Partici-Paper

Magazine

Inverness County
Cape Breton
Nova Scotia

Nov./ Dec. 1994
Volume 15, No.7

The art of Suzanne Chrysler MacDonald, see page 6

Happy Holidays

Director's Desk

Partici-Paper

Volume 15 Number 7 October/November 1994

The Inverness County **Winter Events brochures** have been printed. Watch for them soon in your community!

Volunteer Week 1995 is April 23-29. The Municipality will again honour volunteers during that week. Watch for details on nominating a volunteer in the January/February issue of *Partici-Paper.*

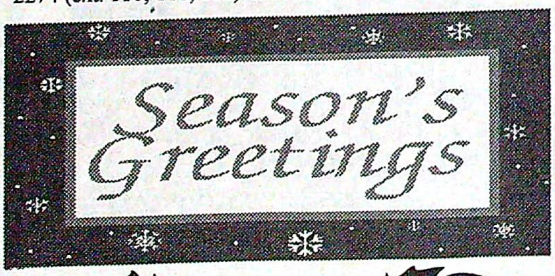
We are now making plans for our **Recreation and Continuing Education programs for Spring 1995.** On site registration for the Spring session will take place February 13 to the 17th. Contact us with your program ideas.

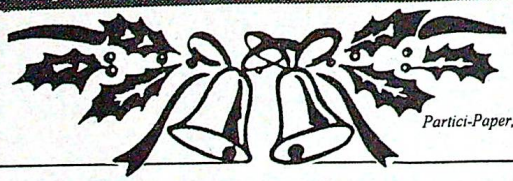
Francene Gillis of Port Hood has been hired as part-time coordinator for the Inverness County Adult Tutoring Network. The network is funded through the Nova Scotia Literacy Section of the Department of Education. Francene would like to hear from anyone in the county who may be interested in becoming involved in literacy. Check this issue of *Partici-Paper* for more information.

We would like to remind the residents of Inverness County that where possible, the **Recreation/Tourism Department's purpose is to enhance and develop culture, recreation, tourism and adult education opportunities in Inverness County.** We would appreciate hearing from groups or individuals interested in a meeting with the Department, or in learning more about Department activities.

We would also like to remind Inverness County residents of our **weekly Recreation Report every Thursday on radio.** Air time is 9:40 am on CJFX and 3:15 pm on CIGO. If you or your organization have any upcoming events you would like promoted on the radio, notices should reach the office not later than Wednesday afternoon.

We would love to hear from you! Call, drop by our office at the Municipal Building in Port Hood, or write to us! Inverness County Recreation/ Tourism, P.O. Box 179, Port Hood, Nova Scotia, BOE 2WO. Phone: 787-2274 (ext. 110, 111, 112) or FAX: 787-3110.





Contents

A Christmas Corner the crafts of Glenda Campbell	3	Francene Gillis
A Rose in November new book by Francene Gillis	5	book review
Portraits of the land the art of Suzanne Chrysler MacDonald	6	Mary Anne Ducharme
Ancestors Unlimited	8	Jim St. Clair
Bell of the Ball new book by Katie MacDougall	13	book review
Be a literacy volunteer!	14	Francene Gillis
Parents reaching out to Parents	16	Francene Gillis
Nelda MacDonald retires	17	Stella Walker
True Community	18	M. Scott Peck
Municipal Councillors and what they do	20	V. MacIsaac
Robert Frank exhibit at National Gallery	22	Mary Anne Ducharme
Superclinic '95	23	Baseball Nova Scotia

Deadline for submitted articles for the January/February issue: January 9

EDITOR: Mary Anne Ducharme
R.R.#2 Whycocomagh
Nova Scotia, BOE 3MO
Telephone: 945-2982

REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS:
Jim St. Clair, Daniel Aucoin

We welcome letters, photos, contributed articles, information

PUBLISHER:
Inverness County
Department of
Recreation/Tourism
John Cotton, Director
Box 179, Court House
Port Hood, N.S. BOE 2WO
Telephone: 787-2274

Printed by *The Pictou Advocate*
Partici-Paper is free for Inverness County residents
For other subscribers per year:
Canada: $10.32 - United States: $13.21
(send payment to the Recreation Department)

And there is a Christmas corner --

Craft making - simply a labour of love

"There is nothing more relaxing than to sit on the rocker with the tree lights on, Christmas music in the background, while you daydream of all the things you created. It is when you see people's reactions to what you have made that you really feel good inside. You really cannot put a dollar value on a homemade gift. The hours that go into it - there is no price tag on it." - Glenda Campbell

by Francene Gillis

Walking into the finished basement of Glenda Campbell's Port Hood home is like walking into a gift shop. On the walls are intricate string art designs, hooked wall hangings, ceramic plates, and various wreaths. Nestled on shelves and tables, and under shelves and tables, are ceramic ornaments, plastic canvas figurines, dried and fabric flower arrangements, vases, pitchers, candle holders, Blue Mountain pottery, jugs, and place mats. That is just the downstairs!

Upstairs are three exquisite lamps finished in mother-of-pearl. Her brother and sister-in-law were in the ceramic business in Orleans, Ontario, and while there on vacation, Glenda decided she wanted to work on the lamps. Glenda's brother poured the lamp in three sections and Glenda did the painting. On the base are angels or cherubs and the top is shaped like a candy dish.

Glenda Campbell, the daughter of Jean and the late Dan Campbell, has been making crafts since she was a child living in Malartic, Quebec "In Quebec our winters were long and cold and there was plenty of time to sit around in the evenings and knit or crochet. I liked to keep my hands busy. I had an advantage," Glenda explained, " because my mother taught me and she was very talented in knitting and crocheting. She showed me how to knit mittens and scarves and socks, and when I was older, I knitted many sweaters as gifts." Glenda's family moved to Port Hood in 1974 and Glenda's love for crafts remained, influencing many people who have come to know her.

"When you give homemade gifts, " she explained, "and you see how people appreciate them, it makes you feel good. When you have a craft talent, why not make your own crafts?

"My philosophy is to not throw anything away because it could be used in a craft. I don't like things to go to waste. I get many of my ideas by looking through magazines. I have a filing cabinet full of

Christmas Crafts, *continued*

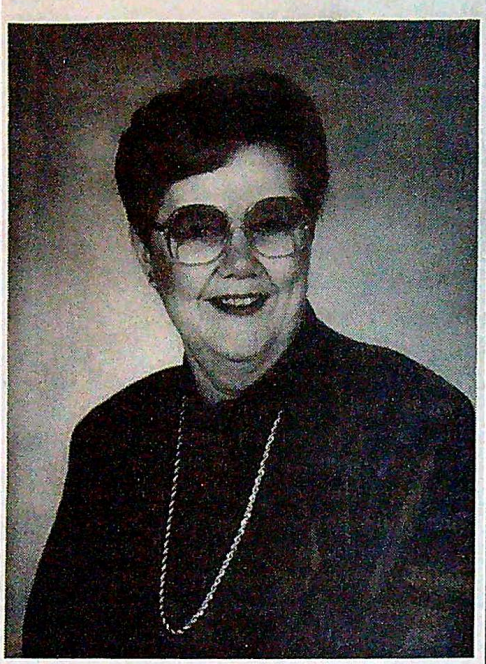
magazines and craft books. I like to browse in craft stores, but it is tough to find what you want around here."

A few years ago, her father started working on a hooked rug of a rocking chair and Glenda ended up finishing it. The Church rug she hooked in 1981 is an example of her own creative design. The rug is five feet by ten feet and she worked on it for over three months with some help. She has also hooked a rug depicting St. Peter's Church.

Like many craftspeople, she enjoys moving from one project to another and from one medium to another. She finds her craft work most enjoyable when she is doing a project simply because she wants to do it. Some of that enjoyment is lost on an ordered item. Many craftspeople echo that same feeling. A true craftsperson enjoys making a craft simply for the reward of seeing the finished project, after hours and hours of creation.

There is a spare bedroom in Glenda's house, meant for overnight guests. In the bureau, which is supposed to hold clothes, are crochet cotton, yarn, plastic canvas supplies, a glue gun, miniatures, ribbon, bells etc. The closet contains everything from stryofoam balls to chenille bumps, to pipe cleaners, to bead supplies.

And there is a Christmas corner. The homemade ornaments each have a unique design or character. Many are made from the least likely materials. There are clear plastic pop bottles, cut and glued to cardboard, and filled with lovely miniature Christmas scenes. A hanging ornament Glenda made reveals plastic coffee creamers arranged in a circle and attached to a large styrofoam ball with pins and sequins. On the outside rims of the creamers she glued blue glitter. " I made a Mr. and Mrs. Santa out of three Readers Digest books each," she explained." I folded the pages a certain way, painted them red and then dressed the books up with heads, aprons and arms. Other ideas I sifted from magazines included making bells out of crochet cotton, covering old satin balls with crocheted cotton, and making quilted looking balls. I made plaid ribbon angels, and out of baby food jars I made elves which also serve as Christmas candy dishes."



Glenda Campbell

Glenda's Christmas tree has become a personal and unique creation. "I started making ornaments for the Christmas tree and came to the point where everything on the tree was homemade. It took at least a couple of years.The first ornaments I made were out of loopy chenille bumps which I made into small wreaths for the tree. Then I got into larger wreaths for the windows and doors. Knitting and crocheting bells was probably next as was making pine cone wreaths. I made pompons as little balls and snowmen out of yarn. Bead work was my next interest. I made wreaths, and bells shaped with lace, candy canes, Christmas trees, angels, snowflakes, and icicles. I made flowers out of covered wire and fabric. I am presently working in plastic canvas. I completed some figurines, and mice, kitten and teddy bear tree trimmers. Every evening I am working on some craft project. I like working on something that allows me to watch television and spend time with my mother. There are all kinds of things a person can make.

"I am proud of all my crafts," Glenda said. " Perhaps it should not be like that, but you get enjoyment out of it - seeing something being created and being able to complete it. The greatest satisfaction came with the lamps. A bedspread I made also brought tremendous joy although it was frustrating when I had to rip half of it out because the pattern was not working out! My mother always said if you are going to do something you may as well do it the right way.

"Making crafts releases tension. There is nothing more relaxing than to sit on the rocker with the tree lights on, Christmas music in the background, while you daydream of all the things you created. It is when you see people's reactions to what you have made that you really feel good inside. You really cannot put a dollar value on a homemade gift. The hours that go into it - there is no price tag on it. People do not always realize the time involved, and the size of a finished project is not indicative of the work. One beaded boot I made took me seven hours. Sometimes I wonder if I have more time than brains. It may have taken years to make the ornaments for the tree, but making crafts is simply a labour of love!"

See the back cover: Glenda's Christmas Craft tree