

## Women's Institute meets in Castleton



Written by Mandy Martin

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"I am very proud of this building, the way it turned out," Cramahe Mayor Marc Coombs told the 111th annual meeting of the Northumberland East District of the Women's Institute hosted at the Castleton Town Hall Thursday, May 24.

"When I was first elected to council, we used to meet in this hall. I remember



looking up at the dropped tile ceiling, the dark fake wood paneling on the walls. The balcony was all enclosed," Coombs said. Now, with a former bricked up window behind the stage open, the open, high ceiling restored, bright lights streaming in, "you can see how well it has turned out."

The Castleton Town Hall was purposely built to serve as a community centre, he noted. Last week, when representatives of Xplornet, providers of highspeed internet access, held a public meeting at the hall, Coombs took the reps on a tour.

"They pointed out that 100 years ago a similar meeting was probably being held at talk about the telephone," Coombs said.

Over 30 women from the six member chapters — Castleton, Codrington, Community (Brighton), Seymour East, Seymour West and York Road — arrived for the noon lunch catered by the Castleton United Church.

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The theme for the day was "Basic Tips and Tricks". There were some good ones, too: place a coffee filter in your cast iron frying pan to prevent rust or protect your stacked plates; use a small plastic bread bag sealer as a pot scrubber; dryer fabric softener sheets are dandy venetian blind cleaners.