, I.W.K., Souls Harbour Rescue Mission, and March of Dimes.

It is noted in the 1950s minutes, that a Christmas gift exchange between club members was held and each person could not exceed .50 cents!!

Although we are not as industrious as the earlier members, we still meet monthly, do service activities, and express concerns for others. Jessie McCormick referred to the Progressive Club as "tonic" as there is always lots of laughter. We recently lost our most recent President Millie McKim, which got the name "The Warden", a member since 1968. Our condolences to her family.

At the present time, we have 12 members. Our present longest-standing member is Kathie Chisholm, who joined in 1957.



Kathie Chisholm

To remember our 80th year, we are combining our celebration with the Christmas Social hosted by Kathie Chisholm on Monday, December 11th, 2023. Pot Luck Supper 5:30 for 6 p.m. Any former members are invited to join us at this time.



Warden Millie McKim & Bette Chisholm



Jessie McCormick, Ada Jobb, & Carol Collins



Marilyn Henderson, Glenda Kent, June Yuill, Vera Dickie, Millie McKim, Jessie McCormick



Rowena Loughead & Dot Whippie



Marilyn Henderson & Florence (Charlie) Yuill



Photo Credits: Kelly Blair, Alexander Burrows, Jim & Leslie Burrows, Robert John Hunka, Phillip Kennedy, Glenda Kent, Sheila Marshall, Garry Matthews

First Book Release

Congratulations go out to Kathryn Graves, daughter of Donna Yuill (Old Barns), who is releasing her first novel, *Thirty(ology)* on December 5, 2023.



Below is the synopsis.

Elyse, Rachel, Brie, Leah and Alex, who have been best friends since their freshman year of college, are living their best lives in their late twenties. Between career accomplishments, bachelorette parties, weddings, baby showers and housewarming parties, they experience a wave of major life milestones together, jam-packed over one summer.

Fast forward seven years, and despite the appearance of living their perfectly curated lifestyles, they all find themselves in unexpected situations. From mundane little struggles to life-altering decisions, the women navigate the

throes of motherhood, fertility, career expectations and family relationships.

Elyse finds herself at the pinnacle of her career, the absolute worst time to have a baby that her husband so desperately wants.

Brie, who is happily focused on her academic career and a revolving door of six-month situationships, has her life flipped upside down when she becomes the caregiver for her ailing mother.

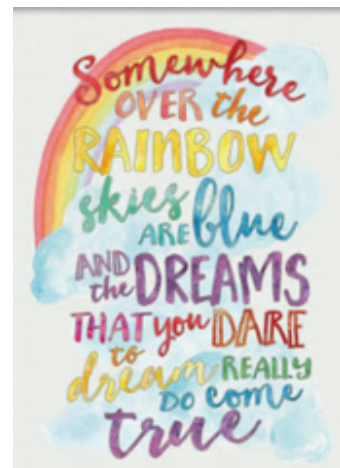
Alex, freshly back to work after maternity leave, struggles with her identity and confidence as a woman, professional and mother, especially when her own estranged mother starts to push for more of a presence in her life.

Leah is dealing with secondary infertility, a husband who is not willing to do whatever it takes to expand their family, and the overall realization that she has less control over her life than she thought she did.

And Rachel, now a mom of two, is just going through the motions of daily life. She's been putting others' needs before her own for so long that it doesn't even bother her, most of the time.

Thirty(ology) is a reflection of modern women, the formative decade that is your thirties, and most importantly, the female friendships that, although they may get put on the backburner, are the foundation for thriving—or at least surviving—your thirties.

Releases December 5, 2023



Meet the 2023 Winners: Woodland Owner of the Year Central and Provincial Winners Beau and Laura Blois



Beau and Laura Blois are the winners of the 2023 Woodland Owner of the Year Award

Beau and Laura Blois own a 1,226-hectare property in Old Barns, Colchester County. Beau is an emergency room physician and maintains the property with Laura and their three children.

The property has a woodlot, a black Angus beef farm and a 130-year-old restored barn that holds concerts and events. It also has trails for mountain biking, skiing and snowshoeing.

Beau grew up on a 2,000-acre property in Gore, Hants County. He and Laura used wood harvested from that property to build their family home in Old Barns and restore the siding of their barn. Beau uses wood harvested from his own woodlot for other woodworking projects and is passing this skill on to his children who enjoy make cutting boards.

The Blois family focuses on biodiversity with their woodlot providing habitats for wildlife such as foxes, rabbits, deer, salamanders, snakes and birds, as well as a variety of wild mushrooms. Their woodlot is Forest Stewardship Council certified and makes a minimal impact on the forest. Beau practices ecological forestry, using single tree extraction techniques to maintain the health and biodiversity of the woodlot for years to come.