

# Chebuucto News

Vol.14 • No.7 • March 2013

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## What does "can't" mean?

by Noreen Battaglia

Do you shudder when you hear the words "I can't" and want to convince the speaker that they can, if only they try harder or really want to? How many times as a child, or with our own children, have we heard or said "There's no such thing as can't."

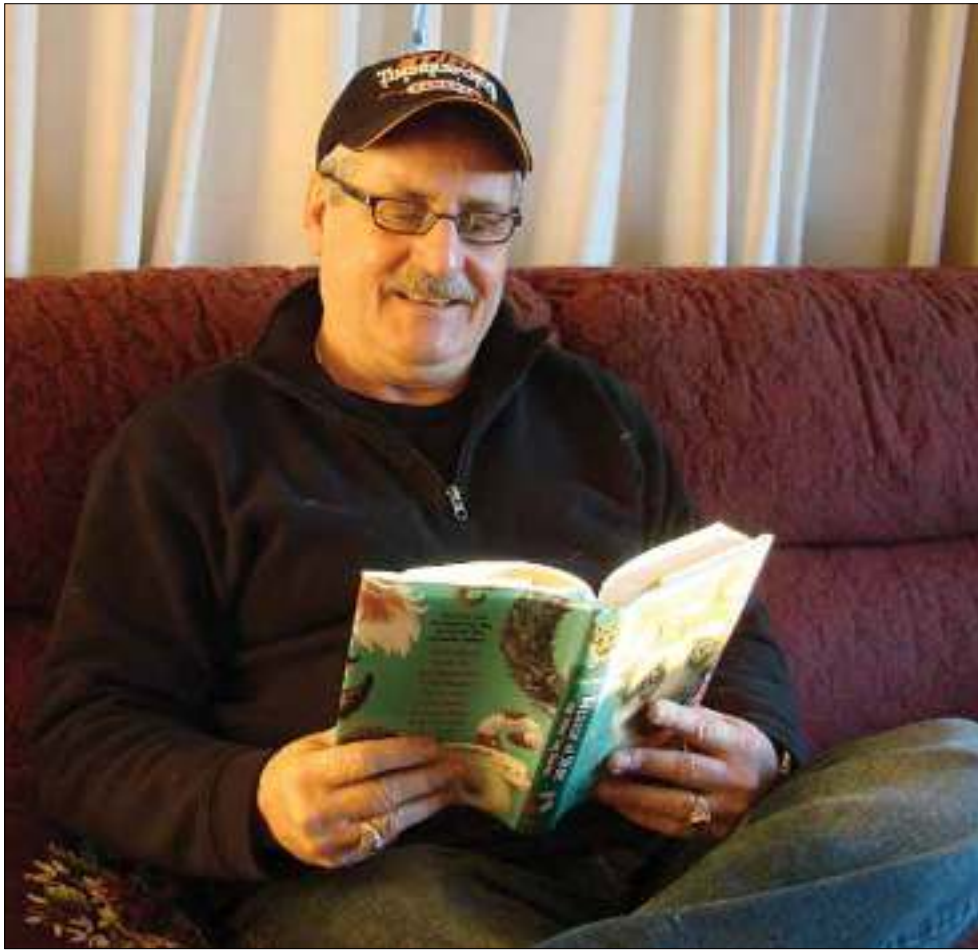
When I hear that from a student, I ask: "have you ever been taught?" Children sit in their learning environment day after day and still some go home thinking, and may bravely say, "I can't do it."

It is only in the last few years that I have begun to understand that sometimes "I can't" means just that. Nowhere does the person feel that they can do it. Something does not click, and things just don't make sense.

Dyslexia is just that sort of thing. Neurologically, language does not work. Words and sounds, by the time they get to the brain, feel jumbled and mixed up. A child with dyslexia is working hard to do a left-brain activity with the right side of their brain. The right brain has been rewarded for it's creative and conceptual abilities. But reading and spelling are left brain activities. If your child is struggling with reading, and you don't know why, it is possible they have a neurological disorder called dyslexia.

People with dyslexia are very bright. Many famous people these days are disclosing that they have dyslexia. It is not something to be ashamed of. In fact, when a child or adult is finally told that what they are experiencing is not because they are dumb, but that they have a learning challenge called dyslexia, they often relax. The good part is, it is workable.

If your child is struggling with



Donnie Downey has learned how to read. He has words of hope for others. Photo courtesy of Martin Willison

reading, spelling or handwriting and you don't know why, it is very possible there is dyslexia. A few of the signs are that others in the family had similar difficulties, that the child struggles to

break words into sounds or has difficulty with rhyming, that the child is extremely bright and capable in some areas and has unexpected difficulties in others, and that the child appears to

mishear what you may have said or has trouble remembering instructions.

Typically children with dyslexia will have trouble keeping up in class. Their brains are fatigued by the extensive effort it takes to process the abundant information that comes to them each day. Working with the school toward accommodations might help. These may be giving more time for class work or shortening their assignments to focus on quality rather than quantity. One may ask the school about assistive technology such as Dragon Naturally, or dictation software on the computer, and about allowing a child to read books on tape. Listening to books on tape can give the child the stimulus they need by hearing challenging texts without the struggle of decoding every word.

Finally, if you are able, working one on one with a qualified tutor has proven to have excellent results. I have recently found the information on reading and dyslexia from this site <http://www.waterstones.com> quite clear.

Noreen Battaglia works with children with dyslexia using the Orton-Gillingham approach, a multisensory, sequential language program. She has a home-based practice in Leblin Park. To find out more or ask further questions, you may contact Noreen at [www.tryortongillingham.com](http://www.tryortongillingham.com)

## Anchor bracelets to support families of The Miss Ally crew

By Lorrie Boylen

(Lorrie is a Freelance Writer and Administrative Support Consultant who lives and works in Sambro)

On the night of Sunday February 17th the Miss Ally fishing vessel capsized and all five hands were lost: Skipper Katlin Nickerson, Joel Hopkins, Steven Cole Nickerson and Tyson Townsend,

all from Woods Harbour and Billy Hatfield from Cape Sable Island. The news hit home for the women of Sambro, who may not personally know the families whose loved ones were lost, but

share a special bond of living in a small fishing village and being married to or related to a fisherman and live that same reality each and every day. "We (See Anchor bracelets on page 2)

## Harvest Festival and more

The excitement is growing as plans come together for the first annual "Spryfield Village Harvest Festival".

The Spryfield and District Business Commission (SDBC) in partnership (See Harvest Festival on page 2)

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## Anchor bracelets

(continued from page 1)

would like to send our love and support to the Woods Harbour community and to the loved ones and friends of the Miss Ally crew." The tension in the village was palpable as these strong women watched their loved ones head out in their fishing vessels in the days after the Miss Ally went missing.

In solidarity with their "sisters" in Woods Harbour, The Sambro Girls will be selling anchor bracelets, \$10 each with all proceeds going to the affected families of the tragedy. The group was started by more than 10 women, but quickly grew and the efforts have spread province wide and beyond. The bracelets have been ordered and will arrive in approximately a month's time. "Thank you all for your interest & we hope your bracelets will remind you each and every day of the courage and strength of these men as well as the many other fishermen who risk their lives at sea. The anchor represents the bonds that a fisherman has to the ocean."

Those interested in purchasing a bracelet can join the Facebook group "Anchor Bracelets in Support of the Crew and Loved Ones of The Miss Ally" where they can see updates, pictures of the bracelets and be informed when the order comes in and where they can be picked up on a first come first served basis. Due to the overwhelming response, they are not able to take individual orders but will have a selection of styles and colours to choose from. The group also has donation boxes set up at different establishments including Mishoo's Variety in Sambro and Highliner in Bayers Lake. The Sambro Girls would like to thank the members of the Sambro community for their generous donations thus far.

Sambro is no stranger to this type of tragedy. In March the community marks the 25th anniversary of the loss of the Bonnie Lou II and all five men aboard.

## Harvest Festival

(continued from page 1)

with the Spryfield YWCA and the Spryfield Urban Farm have formed a steering committee to begin the process of developing this event.

Bruce Holland, Chair of the Festival committee said, "already, just by word of mouth we have individuals volunteering, businesses asking to be sponsors and other community groups and organization from around the entire Sambro loop asking how they can get involved and participate. It is heart warming to see this level of interest so early in the planning stage."

So far, the plan is to have the event run over three weeks starting with the official kick off on September 21st and ending with the Grand Finale on October 5th. The Spryfield Urban Farm will host the kick off with a Farm Fair featuring local produce and local food along with many other activities. The Festival will wrap up with a Grand Finale featuring a Family Fun Day, a Spryfield Idol Contest and a dance, featuring local talent.

Our goal is to have the focus on local food and the community, which we consider to be the entire "Sambro Loop". We are asking local Churches, Service Clubs, Sports Clubs, and other volunteer organizations and businesses to participate by hosting their own fund raising events or sales over the three week period with the Harvest Festival promoting and advertising their events as part of the Festival.

On Sunday March 3rd St. James' church service will be dedicated to remembering them, and thoughts will no doubt be with the The Miss Ally as well.

A highlight of the three week Festival will be a "Harvest Festival Decorating Contest" where homeowners, apartment dwellers and business owners can decorate their properties in a Fall/Harvest theme with awards and certificates given to those who participate.

This is a great opportunity to show pride in our community. To get involved as a volunteer, become a sponsor or enter your group's event, tournament, pot luck, bake sale, yard sale, community dinner, or any other event, please contact us by e-mail at [sdbc@eastlink.ca](mailto:sdbc@eastlink.ca) or by telephone at 452-7472.

In other business:

The SDBC Annual General Meeting and Business Awards Night is being planned, but the date has not yet been decided.

We are also working on our electronic communications with the revamping of our website, as well as the unveiling of our Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn pages.

Finally, it may only be March, but we are already giving serious consideration to how we can make this Year's Santa Claus Parade, our 40th, the best one yet.

Something to say?  
email the editor:  
[tangelene@live.com](mailto:tangelene@live.com)

## Chebucto News

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# The Seniors' Beat: Linked in

by Beverley Clarkson

Today, it's time for a different kind of introduction. There are still many among us who do not use a computer or more specifically the internet. My eighty two year old aunt loves the card games she can play on her ancient hand me down machine but will not consider hooking it up to the internet. "What if I press the wrong button?" she exclaims in horror. My school teacher mother would not even touch the twelve pound "laptop" I lugged home from Toronto to show her in 1989, and all but made the hex sign as it resided on the kitchen table. Anyone who remembers the incomparable Tracy/Hepburn movie Desk Set has to be thrilled at how far we have come.

I myself still consider the computer akin to a genie's magic lamp that brings strange and wonderful things to life before my very eyes, even after some twenty-seven years of daily use. Whether a visit to the Louvre, new spring planting guides, a peek at The Guardian's latest recipes, flu advice from Dr Oz, or downloading that 2012 tax form for my aunt, it only takes flicking a few keys (or rub of the thumb if you're head of the technology class) and your all powerful genie will deliver what you seek. I'd like to share some sites that have been collecting dust in the virtual in-basket in the hopes they might brighten someone's chilly March day. I have no affiliation with any of these sites nor do I stand to gain from naming them; they simply appear to have a good selection of ideas and sources for those of us past retirement.

People are right to be cautious. Bad things can happen on line if one fails to pay attention. There are constant assaults on our personal information (especially financial), but there is also lots of advice about what we need to do to protect ourselves. This Cheat Sheet for seniors from Dummies.com is succinct and easy to understand. Steps like stronger passwords, knowing who you are dealing with and keeping personal information personal stand out. <http://www.dummies.com/how-to/content/using-the-internet-safely-for-seniors-for-dummies-.html>.

Another is from your government; you paid for this, so it is worth checking out: <http://www.getcybersafe.gc.ca/cnt/blg/pst-20121107-eng.aspx>.

The first site waiting in line from several months ago is the delightful and

so easy to use <http://www.linkingboomers.com/>, a web site for anyone 50+ interested in staying connected to their community through events, work, volunteering, classifieds, and meeting other people. It is in ten cities across Canada, and there's a weekly newsletter to update us on what's up in the hood. At the time of writing, some events include Stuart McLean and the Vinyl cafe at the Rebecca Cohn, some fascinating public library programs, and a "learn to make cocktails" party "complete with jazz music, hors d'oeuvres and delicious cocktails". You can use it to find a date, a travel buddy, a volunteer opportunity or buy stuff although, given competition from <http://halifax.kijiji.ca/> and <http://halifax.en.craigslist.ca/>, that might be a little underused.

For just plain shopping, has everybody smiled at the notion that home delivery is the latest thing? Remember watching the old mailbox for that longed for parcel from the Simpsons Sear's or Eaton's catalogue? Welcome to <http://www.sears.ca/>. Or <http://www.costco.ca/> or <http://www.amazon.ca/> or <http://www.theshoppingchannel.com>. To name a very few of the growing number of shop in your jammies and pick it up at the mailbox options available nowadays. Talk about back to the future!

Here's one about how Nova Scotia sets policies and consults with us: <http://novascotia.ca/seniors/groupIX.asp>. Here's what the federal government offers: <http://www.seniors.gc.ca/h.4m.2@.jsp?font=cfqmayesd&pf=1>. And here's what Chebucto has: <http://www.chebuctolinks.ca/>. Sometimes it is useful to see what government does for us.

More on the fun side, not all Canadian but oh so accessible, are these sites for all kinds of services, gardening, bird watching, activities, computers, laws, living abroad etc: [http://www.normanpickell.com/links\\_seniorsotherinters.htm](http://www.normanpickell.com/links_seniorsotherinters.htm) and <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/retire/etc/links.html>. We must not forget our homegrown senior oriented sites, tied of course to subscriptions but still lots free: <http://www.carp.ca/> and <http://www.everything-zoomer.com/>. And last but not least, the US based but very relevant <http://www.suddenlysenior.com/links.shtml> brings a host of ideas that has me checking out things I'd not thought of before, such as online games for seniors: <http://www.onlinegamesforseniors.com/>. Challenge you to a game, Aunt Bessie? Next visit, there'll be a laptop. Today's kids would use a phone, but I'm old fashioned.

## Correction:

In the February issue of the Chebucto News, Megan Leslie discussed the Rogers Raising the Grade program. The address for this program, as listed in her column, is incorrect. The correct address for this program is the Boys and Girls Club, which is located at 11 Aldergrove Drive. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our readers.

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## DISCOVERING OUR PAST

### Church and cemetery records reveal birth place of early Irish

by Iris V. Shea

March is the month for celebrating your Irish heritage. Many families located in Mainland South trace their ancestry to Ireland. Records from Roman Catholic Churches and headstones in local cemeteries provide the actual counties of origin in Ireland for some of the early settlers in our fishing communities. While there are many other families whose ancestors came from Ireland and settled in our area, I have included only those for whom I found documentation for their county of origin. Descendants of these early Irish settlers, with names such as Dempsey, Flemming, Gallagher, Johnson, Lynch, Murphy, O'Connell, Quan, Scallion, Stone, Sullivan and Twohig, continue to live in this area and some live on the land once owned by their Irish ancestors.

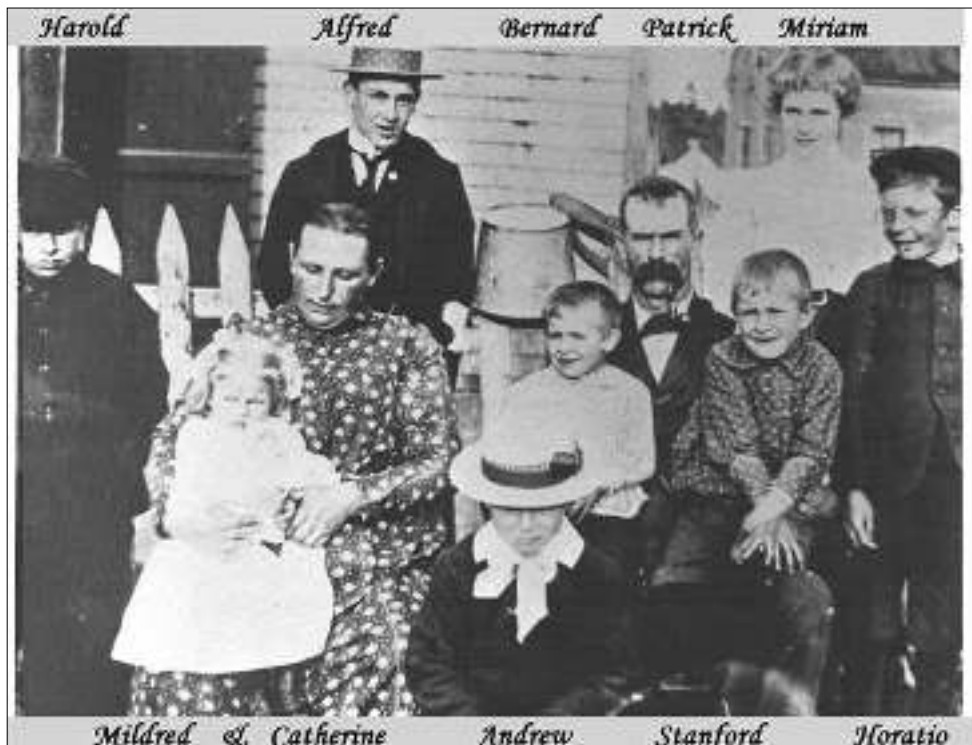
William Johnson first appeared in Bear Cove in 1801 when he bought 200 acres of land granted to Thomas Clarke. Johnson later bought the Bracket grant at Halibut Bay with Andrew Scallion. A cemetery stone in Old St. Paul's Cemetery in Herring Cove for William's son, Lawrence Johnson, states that he was a native of County Wexford, Ireland.

A gravestone in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Ketch Harbour was inscribed with information about Timothy Sullivan's origin... Timothy O'Sullivan, from the Parish of Borehaven, County Cork, Ireland, aged 98 years, died 11 Aug, 1875. His wife, Catherine Harrington, died in 1880 at the age of 103 years. The Sullivans first settled in Portuguese Cove. Their son, Michael Sullivan, married Margaret Scallion in 1837 and drowned off Herring Cove in 1854 when he fell overboard from his fishing boat. Michael's brother, John Sullivan, married Ann Scallion, a sister to the above mentioned Margaret Scallion.

The following records were found in St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church (later St. Mary's) in Halifax:

On 3 Jan. 1815, Daniel Gallagher, son of Daniel and Elizabeth of County Tyrone, Ireland, married Eleanor Hacket of Ketch Harbour. This couple settled in Ketch Harbour.

On 4 July 1820, William Dempsey, son of Patrick and Bridgit, a native of the parish of Castle-Ellis, County Wexford, Ireland, married Catherine Latter, daughter of Henry and Catherine (Mc-



Clean) Latter of Herring Cove, in the presence of John Loughman, Michael Hacket and Anne Philpot. The church record neglected to say that Catherine was the widow of James Philpot at the time of her marriage to Dempsey.

On 17 Nov. 1820, Walter Murphy, son of Stephen Murphy and Mary Doyle of County Wexford, Ireland, married Mary Connors, daughter of Denis Connors and Ruth Lister of "Catch" Harbour. Witnesses were Moses Brooks, Charles Grennel and Jane McDaniel. The Murphys settled in Ketch Harbour.

On 1 Feb. 1821, Andrew Scallion, son of Joseph Scallion and Margaret Doyle of County Wexford, Ireland, married Elizabeth Edwards, daughter of George Edwards and Catherine Brown of Lawrencetown, Halifax County. The couple settled in Halibut Bay.

On 12 Oct. 1823, John Quan of the parish of Ballyconnick, County Wexford, Ireland, married Anastasia Murphy, daughter of John and Mary (Casey) Murphy of Mirimachie, N.B. Witnesses were Luke Kehoe, Elizabeth Kehoe, William Brophy and John Kehoe. This family settled in Portuguese Cove.

A burial was recorded for John Flemming, age 65, at St. Peter's Church, now St. Mary's Basilica, Halifax. The record stated "of this town, a native of Clonmel, County Tipperary, Ireland, died in the poor house." His two sons, John and Richard, settled in Ketch Harbour. The two Flemming boys were half brothers to Joseph, John Baptiste,

On 8 Dec. 1833, Thomas Stone, s/o Richard and Catherine (Murphy) of County Kilkenny, married Ann Beazley, d/o William and Barbara (Steele) of Ferguson's Cove. The family settled in Ferguson's Cove.

On 20 Jan. 1830, James O'Connell, son of James and Mary (Young) O'Connell married Sarah Louisa White of Portuguese Cove, daughter of Joseph White and Sarah Rouse. James O'Connell's gravestone in Old St. Paul's Cemetery in Herring Cove is inscribed "a native of Glasshouse, Parish of Slaive, Rhue, County Kilkenny, Ireland, born 23 July 1810". His daughter, Susan, married 15 Jan. 1851 Andrew Scallion, Jr.

A marriage on 27 Nov. 1837 was recorded at our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Prospect for Jeremiah Twohig, son of Thomas Twohig and Catherine Noonan of Bantry Town, County Cork, Ireland, to Elizabeth Martin, daughter of William Martin and Jane Chipman Emry/Embree of Sambro. The Twohigs settled in Pennant.

The photograph, courtesy of Sandra Coleman, is that of Patrick Scallion and his family in Herring Cove, taken about 1900. Born in 1857, Patrick was the son of Andrew Scallion, Jr. and Susan O'Connell. He married 5 May 1882 Catherine Purcell, the daughter of Francis Purcell and Sophia Selig of Portuguese Cove. Patrick died in 1904 at the age of 47 years, leaving behind a wife and nine children.

Francis and George Martin, youngest sons of Peter Martin. They shared the same mother, Susanna Sandell Juill Martin Ryan Flemming (Susanna married four times).

On 20 Jan. 1830, James O'Connell, son of James and Mary (Young) O'Connell married Sarah Louisa White of Portuguese Cove, daughter of Joseph White and Sarah Rouse. James O'Connell's gravestone in Old St. Paul's Cemetery in Herring Cove is inscribed "a native of Glasshouse, Parish of Slaive, Rhue, County Kilkenny, Ireland, born 23 July 1810". His daughter, Susan, married 15 Jan. 1851 Andrew Scallion, Jr.

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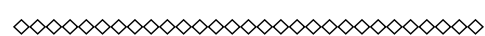


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## Letters to the Editor

Thank you to everyone who welcomed me and my family into Spryfield, back in 1979. It was, and still is, a great place to raise a family. And thank you to all the people who live and work in Spryfield and around the loop, for eight marvelous years working for you as a community developer with Chebucto Connections. You have warmed my heart and inspired me in ways that I will carry with me always – naming a literacy award after me is just the best gift ever. Even though I have formally retired, I will still be kicking around – volunteering with a community food project and Spryfield’s Urban Farm, helping to launch the first annual Spryfield Village Harvest Festival this autumn, and discovering the delights of being a grandparent.

Warmest thanks,  
Marjorie Willison



Thank you!  
Members of the Earl Francis Spryfield Memorial Legion, Branch 152 would like to thank all businesses and people in this area who donated generously and made this Poppy Campaign a great success.

There were approximately 600 people in attendance at the Remembrance ceremony which included the stimulat-

ing performances by the Dartmouth Pip and Band Corp, the JL Ilsley High School Band; and active participation by Air Cadets; Scouts and Cubs. All in all, it was outstanding.

This year the local communities donated an outstanding amount of \$19,173.10 making this year a significant record breaking donation for this area. The Poppy Fund from Branch 152 will, once again, be able to help Community Veterans and their spouses financially to improve their lives.

As you most likely know from the information supplied during the Poppy Campaign, money collected does not belong to the Legion but to a trust fund used to improve life for people in our community.

It is used for:

1. Providing assistance to needy ex-service members and their families
2. Purchasing medical equipment and appliances for community health facilities
3. Paying for medical research and training
4. Building affordable housing for veterans and senior citizens
5. Paying for bursaries for needy students
6. Providing support services to senior citizens

Once again, sincere thanks to the community for 2012 Poppy Campaign generous support.

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## Newly formed SACA aims to bring back Sambro Sou'Wester Days

by Lorrie Boylen  
(Lorrie is a Freelance Writer and Administrative Support Consultant who lives and works in Sambro)

Papers were drawn up and filed with the Registry of Joint Stock Companies and a bank account opened for the newly formed Sambro and Area Community Association. SACA is a non-profit group whose short term goal is fundraising, planning and presenting Sambro Sou'Wester Days during the week-end of August 9-11, 2013. Their long term goal will be to raise money to build a community centre which the area is currently lacking. The building could be used year round for shows, meetings, dances, weddings, parties, community groups, conferences, recreational activities, etc., as well as being home to future Sou'Wester Days festivities. Having a building to house the festival would make it much less vulnerable to

weather conditions which can greatly affect attendance. The Association is seeking corporate sponsorship from local businesses to help make this huge project become a reality.

Board members include: Kim MacKay: President, Leslie Harnish: Vice President, Arna Sisson: Treasurer, Natasha Roscoe: Secretary, Richard Kroeker: Project Manager, Lorrie Boylen: Media Communications, Nicole Gilkie: Sponsorship/Fundraising Liaison, Pat Thomas: Events Manager and Lynn Reiersen: Member at Large and Registered Agent.

The first planning meeting for the 2013 Sou'Wester Days festival is scheduled for March 17, 2013. Those interested in helping plan this fabulous community event should contact Kim MacKay, 475-1583 or Leslie Harnish, 868-2553 or email harnish@hfx.eastlink.ca for further details.

### Chebucto News Business Directory

Community businesses serving community needs.



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# LOCAL OBITUARIES

Courtesy of J. Albert Walker Funeral Homes Ltd.

## David Roger Foulkes

49, Herring Cove. It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved son, brother, uncle and brother-in-law, David after a courageous battle with cancer at the VG Palliative Care Unit with his loving sisters, Diana and Annette by his side. He is survived by his loving father, William and the late Margaret (Harinsh) Foulkes, brothers, Richard at home, Billy (Cheryl), Sambro, sisters, Debbie (Delton), Harrietsfield, Dale (Clarence), Halifax, Annette (Bob) and Diana (Dale), both of Ontario, many aunts, uncle, nieces and nephews. Before his illness he was employed with Dempsey Flooring. Arrangements were under the care of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd. (477-5601) 149 Herring Cove Rd. Service was held at St. James Anglican Church, Herring Cove on Wednesday, January 30, 2013. Family flowers only. Burial at a later date. Donations can be made to the Palliative Care, QEII HSC. Words of comfort can be sent to the family by visiting [www.walkerfh.com](http://www.walkerfh.com)

## Margaret Alice Melvin

97, Halifax. With heavy hearts we announce the passing of our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother on Tuesday, January 29th, 2013 at Northwood Center in Halifax. Margaret was born on 16 December, 1915 in Millford Haven Bridge,

Guysborough County to Frank and Annie (Cunningham) Connolly. Margaret moved to Halifax in 1932 where she met and married the love of her life William "Bill" Melvin. As well as being a full time wife and mother of 18 children, Margaret spent many years as a cleaner at the Royal Bank in the Bayers Road Shopping Center and the Olympic Gardens. Despite quitting school in grade 8, Mom read the newspaper every day and watched the news religiously. She always voted, because if you voted and kept up with current affairs you could always have an opinion. She definitely passed these traits on to her family; we all like to share our opinions almost as much as we love our families. It was always a special day when you did something good and Mom would say "go to the head of the class". Thanks Mom. Mom loved to travel, even driving to Prospect or Shad Bay for the day. When she was 55 she had the opportunity to travel to Lourdes, France on a religious pilgrimage. This sparked a love of travel that she never lost. She loved to speak about her many trips she took with her children, which included such exotic places as the Fiji Islands, Hawaii, Australia, Florida, Virginia, Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland and of course all her many bus trips with her friends at the Young at Heart Club in Spryfield. Mom loved to play cards, darts, and bingo, do the lexicon

every week, and tried to never miss Bob Barker on "The Price is Right". Mom had a great talent for entertaining with her harmonica and the piano. She will be sadly missed by everyone who knew her. Mom always felt her greatest legacy was her family and greeted us all like we were the one she wanted to see at that time. She is survived by her sons, Frank "Alex", Billy (Sylvia), Joe (Donna), James, Pat (Debbie), David (Marg), George (Louise), and Stephen (Kathy); daughters, Joan Mills, Shirley (Gary McMartin), Margaret Roy, Mary, Paula (Kevin Lawlor), Debbie (Stephen Beaver) and Darlene (David Finch); 52 grand-children; 37 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great grandchildren; a special daughter, Maureen Shirley (Graves) and sister-in-law Clarice Melvin; many nieces, nephews and other relatives. Maggs, as she was known by her family, was the last member of her immediate family. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Bill Melvin; parents Frank and Annie Connolly; brothers, Pat, Jack, Frank, Michael, Robbie, Charlie, Steve and Ed; sisters, Florence (Fraser) and Gertie (Irene Verge-Fedan); sons, Eddie and Wayne (who was born a thalidomide baby), both died in infancy; son, Tony "Bernard", was taken by cancer in 2009; three grandsons Robert "Bobbie" Melvin, Brian and Douglas Finch. She was also predeceased by her son-in-law, Tom Mills and daughters-in-law, May (Courie) and Gail (Orefeci). A special thank you to the staff on 2 and 7 center, Northwood who treated Mom with such love and dignity. Arrange-

ments were under the care and direction of J. A. Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Road, Halifax (477-5601). Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, February 4 in St. Michaels's Roman Catholic Church, Fr. Frank Pelerin as celebrant. Interment was held at St. John's Cemetery on the corner of the Bedford Hwy and Windsor St. on Sunday, February 10. In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate memorial donations be made to Lewy Body Dementia Research or a charity of one's choice.

## Shawn Marcel Newcombe

40, Williamswood. It is with broken hearts that we announce the sudden tragic death of our beloved son, father, brother and friend, Shawn. Born and raised in Herring Cove he was the son of Lloyd and Margaret Newcombe. Shawn loved to make people laugh and have fun, he loved his children and family very much. He had a love for the outdoors and loved being with his friends; he would do anything for anyone. He also loved his dog, Dakota. Shawn was employed with various construction companies for the last 20 years as a heavy equipment operator. He will be forever missed by all who knew and loved him. He will lovingly be remembered by his son, James and daughter, Caitlin, both of Harrietsfield; long time companion and mother of his children, Helen Goldie; brother, Bernie (Joy), Herring Cove; Mark (Stephanie), Sambro; nieces, Jessica, Madison

(See Obituaries on page 7)

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# OBITUARIES

(continued from page 6)

and Lindsey; nephew, Jacob; uncles, Bernie Stone, Herring Cove; Jimmy Stone, Beaverbank; Dale Newcombe, Coldstream; aunts, Gladys Newcombe and Kay Spears, both of Halifax; Verna Bojakra, BC; many cousins. He was predeceased by his paternal grandparents, Ray and Marguerite Newcombe; maternal grandparents, James and Catherine Stone. Arrangements were under the care and direction of J. A. Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Road, Halifax (477-5601). A celebration of Shawn's life was held on Saturday, February 2. Interment will take place at a later date. Family flowers only. A memorial account has been established for his children. Donations to this fund would be most appreciated and can be made at any RBC Branch. Words of comfort may be sent to the family by visiting [www.walkerfh.com](http://www.walkerfh.com).

## Paulette Grace Parsons

68, Fergusons Cove, passed away February 3, 2013 in the V.G. Site, QEII. Born in North Sydney, she was a daughter of the late William and Yvonne (Bragg) Fiander. Paulette was a member of St. Phillips Anglican Church and a life long resident of Fergusons Cove from the age of two. She graduated from Vocational School with a certificate of bookkeeping. Following her graduation, she started working as a bookkeeper for Neima Brothers Jewelers of Dartmouth, she then worked for the Spryfield Lions Rink for 36 years


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until her retirement. Paulette was an avid quilter, knitter, crotcheter and sewer, loved camping at the trailer in Ardoise, was treasurer for St. Phillips Church for over 20 years, loved baking, her whipped shortbread, plum pudding and fruitcake were loved by all. One of the highlights of her life was her trip to Rome with her dear friend Dossie Lawrence. Mom always loved Christmas and having everyone over for dinner; her tree always looked its best, especially after the tinsel was put on one strand at a time. She took great pleasure in her grandchildren and was so proud to have a granddaughter (Grace), named after her. Paulette loved flowers, even if she didn't have the greenest thumb. Dedicated to helping her neighbors, friends and family, Paulette could be counted on no matter what. Paulette will be sadly missed by her loving husband Douglas, who could not have taken any better care of his loving wife; sons, Scott (Tina), Herring Cove; Christopher (Robyn) Fergusons Cove; daughter Heather McLean (Don), Herring Cove; brothers, Cory (Joan), Fall River; Gordon (Kellie), Sheet Harbour; Gower (Cindy), Brookfield; Melvin (Janette), Bedford; sisters, Judy Dickenson (Doug), Bev Covey (John), Leila Fiander, all of Halifax; Bertie Lou Fiander, Debert; Deanna Fiander (Joe), Dartmouth; grandchildren, Grace, Stephen, Olivia, Shauna and numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by daughter Marie in infancy, brothers, Donald Fiander, William Fiander, sister, Valerie Fiander. Arrangements were under the care of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd. (477-5601). A memorial service was held on Friday February 8, from St Augustine's Anglican Church, Purcells Cove Rd. Interment to take place at a later date. Donations in memory may be made to Canadian Cancer Society or Canadian Diabetes Association. Thank you to the VON for their care and compassion given to Mom, and thank you to aunt Leila for always keeping Mom's nails at their best.

## Florence Hampton

82 of Spryfield passed away on Monday, February 11, 2013 at Arborstone Advance Care Center. She was the daughter of the late William (Bill) and Christie Hampton. Florence was a lifelong resident of Spryfield where she owned and operated Angela's Beauty Salon on Herring Cove Road for over 40 years. Over time her customers became more than just clients; they became close, endearing friends. Her shop became more than just a business; it became a place where neighbours, sisters, friends and relatives met every week, at the same time, year after year. Jokes and stories were told; pictures of babies, graduations and weddings proudly shown; recipes exchanged and freshly baked treats shared. Florence loved children and for years would be seen driving her car, packed full of kids, to school every morning – something she would get arrested for today. Among those kids were her nieces and nephew, Gail (Brian Morris) Hampton, Herring Cove; Angie (Regan) Fong, Clayton Park; Nancy (Bob) LeBlanc, Sambro; and Rusty Hampton, Spry-

field. Florence is also survived by brother, Pat (Minnie) Hampton, Hammonds Plains; sister-in-law, Jessie Hampton, Spryfield; nieces, Sandra Whitehead, Harrietsfield; Heather Whitehead, Spryfield; Valerie Blackmore, Fall Fiver; Beverley (Busch) Dubay, Timberlea; nephews, Stanley (Charlene) Whitehead, Halifax; David Whitehead, Harrietsfield. She especially loved, and will be greatly missed by her "little men", grand-nephews Matthew and Nicholas LeBlanc, Sambro and Joey Hampton, Halifax. She was predeceased by her sister Mabel (Art) Whitehead and brother Freddie Hampton. The family would like to thank the staff on the 3rd floor of Arborstone for the friendship and smiles they gave Florence during her stay with them and for their kindness to us in the last days. There are not enough words of praise for these wonderful women and men. There will be no visitation. Cremation has taken place. Memorial service was held on Saturday, February 16th, at St Michael's Church, Spryfield. Donations in memory of Florence may be made to Bide Awhile Animal Shelter or to St Michael's Church. Arrangements are under the care and direction of J. A. Walker Funeral Home, Spryfield., [www.walkerfh.com](http://www.walkerfh.com)

## Gertie Elizabeth Watts

93, Halifax, formerly of New Waterford, Cape Breton, NS, loving wife of 53 years of the late David L. Watts, passed away after a brief illness on Thursday, February 14, 2013 at QEII.

Born on February 11, 1920 in New Waterford, she was a daughter of the late Keywood and Theresa (Mercer) Boutcher. Gertie was a lady who was a dedicated life-time member of the Salvation Army, where she served as Corps pianist, Songster Leader (choir director), Sunday School teacher, and Salvationist who was generally ready to do anything to help with her church family. She was a vibrant and energetic woman who taught piano many years. She served as President of the Canadian Bible Society of Cape Breton, and she had opened the secretarial department of New Waterford Consolidated Hospital in 1963. Gertie loved to paint and do needlework, and she knitted right up until present. At age 89, she received her first computer, on which she emailed daily and enjoyed using Facebook to communicate with her family and friends regularly. She will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by her daughter, Dianne Hill (Terry), Dartmouth, her son, David (Donna), of Fort McMurray 5 grandchildren, Geoff, Graeme, Kathleen (Sean Higgins), Sharla and David, 2 step-grandchildren, Gregg and Melanie, as well as a great-granddaughter, Haylee, many cousins, nieces, nephews and the many friends she made during her seven years at Melville Gardens. She was predeceased by the love of her life, Dave in 1997, and a sister, Moretta. The family wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to Rev. Gordon Murray for his continued support and faithful presence, to the

(See Obituaries on page 13)

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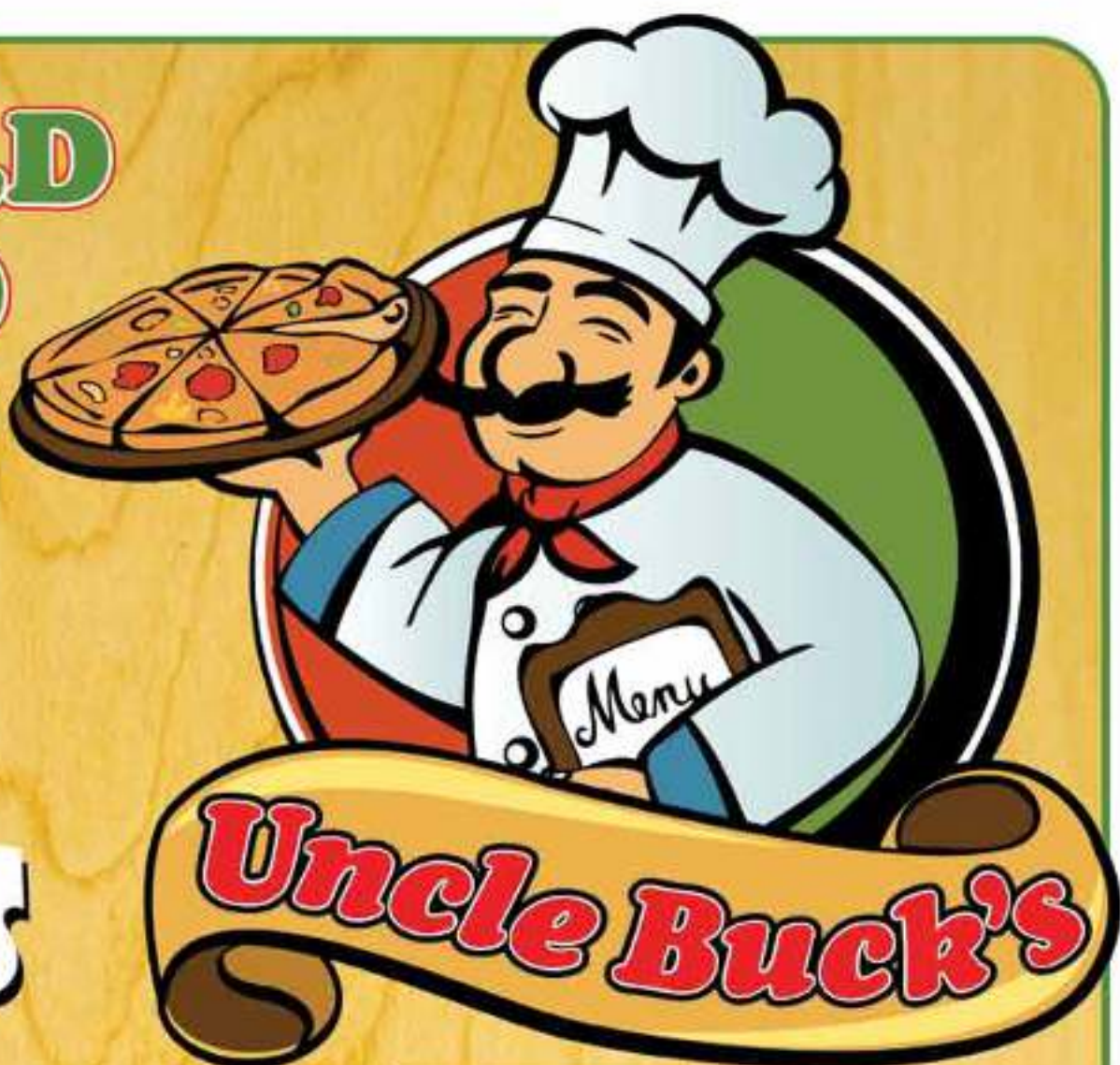
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Susan Nicholson greeted visitors at the Heritage Society Tea dressed as Elizabeth Sutherland

## Heritage Tea and Display

by Iris Shea

Mainland South Heritage Society was pleased to see so many people attend and support our recent Heritage Tea and Display in February. The photographs in the display, many of which had never been seen by the public, featured the Sutherland, Yeadons and related families, early settlers in Spryfield. Letters written by Spryfield's first school teacher, Elizabeth Sutherland, were part of the display and we thank Shirley Goulden, the great-great niece of Elizabeth Sutherland, for donating these letters which date back to 1859. A lot of credit goes to our busy archivist, Allan Marryatt, for his work in compiling the display of historic photographs.

Joanne McCarthy O'Leary, Local History and Genealogy Librarian at the Halifax Public Library, Spring Garden Road, was on hand to launch the Library and Community Archives website. Joanne demonstrated how to access the photographs which are now available to the public. Go to <http://digitalcollections.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/> to view photographs of the communities from Armdale to Pennant. Continue to check the website as more photographs and postcards are added.

The display of photographs at the Heritage Tea and Display may now be viewed at the Captain William Spry Library during library hours in the month of March.

## March Break options for kids of all ages

by Tangelene Ramsay

March has arrived, and with it comes March Break. Whether you are fortunate enough to be home with your children during March Break, or you must work and need something for them to do, there are many options available to you.

Here is a sampling of programs being offered in our community:

The Boys and Girls Club of Spryfield, located at 11 Aldergrove Road, are now taking registration for both their full week and single day programs. Children who register for this camp will have the opportunity to participate in Technology workshops, a yoga session, day trips around the community and many other wonderful events. Camp runs Monday thru Friday from 8:30am to 5:30pm. The weeklong camp is \$100 or you may register for single days at \$25 per day. There is a discount for multiple children of the same family. All registrants must have Health Cards and must fill out a medical emergency form. Please contact Samantha or Darlene at 477-9840 or email [generalinfo@bgcspryfield.org](mailto:generalinfo@bgcspryfield.org) for more information.

The Spryfield pool will be offering two courses during March Break, as well as daily swims from 2 to 3:30pm. Registration for the aquatics courses, listed below, can be done by phone at 490-6666 or online at [www.halifax.ca/rec](http://www.halifax.ca/rec).

For those individuals 13 years and over, the Aquatics center is offering the Bronze Medallion/Bronze Cross Crash Course: The Lifesaving Society's Bronze Medallion course teaches lifesaving principles through four components—judgment, knowledge, skill and fitness. Registrants must have basic swimming ability. Bronze Cross is designed for lifesavers who want the challenge of more advanced training including an introduction to safe supervision in aquatic facilities. This course is the pre-requisite to taking the National Lifeguard Course. The Bronze Medallion/Bronze Cross course takes place over 3 days, beginning Friday March 8th at 5pm and continuing through the weekend.

For those 16 years and over with their Bronze Cross, the Center is also offering the National Lifeguard Crash Course. This world leading course deals with aspects of team building, water chemistry, legal liability, emergency prevention, rescue and standard first aid. After successful completion of this course, Registrants will be certified lifeguards. This is a week long course taking place from Monday,

March 11 through Friday March 15 from 9am to 6pm each day.

If water sports aren't your thing, the Bowlarama is, once again, hosting a March Break Pizza Bowl. All week long, from 11am to 1pm and again from 4pm to 6pm, it is all you can eat pizza and two hours of bowling. Just bring in your coupon from school! The best part is, one dollar from every redeemed coupon goes right back to your child's school.

The Capt. William Spry Library is always a great place to spend some time, with lots of free events all week long.

For the little ones, ages 2 to 6, the library will be offering "March to the Beat" on Tuesday morning at 11am, Marrie Allie Performance on Thursday morning at 11am, and Elephant and Piggy Storytime on Friday morning at 11am.

On Tuesday at 2pm, Children between 6 and 10 years will be experimenting with 3D Jungle Art by making their own 3 Dimensional jungle scene. Registration is required for this class.

Also on Tuesday, for those 10 and up, there will be a Computer Social. Use a laptop, enjoy a snack, and hang out with friends new and old.

Wednesday there will be a Doll Making Workshop with registered Creative Arts Therapist Gabrielle Cordella-Chew. But don't let the name fool you; using craft materials and "up-cycled" items, children will be able to create superheroes, princesses, or anything else their imaginations can dream up, as well as costumes and a story about their action figure. This class will be offered twice; at 2pm for ages 6 to 10, and at 6pm for ages 8 to 12. Registration is required.

Thursday and Friday at 2pm, children are invited to show off their Lego skills with competitions for the Tallest Tower and the Longest Bridge. No registration is required for the Lego events.

Thursday evening at 6:30 pm, anyone 12 and up is welcome to come learn the art of Mendhi and experience a piece of Indian culture with special guest Vineeta Rajani. Everyone will have the opportunity to receive a beautiful Henna tattoo. No registration is required for this event.

Finally, on Friday, at 2pm, the Capt. William Spry Library is hosting its very own So You Think You Can Dance Contest! For people aged 12 and up. No registration is required for this event.

For more information, or to register for any of these programs, contact the library at 490-5818 (information desk).

## Spryfield and District Business Commission to Host Networking Session/Public Board Meeting

Contributed by Bruce Holland, Executive Director

The Spryfield and District Business Commission (SDBC) will be hosting our **quarterly networking session** along with an **open public board meeting** on Thursday, March 21st, 2013 at the Captain William Spry Community Centre from 7:00pm – 9:00pm.

Members of the Business Commission along with other service groups and government agencies will be displaying their goods, services and programs to promote themselves and show the general public just how many businesses operate in Spryfield.

Commission Chairman, Ryan Brennan, invites our members and the general public to come and see the work the Business Commission does in the community. "I'm not sure people realize how much the Commission does on a daily basis to promote local business and to improve the Business District in Spryfield", said Mr. Brennan. The Commission has worked hand-in-hand with local Councillors Steve Adams and Linda Mosher to implement the Streetscape program, which has resulted in the improvements to the Herring Cove Road.

The Business Commission also runs a yearly "**Beautification Program**"; purchasing, installing, and maintaining the flower baskets, Christmas wreaths and banners throughout the Business District and assisting with local raised flower gardens in the district.

These are just a few of the many activities and events the SDBC make happen to improve the overall competitiveness in Spryfield. To participate in this event, please feel free to contact me at [sdbc@eastlink.ca](mailto:sdbc@eastlink.ca) or call 452-7472. We anticipate tables will go quickly for this open event and encourage you to contact us at your earliest convenience.

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B3P 1S9

**Phone:** (902) 477-4100  
**Fax:** (902) 477-4810  
**Email:** [mhraymondmla@eastlink.ca](mailto:mhraymondmla@eastlink.ca)  
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# Take the stress out of travel...March Break Road trip survival guide

by Bobbi Jo Ferguson-Hill, RMT  
www.tranquilmomentsforyou.ca

It's that time of year again, the kids have a week off school. If your family is going to take advantage of this and take a road trip then here are some tips that will help everyone in the family survive and have fun. No matter what age your kids are, being trapped in the car for long periods of time is awful no matter what your destination. Use these in car stress busting tips to help the whole family make wonderful memories.

The essentials: Everyone should have a small "car bag" they can access during the drive, containing snacks (things they normally don't get), coloring pages and crayons, handheld devices such as DS or e-readers, or digital cameras, and water to drink (remember long car rides can dehydrate us and dehydration makes us cranky). If these activities make you car sick try "sea bands" found at dollar stores or the drug store (I am told an elastic band worn around each wrist works too). Blankets and pillows are a must have too. Some other things that should be in the car for everyone to share are: baby wipes, healthy snacks (such as fruit, cheese or baked crackers), and games and activities everyone can enjoy (more on this later).

Keep it fresh: Don't give them everything at once, keep some tricks up your sleeve to make the whole trip exciting. Get some interesting car friendly things (like a sticker book...even big

kids will like the "funny face" ones or a story book...for teens this could be a magazine or fan book about their favorite sports star or celebrity). These things can be purchased at a dollar store and wrapped up as gifts with shiny paper and pretty bows. Then, when they are getting restless, surprise them with one of your hidden treasures.

Use a blast from the past to keep them entertained. Take this time to reconnect with your kids, listen to their stories or tell them funny stories about when they were little, or funny stories from your childhood.

Kick it "Old School": Here are some car games (revised editions) that were played before you could watch a movie or play a video game in the car:

Treasure hunt, make a list of things to find before your destination. Things such as a stop sign, a playground, a dog walking their owner, etc. Graveyard-count a certain color or type of car. Only one person can count each car, and if you see a graveyard, the first person who says "bury your cars" gets to keep their cars but everyone else has to start counting at one again.

Sing! Yes I said sing, this is easy for young kids...everyone now!..."the wheels on the bus..." but how about having a laugh with your teen and older kids by holding the first annual "car trip Idol"? Each person gets to belt out their favorite and everyone gets to vote (and giggle).

Hour by hour- mark each passing hour in some way, everyone gets gum at hour one and at hour two we get a stretch break and three a lollipop etc. Nothing big just something to look forward to.

Now that you are all packed and ready to have fun and enjoy a family road trip, there is one last thing to think

about: car rules. Sit down together and make up some rules. This gives you a chance to find out what makes each family member happy and annoyed in the car. By listening to each family member's requests we can stop squabbles and keep everyone happy, and they can't say the rules are unfair if they made them up. Happy Trails!

## Should I Stay or Should I Sell?

by Jill Hann, Certified Home Stager and Realtor, Exit Realty Metro

When considering selling your home, not only the layout of your home will have an impression on potential buyers, but how you arrange your furniture within the layout will make a huge difference in how well the space is admired or enjoyed. Examine your living or family room as an example. Start by finding, selecting or creating the room's focal point - this could be a large window with a beautiful view, a fireplace, a favourite piece of art, furniture or an architectural detail. Once you have your focal point you can look at the placement of your furniture within the space.

Consider the following things when placing furniture: Who uses the space, what activities are carried out in the space, what is working in the space and what isn't, what furniture pieces do you want to keep (which furniture pieces have functional purpose, sentimental value or pieces you just love!)? What do you want to remove or replace?

Remove all accessories from the space and all the furniture pieces you have determined will not be staying. If you have an old uncomfortable chair that is never used - move it out and replace with something you love or enjoy. The extra space and/or the value of that space will appeal to the eye of a buyer! Now you can start putting things back together. Check out some design or home decor magazines and study the layouts and furniture placements the designers use. Count how many pairs of items they incorporate and you will be amazed! Consider the size of the room and furniture. Try to keep the scale of the room and furniture complimentary to each other. We all know when we're in a space where the furniture is just too big! On the other hand, small

furniture in a large space can bring a subconscious feeling of discomfort. Consider the height of furniture, it should all be similar - you don't want a really low back couch with really high back chairs. Furniture should flow consistently together in the space.

You can choose to place furniture on a rug in the space if that is what you like. When selling, if you have beautiful wood floors, I would suggest lifting the rug to show these off! If you are incorporating a rug, bring the furniture to the edge, just sitting over the edge of the rug. Keep this scale in mind: tiny rug in a large room doesn't look or feel right.

When placing your furniture keep these tips in mind: Open up the room to invite people in, visually and physically; especially if you are selling. Have a good space to allow viewers/ guests accessibility and room to walk through the space. You want to keep the right amount of space to walk through without spreading the seating arrangement too far apart. Try not to place furniture so as to create a barrier when entering the room. You should be able to converse with family or guests while seated comfortably. You don't want to be so far away that you cannot carry on a conversation. A simple way to achieve this is to face the couch and love seat opposite each other or face the couch opposite two chairs side by side. Place the furniture off the walls! Coffee table and side tables should be placed within reach of your seating furniture. Matching end tables on either side of your sofa create balance and give your room a designer look with added function! And to top it off, incorporate a pair of matching side chairs.

Now stay tuned for the next article where we will talk about accessorizing the space!

## Rogers Raising the Grade now in Spryfield!



Rogers Raising the Grade, a collaborative program between Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada and by Rogers Youth Fund, will provide youth with the skills, tools and opportunities necessary to excel academically and secure their future success as productive, independent and contributing members of society. It is an interactive after-school program that allows youth to explore their personal interests, receive homework support, connect with mentors and/or tutors, interact with peers, increase their digital literacy, and plan for post-secondary education.

The Boys and Girls Club of Spry-

field is proud to have been selected as one of 25 Clubs in the inaugural year of the program receiving a brand new Rogers Raising the Grade Technology Centre which allows easy access to the program portal ([www.raisingthegrade.ca](http://www.raisingthegrade.ca)). Rogers Raising the Grade is open to students in grades seven and up and runs Mondays & Tuesdays from 6-8 pm and Thursdays from 5-7 pm at 11 Aldergrove Drive.

For more information and to learn how to register for Rogers Raising the Grade program, contact the Education Manager, Amanda Langille: [Amanda@bgcspryfield.org](mailto:Amanda@bgcspryfield.org) or 477-9840.



### Selling your home?

Together we will develop a custom, strategic home sale action plan including:

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Not intended to solicit persons currently under contract.

Reg Horner Memorial

# Chebucto News Sports Page



Silver Black Attack bench at the Home Opener

## Silver and Black Attack Move on to Second Round of Playoffs

by Jonny Horner

The Spryfield Silver and Black Attack with their series sweep over the South Shore Wild will be moving onto the second round of the Nova Scotia Junior C Hockey League playoffs. Next up for the Silver and Black is the Barrington Sea Star Ice Dogs.

After finishing third in the league for the second year in a row, the Silver and Black Attack drew the South Shore Wild in the first round. Game 1 on February 10 of the best 3 of 5 series was held in Spryfield with the Silver and Black making a statement by winning 7-2 on home ice. Leading the way for the Attack was Tyler Cameron scoring twice and adding an assist for a three point night. Goaltender Alex Mader made 26 saves in the victory. Game 2, played in Liverpool at the Queens Place Emera Center, was much closer, with the Silver and Black edging the Wild 3-1. Alex Mader made 31 saves in the win. Goal scorers were Perry McDonald, Justin Mabe and Jeremy MacDonald. With the Silver and Black up two games to none and heading back home it was looking good for a sweep. That's exactly what happened with the Silver and Black routing the Wild 10-3 at the Spryfield Lions Rink. Tyler Cameron had a hat trick and Matt Gray and Riley Hemstock each had three point nights.

In the second round off the playoffs, the Silver and Black are up against the Barrington Sea Star Ice Dogs (19-7-1-1), who finished in second place in the regular season just four ahead of the Silver and Black. The Ice Dogs are coming off a 3-1 series win over the Clare Lions (11-17-0-0), who finished seventh overall in the regular season. The Silver and Black should have their hands full with the Ice Dogs who boast the third leading point getter in the league, Brett Symonds (68). The first

two games of the best 4 out of 7 will be played in Barrington and the next two to be played in Spryfield. Games 5-7 to be scheduled if needed.

To find out game times you can check the Sobeys billboard, the Nova Scotia Junior C website or right here in the Chebucto News. Come check out the local hockey team; great entertainment right down the street!

## Provincial Cycling Champions

In December 2012, at the Annual Bicycle NS Awards evening, brother and sister Liam & Maura Whitman from Herring Cove capped off another exciting Cycling Season that saw many accomplishments.

Maura, 11 years old, was presented with both Road and Mountain Bike Racing NS Provincial Titles in the U13 Women's category. In August Maura had a 7th place finish in the Quebec Mountain Bike Championships and made it onto the podium in the Sprints Race for a strong 3rd place finish in Rimouski, Quebec.



Above: Liam Whitman and left: Maura Whitman



Liam, 15 years old, was presented with the NS Provincial Road Racing Title in the U17 Men's category and placed second in the NS Provincial U17 Men's Mountain Bike Points series. Liam also raced at two National Cycling events; The Mountain Bike Nationals in St. Felicien, Quebec and the Canadian Track-Velodrome Nationals where he finished 8th place overall.

## Spryfield Boxer Remains Undefeated



On Thursday February 7th, 15 year old boxer Bianca Paquin traveled to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with a group of 15 other Canadian boxers. On February 8th and 9th they competed in an America vs Canada boxing competition. Bianca Paquin fought Pittsburgh's own Hope 'The Hurricane' Chase. Hope is a 3rd degree black belt in karate, as well as the unde-

feated Golden Gloves Champion in her weight class. The fight was in the 132 lb weight classification. Bianca weighed in at 116 lbs. Bianca gave up 16 pounds in the fight. It was a challenging bout but Bianca won a unanimous decision and still remains the undefeated National Champion and Ringside World Champion. Her record stands at 11-0.

If you would like to have your local sporting event covered by the *Chebucto News* please email me at [jonny.horner@yahoo.ca](mailto:jonny.horner@yahoo.ca)

# The problem is that there aren't enough jobs

By Megan Leslie, MP for Halifax

The federal government has been under fire for its short-sighted changes to Employment Insurance (EI) for the last year. These changes are expected to leave 8,000 Canadians unable to benefit from the program that they have paid in to, at a time when access to EI is at an historic low. In fact, only 4 out of 10 unemployed Canadians are receiving EI benefits.

This isn't right. Canadians paid into this system to protect themselves from the financial hit of unemployment. The government is doing everything it can to keep money that belongs to the people who need it.

Here in Atlantic Canada, we know how unfair these changes are for folks working in seasonal industries. Less EI access will burden the provincial social benefits programs, downloading the costs to the provincial governments for a program Canadians have paid the federal government to administer.

The NDP has denounced the elimination of the Extra Five Weeks pilot program as it has created an income security gap when someone loses their job. We've called on the Conservatives to stop changes that will prevent the most at-risk Canadians from trying to supplement their incomes while on EI, because many families that receive EI are still suffering from financial insecurity. We've also demanded that the government reverse changes to EI that require some Canadians to travel out of their communities for work, and to take work for significantly less money – up to 30% less.

Finally, we want to see the unacceptable wait times for EI claims reduced. Remember, these wait times were created in the first-place by reckless Conservative cuts to Service Canada.

Meanwhile, the Conservative responsible for the EI program, HRSDC Minister Diane Finley, has referred to EI recipients as "bad guys." The Prime Minister himself once told the American Council for National Policy that, "in terms of the unemployed, of which we have over a million-and-a-half, we don't feel particularly bad for many of these people. They don't feel bad about it themselves, as long as they're receiving generous social assistance and

unemployment insurance."

Does this sound like a government that is looking out for Canadian families?

The fact is the Conservatives don't understand the realities on the ground of how difficult it is for people to find a job in their community. And they don't have a plan to fix this situation by strengthening the economies of every region. The real issue is not what the Conservatives say – that there are too many people trying to collect EI – the problem is that there aren't enough jobs.

There are roughly 1.3 million Canadians looking for work, and an average of 270,000 positions that require filling on any given day. That's about 5 job seekers for every available job. Further, 14.1 % of Canadians aged 15-24 are unemployed (Dec. 2012), which is twice the national average, and will hurt our economic future.

We need a real jobs strategy, and that is what the NDP is proposing. Along with reversing the Conservatives' changes to EI and making EI accessible to the people that paid into it and now

need it, we would work with the provinces, industry and labour to develop policies that will promote job creation across the country.

One piece of this puzzle that my New Democrat colleagues and I would propose is bringing back the ecoENERGY Retrofit program. This energy efficiency program, which was strangely terminated by the Conservatives, despite being wildly successful while also underfunded, should have been continued for residential homes and extended to commercial properties. Every \$1 dollar of investment in energy efficiency created \$10 of economic output. This type of policy would provide good jobs in every community because making buildings more energy efficient, therefore saving energy costs, is a national need.

All Canadian communities would benefit from increased employment and lower energy bills. A long-term Federal investment plan in energy efficiency would create the business conditions to allow entrepreneurs specializing in energy efficiency to develop and succeed.

This is a real example of how green policies could really power our economy, while helping both pocket books and our environment.

The NDP will continue to fight the Conservatives on their changes to EI. We've already brought multiple motions to the House of Commons calling for the reversal of the changes, we proposed amendments to budget bill C-38 to protect EI and Canadians, and we have asked questions of the government or made statements more than 60 times denouncing these changes. We have made speeches in the House telling the stories of our constituents who are unable to access benefits they paid for.

Bottom line: we are forcing the government to hear the concerns of Canadians about these changes.

I want to re-extend my invitation to you to write to me about your concerns about the Conservative changes to EI, and your ideas for policies that will help create jobs, so that I can take them to Parliament. You can write to me at [megan.leslie@parl.gc.ca](mailto:megan.leslie@parl.gc.ca), and 1-2207 Gottinger St., Halifax, NS B3K 3B5.

## Are we getting value from Greater Halifax Partnership?

By Stephen Adams, HRM Councillor, District 11

Over the past months, we have had many more snow storms than we would usually expect. These storms have caused their share of traffic accidents and tie-ups, adding to the frustration of shovelling driveways and sidewalks.

The major difficulties in clearing snow is the inaccuracy of predicting when a storm will start, how much will fall, the temperature and when the storm will end! It is far from an accurate science, and, if one of these parameters is incorrect, we could have problems. However, there are issues within our control and I have been working with our Supervisors to have them addressed. The most common complaint I receive is that of excessive speed. Some plows drive at a speed whereby rocks have hit homes that are 25- 30 feet off the street. Others have difficulty negotiat-

ing a turn so that snow ends up on a newly shovelled sidewalk which means the homeowner's efforts are for naught. Or, the plows simply drive at a speed which ends up putting snow directly on a sidewalk.

In all of those scenarios homeowners have to do additional work, or be subject to additional expense.

Councillor Mosher has requested that all sidewalks be plowed by HRM, which will help to alleviate some of the aforementioned problems. Councillor Mosher had brought this forward a number of years ago; however, we were unsuccessful. (Linda has covered this issue in detail in her submission).

From time-to-time you may have read about HRM's economic strategy, or our plans to drive our economy. This has been an issue for years and

one which has caused frustration. The case-in-point is the Greater Halifax Partnership (GHP). I was a member of the Partnership for two years. During my term, I asked about how we were measured, and what outcomes we used to determine if we were successful. That was circa 2005. To date, despite numerous requests, I have yet to get an answer.

Our Auditor General's office examined the model, and was met with similar frustration. The GHP (and Destination Halifax) models are now being scrutinized to determine how best to develop and measure success.

To be perfectly clear, staff of GHP, both past and present, are very bright and dedicated. This is not a criticism of them.

(See Value on page 13)



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# Preventing pedestrian accidents not one solution task

By Linda Mosher, HRM Councillor, District 9

The issue of pedestrian safety has been a major concern recently due to the many accidents involving people trying to cross the street. Pedestrian injuries and fatalities are the highest they've been in five years.

The RCMP has been tracking whether a pedestrian accident was in a crosswalk or not. Halifax Regional Police (HRP) is starting to do the same but it is difficult to extrapolate this data from the 5,000 accidents per year. The RCMP data for 2012 indicates they had 35 pedestrian accidents in the RCMP patrol area and the majority of them occurred in a marked crosswalk. Due to these types of safety issues, many Councillors and members of the public are asking HRM's Traffic Services and the Police to find solutions to minimize pedestrian accidents.

Over the years HRM Traffic Services has implemented many improvements such as installing pedestrian count down signals which I had obtained staff approval to implement after seeing their effectiveness in Montreal. In addition, HRM traffic encouraged the province to lower speeds in school zones. They have increased the size of the lights on the overhead flashers to 300 mm from the original 200 mm size. These, as well as all signals, have been converted to LED which provides increased visibility as they retain their brightness. Staff also relaxed the crosswalk warrant (formula they use to grant a crosswalk) to 20 equivalent pedestrians in the peak hour, as per the Transportation Association of Canada's guidelines, when there are not sufficient gaps in traffic. The 'equivalent' portion gives a 2 to 1 bonus for elementary students and seniors so in theory you may only require 10 persons crossing per hour to warrant a marked crosswalk. This is a marked improvement – previously HRM required 45 persons per hour and no bonus for students or seniors. HRM also upgraded some older intersections that were problematic and installed some new overhead marked pedestrian flashing crosswalks.

Although HRM has made many

improvements, there is still a pedestrian safety problem. Traffic Services has been studying other options. In 2009 a study was completed on the effectiveness of adding side-mounted flashing lights to 5 overhead flashing intersections (RA5). With the exception of one location, the test locations results showed minimal change in drivers stopping for pedestrians when the RA5 signal was activated, and in some instances the compliance decreased. Even the location on the Bedford Highway by Mount St. Vincent University that had a positive result still had a pedestrian hit in the crosswalk this year. It was also decided that more public education and enforcement was required and on numerous occasions from 2005-2012 Traffic Services produced and aired television ads on Global, radio ads on Metro Radio Group stations, produced a crosswalk safety booklet that was mailed to ALL households in HRM, partnered with the province on various

safety campaigns and also conducted social media campaigns. Unfortunately, these educational programs have not changed behaviors, either on the part of pedestrians or drivers.

Traffic Services and Police Services will be embarking on a pedestrian safety campaign, entitled "Distractions Kill". Distracted drivers are three times more likely to be in a crash than attentive drivers (Alberta Transportation, 2011) and 84% of distracted-driving related fatalities in the U.S. were tied to carelessness or inattentiveness (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2009). Today there are many distractions: pedestrians listening to music or texting, or drivers not following the rules and texting or talking on cell phones. I have asked that the campaign also promote the fact that under the N.S. Motor Vehicle Act a crosswalk exists at every intersection, regardless if marked or not. Our key messages will be: drivers and pedestrians must always

pay attention, safety is a shared responsibility, inattention/distraction at crosswalks can lead to injury or death, let's do something about it. We will have bus shelter and bus ads, print, radio, TV, social media and other aspects to the campaign. The budget for the campaign is \$75,000.

In addition, Transportation Association of Canada is in the process of approving a Pedestrian Crossing Control Guide so there will be uniformity across the country for seven guiding principles: safety, delay, equity, expectancy, consistency, connectivity, and pragmatism. This guide will assist HRM's Traffic Services to determine the proper pedestrian crossing control based on sound engineering and traffic principles.

Chief of Police Jean-Michel Blais stated he is "concerned and committed to ensuring pedestrian safety and all people involved in this are cognizant of what we need to do to ensure pedestrian safety".

## Value

(continued from page 12)

HRM contributes approximately \$1.4 million to GHP. GHP also receives funding from the private sector, which makes this a unique model. However, we need to ensure that any monies expended by HRM bring measurable value. Until I see that clearly articulated, I will not support further funding.

At a Regional Council meeting held on February 12th, I introduced a motion requesting Mayor Savage to write to the Federal government regarding the condition of the federally-owned section of Chebucto Head Road. In a word, this part of the road can be simply described as "deplorable". Our staff has written to the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) staff, letting them know that emergency vehicles have concerns regarding their ability to drive on this road in case of an emergency. The inaction of the DFO could very well put local residents at risk.

You may have heard some discussion recently regarding recyclables.

The provincially established Resource Recovery Fund Board (RRFB) was given a mandate, among others, to develop and operate a deposit-refund system for beverage containers. Recently, the RRFB put forward some proposed changes to ensure it remains sustain-

able. One option was to consider alteration of the deposit-refund program. For more detail, you may view the full report on the Halifax Regional Council online agenda of February, 19, 2013, Item 11.3.2 at: <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/agenda.html>

## OBITUARIES

(continued from page 7)

Staff of Melville Gardens, staff of the ER and 9 Lane, QEII, for the care given to Gertie, as well as a special thanks to paramedic, Adrian, for going above and beyond with kindness and compassion. Cremation has taken place under the care of JA Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Road, Halifax, NS (477.5601), where a Service of Remembrance was held in the chapel on Saturday, February 16, 2013, Rev. Gordon Murray as officiating clergy. Interment will take place at a later date at Union Grove Cemetery, New Waterford, NS. The family would appreciate remembrances in memory of Gertie be made to the charity of one's choice and on-line condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.walkerfh.com](http://www.walkerfh.com)

### Logan Charles Douglas Schnare-Hamilton

Halifax, passed away on February 14, 2013, in the I.W.K.. He was the infant son of Jennifer Schnare and Dana Hamilton. He is survived by maternal grandparents Stephen and Hilda Schnare, paternal grandparents Pauline Cuza and Michael Roy Graves, many aunts, uncles and cousins. Arrangements were under the care of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd. (477-5601) 149 Herring Cove Rd., where a memorial service was held on Friday February 22 from the chapel. Interment to take place at a later date. Donations in memory may be made to the I.W.K. Foundation. Special thanks to Dr. Brock, I.W.K. Birthing Unit and the 7th floor nurses. Words of comfort may be sent to the family by visiting [www.walkerfh.com](http://www.walkerfh.com).

## Stephen Adams

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**WE CARE**

# The Jason Doherty Memorial COMMUNITY EVENTS PAGE



To have your Community Event listed call or fax us at 477-NEWS or send e-mail to [tangelene@live.com](mailto:tangelene@live.com)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS MARCH

**Dance at Emmanuel Church Hall** 322 Herring Cove Road, Spryfield. MARCH 9th, 2013, 8Ppm TO 12am Music by Bay City Band \$7.00 per person, light lunch

### Harrietsfield/Williamswood Community Centre(1138 Old Sambro Road)

• **Preteen Dance**, March 21st at 6:30 p.m. DJ and canteen. Admission \$3.00 for kids up to grade 6. Well chaperoned and lots of fun!

• **St. Patrick's Day Dance** for adults, March 15. Admission: none. Good will offering at the door, instead. Purpose: to give back to the community for their support throughout the year. Half the takes and good music by DJ. All welcome and wear GREEN!

**Spryfield Lions' Rink** is offering the following public skates this winter: Senior Skate – 10 am – 12 pm Tues and Thurs \$2. Parent-tot skate – 10am – 12 pm Wed \$2

### Attention: Volunteers Needed!

The Halifax Community Learning Network is seeking volunteer tutors for the Captain William Spry Library Adult Learning Program. Adult learners are varied in their skills and goals. Many want to improve their communications, math and computer skills or work toward passing the GED test. Volunteers who can tutor basic and / or high school math are especially needed. Training and support are provided.

If you are willing to dedicate two hours per week for at least 6 months as an adult literacy tutor, please call Noreen at 490-5715.

**LEGION: Bingo** every Sunday at 1pm, Mini Bingo at 6 pm and Superstat Bingo at 7 pm.

### St. Paul's Recycling

On the third Saturday of every month, St. Paul's United Church in Spryfield will collect your clean refundables. You can drop them at the church at 173 Old Sambro Rd. between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm. If you would prefer, you may call Carolyn at 477-0187 or Jackie at 477-3776 to have your refundables picked up.

There is plenty room for more at

**Elderobics-Forever Fit** (sponsored by the YMCA) at both Emmanuel Church Hall and Captain William Spry Community Centre. This is a fitness program for adults which includes low impact aerobics, working with weights, stretching and relaxation exercises. The classes @ Emmanuel are Mon, Wed & Fri at 10:00 - 11:00 am; and the classes at Captain William Spry are Mon, Wed & Fri at 9:00 - 10:00 am. No pre - registration is necessary, just come along, have fun and get fit! Pay as you go, \$4.00 per class, plus annual fee of \$10.00. "

### Women's 45 and Over Soccer Citadel

Women's 7 Aside Soccer League is recruiting women 45 and older, to play in our league. Our summer 2013 season begins May 26th. Games are held on Sunday evenings at Dal Wickwire field and Mainland Commons near Halifax West HS. For more information/details, call Donna @ 477-5741 or email [halifaxwomensoccer@gmail.com](mailto:halifaxwomensoccer@gmail.com)

**The Chebucto Community Health Team** offers FREE programs that support healthy lifestyles and overall wellness for those who live, work, or have a family doctor in the communities of Halifax Mainland (Postal codes: B3M, B3N, B3P, B3R, B3S, B3V) Be sure to register by calling 487-0690. If you would like a copy

of our full program schedule, please feel free to come pick one up at our office (Spryfield Shopping Centre, 16 Dentith Road)

• **Weight Management** 4-Week Program Thursdays: March 21st, 28th, April 4 th and 11 th 1:30-3pm

• **Assertiveness Training Weekly Program** Every Tuesday until April 30th 1:30-3:30pm. Participants may start and finish at any time. Please call for more information and to register.

Unless specified programs are offered at the: Chebucto Community Health Team Spryfield Shopping Centre 16 Dentith Rd. Halifax

**Sambro Sou'Wester Days 2013** set for August 9-11, subject to funding. A planning meeting is scheduled for Sunday March 17. All those interested in helping plan this wonderful community event please contact Kim MacKay at 475-1583 or Leslie Harnish at 868-2553 or email [harnish@hfx.eastlink.ca](mailto:harnish@hfx.eastlink.ca) for more information.

**Coffee House** April 6th from 6:30-8:30 St. James United Church in Sambro. Lots of great local talent!

**"Sambro Goes Country" Dinner Theatre** runs May 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, St. James United Church, Sambro. Tickets on sale beginning April 3rd, Sundays from 12:30-2:30 and Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30, \$30 for a lobster supper and live theatre.

**Songwriters Circle** on June 8th from 6:30 to 9:30 at St. James United Church in Sambro. Come see a selection of local songwriters show off their talent.

### Spryfield Legion 7 Sussex St. 477-0467

• March 9th **DJ Dance** with Trevor Probert. 9pm to 1am. \$5/person  
• March 16th **St. Patrick's Day Dance**. Band: Zero Limits. 9pm to 1am \$7/person  
Spryfield Legion 7 Sussex St. 477-0467

### Spryfield Legion to host Seniors Dances

Monday March 4th and Monday March 18th from 12:30pm to 4pm. \$3 admission. Lunch served. Door prizes and 50/50 draw. Music by Albert Martell. Everyone welcome.

**PUBLIC NOTICE: The annual AGM for the Harrietsfield/Williamswood Community Centre** is scheduled to be held on April 18, 2013 @ 7:00 p.m at the Centre, located at 1138 Old Sambro Road, Harrietsfield. All area residents ( upon proof of residency) are welcome to participate in the meeting and for elections for the position of "chair" and "treasurer", as well as welcoming for new board members to join. There will be regular business, part of which will be a presentation of copies of "revised" By Laws, to be discussed and for review. Following that, there will be a determined date for another members only meeting, whereby, there will be a vote for acceptance of said By Laws for record. A light lunch and refreshments will be served for a mix and mingle following the meeting. Come out and support your community and it's Centre!

**Mainland South Heritage Society** will hold its regular monthly meeting Thursday, March 28 at the Captain William Spry Community Centre at 7 pm. All welcome.

**Seedy Saturday**, sponsored by Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield, will be held Saturday, March 23 at Captain William Spry Community Centre from 2 pm to 4 pm. You are invited to buy, sell or trade seeds, and take

advantage of the opportunity to meet other gardeners and check out what is available from vendors, including Seaweed compost. For information or to ask about having your own sales table, contact Marjorie at [mwillison@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:mwillison@ns.sympatico.ca)

The next meeting of **Urban Farm Museum Society** of Spryfield is March 11 at 7 pm, Captain William Spry Community Centre. All welcome

**Chebucto Connections** are looking for volunteer board members who want to be part of a team that is actively engaged in making our community a healthy and vibrant place to live and work.

We are inviting people to express their interest in being part of our Board of Directors team so that we can set up a time to talk to you about what being a Board Member would entail. This will give you a chance to see if it is a good fit for you. We are looking for engaged community members to join us in this work of nurturing the rich capacity of the community.

If this sounds interesting to you please contact: [ccda.stecroix@gmail.com](mailto:ccda.stecroix@gmail.com) or 477-0964 for more information.

**Chebucto Connections volunteer board is looking for photographs** that represent Spryfield and area to be published in our Website. Chosen photos will be on display at our AGM on May 28, 2013. Please send photos to [ccda.info@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:ccda.info@ns.sympatico.ca)

**Captain William Spry Library Free Puppet Shows** every Saturday at 11am! All ages welcome!

• March 2nd is **The Boy Who Cried Wolf**; • 9th is **The Mightiest**; • 16th is **Peter Rabbit**; • 30th is **Easter Rabbit's Basket**

### Talent Auction

St. James United Church, Sambro (3811 Old Sambro Road) will be having a Talent Auction on Saturday, March 23 at 6:30pm. Come for an evening of fun and fundraising. All welcome.

### Easter/Spring Merchandise Bingo

Sambro Ketch Harbour Elementary School, 3725 Old Sambro Road will be having a Easter/Spring Merchandise Bingo on Sunday, March 3 from 2 -4pm. Door opens at 1:30 pm. Bring your dobbers. All welcome.

### Pizza, Tunes and TimeBank Family Fun Night

Want to know what a TimeBank is? Interested in joining the Chebucto Connections TimeBank? Stop by 180 Greystone Drive on Thursday, March 14 from 6:30 to 8pm for this FREE event! Bring your curiosity and an instrument for the jam if you play one! Whether you are currently doing some neighbourly deeds, or want to start helping and being helped -- this night will fill you up with food, fun and info to help you decide if the Timebank is for you! Please RSVP so we have enough pizza for everyone! Shelly Currie, phone: 471-1570 email: [chebuctotimebank@gmail.com](mailto:chebuctotimebank@gmail.com)

## Easter at St. Paul's United Church (and the Dingle)

by Carolyn Mont

When we think of Easter, many images pop into our minds. It doesn't take much to see Easter bunnies, eggs, chocolate, Easter baskets... I wonder how many of us have, as our first image, an empty cross or the empty tomb. How about the bandstand at the Dingle? An Easter tradition at St. Paul's United Church is the sunrise service at the Dingle. Yes, SUNRISE.

For a number of years, members of the congregation and the community at large have met at the bandstand for a very moving Easter Service. There is a profound wonder in watching the sun rise. In community with other Christians at Easter, it can create a sense of connectivity and holiness. You can become part of centuries of tradition dating back to the time when the women first went to the tomb. You can be part of the celebration here, now and today, of the divine promise of transformation that is renewed each morning. Of course, this is not the only Easter service at St. Paul's and they all have special significance.

The Thursday of Holy Week (the week before Easter Sunday) is called Maundy Thursday. Although the exact origins of the name are unclear, some believe the word maundy is derived from the Latin word mandatum which means "command". On Maundy Thursday we remember the new commandment Jesus gave his disciples, to love

one another. Others say it stems from the Latin mundo meaning wash, recalling how Jesus washed the disciples feet at the Last Supper. At the Maundy Thursday service, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper and we will re-enact Jesus' symbolic gesture of washing the disciples' feet. As part of this service you will have the opportunity to participate in foot washing or hand washing if you wish. You might want to dress appropriately (e.g. pants, sandals or shoes with socks).

On Good Friday, we have a morning Ecumenical Worship Service at St. Paul's. This means that churches in Spryfield come together for this special service.

Here is the full schedule of Easter Services at St. Paul's United Church:

**Sunday March 24**, 11:00 am Inter-generational Worship for Palm Sunday  
**Thursday March 28**, 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service. This is a combined service with St. Paul's United and the Sambro Jollimore United Church Pastoral Charge. Service will begin in the Church Hall at St. Paul's and conclude in the sanctuary.

**Friday March 29**, 10:00 am Ecumenical Worship at St. Paul's 7:00 pm Good Friday Evening Service at St. Paul's

**Sunday March 24**, 6:45 am Sunrise Service at the Dingle 11:00 am Inter-generational Easter Celebration with Communion

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