

Chebucto News

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Callaghan preparing "floating hotels" for Dock and Dorey

By Laura Pellerine
Staff

Floating hotels. Sleeping on the water. Waking up to seagulls. Sound a bit unique and adventurous? It's the feeling that Dock and Dorey Marina owner Joel Callaghan is hoping

to promote when he sets up between three to four house boats to rent to tourists nightly off the waters of Sambro next summer.

"It's not something that's really been done before," Callaghan says. "We want to help promote the area to tourists."

The "uniqueness" of the project is also its

obstacle. Callaghan and the project designer, Scotty Millar, originally tried to obtain funding through the banks who were hesitant to jump on board because of the new concept. However, Callaghan is not giving up hope. He says they are currently trying to receive the \$100,000 support through Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA).

"We think it would be a great opportunity for the area," Callaghan says. "It's a good little spot to do things."

Callaghan and Millar are also planning on giving guided boat tours around the Sambro Island lighthouse. The tour, which would range between \$20 and \$25, would last two hours, and with using a house boat that they've already built, could hold up to 30 people on deck.

He says they've already test-tried the guided tours with family and friends who've given them a lot of positive feedback. "Everyone we've taken out so far has just loved it," Callaghan says. He thinks the tours would become a big hit with tour buses.

Callaghan and Millar were originally hoping to have the project underway for this summer, but last September's hurricane set them back. Hurricane Juan destroyed the 12 floating docks that they had already set up, causing \$25,000 worth of damage. Callaghan had originally been planning to have eight "floating hotels" before the Hurricane and the lack of funding struck.

Despite this, Callaghan feels confident that project will become a success. With sleeping space for up to four people, he says that renting fees will range from \$75 to \$100 a night, and renters will have the opportunity to take the floating hotels out for a ride if they wish. There would also be a kitchen, bathroom, shower and beds.

"The feeling of sleeping on water is a totally different experience from anything else you can do," Callaghan says. "If you wake up in a house it's always the same thing, but getting up to seeing water outside your window and see wildlife and nature all around you, you can really feel like you're outdoors."



Bill Oakey took seven hours to set up a domino display. Dustin Drysdale and Celena Faulkner used a single finger each to destroy in 13 minutes. It was all in fun and very entertaining for the students at Central Spryfield School.

Dominos is more than just a game for "Domino Man" Bill Oakey

By Reg Horner
Editor

Ever hear the expression "the patience of Job?" Bill Oakey says it with a slightly more determined level of understanding. "Nobody in their right mind would do this. Not even Job," he chuckles out loud as he sets up his project for the entertainment of kids at Central Spryfield School.

Oakey calls himself "The Domino Man," and on this day he's spent the last seven hours standing little blocks of wood close enough to each other so that if one falls it will all tumble into the next, leaving a trail of down blocks behind.

But there is more to the event that just blocks falling over. His dominos turn on music, trigger electrical light circuits to illuminate stars and even the Canadian flag, they start a small battery powered train that travels along a track only to initiate another series of falling dominos, they pop balloons and they tumble towers of paper cups, all in the interest of entertaining the school's gymnasium packed with elementary school kids.

To his delight, the kids squeal every time something new happens throughout the 13 or so minutes it takes his almost 14,000 dominos to tumble their way across the 50 or so square feet of space he's created. The project uses everything from tiny marbles to bowling balls

to jump-start one of his 28 "special tricks."

In sock feet, Oakey and his partner Jim Edwards, who says he just comes along "to help cart the thousands of pieces to and from the van," tip toe through the maze of little pieces, setting things straight and putting the finishing touches on everything without hopelessly tripping any of the sections into action.

"It's a little nerve wracking," says Oakey who set up 73 displays last year without "ever knowing before hand if everything is going to go off without a hitch. Luckily I've been holding a pretty good track record."

But if Oakey's track record is good the

see "Dominos" pg. 2

Business representatives encouraged to attend Commission AGM

District 18 Business and Development Commission President Kevin Umlah hopes every one of the more than 200 Commission members arrive at the Earl Francis Spryfield Memorial Legion for the Fourth Annual General Meeting April 30 "so we can gather as

much input as possible" as the Commission begins to set the stage for future business growth in the area.

"There is important work to be done and decisions to be made," said Umlah referring to the importance of the session. "We have a new constitution to propose to the community's business members, a budget forecast for the coming year, a requirement to have the membership approve a new name for the organization, an Activity Planner proposed as an outline of our targets for 2004 and, hopefully, a new Executive Director to introduce to the membership," he said.

Umlah suggested the new Commission is heading into its second year boosted by funding from its membership and "that membership needs to shape where the community is headed in terms of a business direction for the future." He said under the existing rules and regulations of the Service Agreement signed with the HRM last year, every business that pays either business occupancy or commercial property tax from the Armdale Rotary to Sambro is an eligible voting member of the

see "Business" pg. 2

Business representatives encouraged to attend Commission AGM

continued from pg. 1

new Commission.

The President said he expects the initial invitations to the session, which will include Senator John Buchanan as guest speaker, will be mailed to members early in April. As a follow-up he said the Commission will forward

the proposed budget, the Activity Planner, the new constitution being offered and a copy of the Service Agreement to members prior to the start of the meeting.

"We're very sincere in our interest to have membership input and become involved in the new business direction for the communities we serve and we are determined to provide each

member with the information necessary to inspire effective decision making," he said.

And he said the six year effort of a dedicated group of volunteers working on behalf of business in the community may just be paying off. "There will be significant change in the business community this year," he said referring to several commercial changes that will include the utilization of empty buildings like the former Wendy's, the Canadian Tire building, the IGA and now closed Dairy Queen restaurant.

"This organization started six years ago for the purpose of changing the image of Spryfield particularly. As each business interest decides to either stay here or move here we come one

step closer to making this community from Armdale to Sambro a better place to live, work and raise our children," he said.

He said one of the big gains over that time has been the development of relationships with outside interests who can help the community become better. "We are all anxious to see the results of this year's Herring Cove Road Improvement Strategy being undertaken by HRM with the full endorsement of the resident group People Around Communities Everyday who contributed to the study's cost. If we gather together the interest of HRM, local resident groups and businesses in making our community a better and safer place then we are well on our way to a brighter future," he said.

Dominos is more than just a game for "Domino Man" Bill Oakey

continued from pg. 1

only measurement is personal satisfaction. There are no competitions for domino tricks. On the personal side his largest "show" included 40,000 pieces "that took two days to set up" he says. On a world wide basis, the largest individual display took 386,000 pieces and the largest multiple person display included 3.75 million pieces set up by 62 individuals.

It's tiring work. For this exhibition Oakey has been on his knees for almost all of the seven hours or standing only long enough to go to one of his containers to get more pieces. It takes concentration and creativity. "The displays are never the same. I just do what feels good next and at the end of the day hope that everything works the way it's supposed to. I always know what stunts I will do but I never

know what order I will do them in," he said, explaining why every display is a little different and a little scary in terms of their individual success.

And while the dominos fall Oakey travels around from side to side taking video and making sure everything is in order. At the end of the day all he has to take home with him is his video and the squeals of the kids whose exuberant voices muffle out the clacking noise of dominos hitting each other.

He also has one other thing to take home. All those 14,000 pieces. But the clean-up is masterfully managed by involving the kids who easily put the pieces into colour coded plastic containers. What took seven hours to set up and 13 minutes to fall down takes only 20 minutes to collect. It's been a good day.



For information and assistance

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Dogs missing freedom in crackdown at Long Lake Park

Sharon Bowers just wants her golden retriever to have a place to run free. And she used to be able to do that at Long Lake Park. But now that the province has started to enforce the dog leash-by-law in that park, this means dogs in the city have one less place to run free.

"That park was generally known as a dog walker's park," she says. "There were never any signs telling us we couldn't." But a few months ago, the province placed enforcers in the park without notifying users. They started to hand out fines to people whose dogs were off their leash. "I know one woman who said the enforcer basically jumped out of the woods to fine her," says Bowers. "And she didn't even know she was doing anything wrong."

MLA Graham Steele says his problem isn't necessarily with enforcing the law, but rather how the province went about it. "They let people go for years walking their dogs of their leashes," says Steele. "And then with no notice at all they started to enforce it. That's an unfortunate way to do business."

Bowers says while she understands there needs to be rules, she says this park could easily be an exception because it is different than any other in the city. "It's so private," she says. "The trails aren't groomed and it isn't really heavily used by the public." And she says for years and years the park has been used by local hikers, mountain bikers and dog owners and there were never any problems.

Steele agrees. He says there have been a

variety of users at that park for a number of years and he says it almost seems unfair to tell one type of user they're no longer allowed.

Now that Point Pleasant Park has been closed because of hurricane damage dog owners have lost their favorite place in the city to let their dogs run free, and Steele says this has increased the intensity of the issue at Long Lake over the last few months.

Steele says if the province is going to enforce the dog leash-by-law at Long Lake, they should provide an alternative for dog

owners. "I wish they would have found an alternative before this became an issue," says Steele. "But since they didn't I think it's their responsibility to find an equally suitable alternative."

Sharon Bowers says Long Lake Park could easily be half and half. She says because there are dividing trails, one half could be dog friendly and the other side dog free. "It's really unfortunate," she says. "It's really the dogs who are missing out right now."



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DISCOVERING OUR PAST

Most Harbour Pilots came from local fishing communities

by Iris V. Shea, Historian
Mainland South Heritage Society

At a recent meeting of the Chebucto Head Lighthouse Preservation Society, Captain Andrew Rae of the Halifax pilots committee spoke about the role of the harbour pilot which has always been "the safe movement of shipping while assuring the protection of the marine environment." Throughout the history of Halifax Harbour, members of the fishing communities along our shore contributed greatly to the safe arrival and departure of vessels. A total of 171 pilots have been licensed since 1830 when an Act to regulate the pilotage of vessels at the Port of Halifax was passed by the provincial legislature. Appearing in the "Halifax Journal" on 10 Aug. 1829, was this list of persons to whom Certificates were given to act as pilots for the Harbour of Halifax, Nova Scotia, dated 27 July 1829: John Frizzle, residing in Halifax; Caleb Walker, residing in Halifax; Joseph Martin, Portuguese Cove; Andrew Hennebury, Barry's Beach; John Lynch, Ferguson's Cove; William Scoles, Ferguson's Cove; Benjamin Brown, Ferguson's Cove; Daniel Gallagher, Ketch Harbour; John Flemming, Ketch Harbour; Richard Flemming, Ketch Harbour; Simon Cripps, Duncan's Cove; Samuel Wooten, Ferguson's Cove; John Martin, Jr., Ketch Harbour; Bart. Martin, Ketch Harbour; Daniel Martin, Ketch Harbour; William Smith,

Ferguson's Cove; William Beverly, Ferguson's Cove; Peter Martin, Ketch Harbour; Redmond Fitzgerald, Portuguese Cove; John Fitzgerald, Portuguese Cove; Michael Lynch, Ferguson's Cove; Moses Smith, Sambro; William Cartile, Portuguese Cove; George Sadler, Portuguese Cove; Edward Hays, Herring Cove; William McDaniel, Ketch Harbour; William Power, Herring Cove; William Martin, Sambro; Caleb Nickerson, Sambro; Elijah Smith, Sambro; Charles Gray, Sambro; Patrick Ronayne, Ketch Harbour; Edward Bowers, Portuguese Cove; Richard Wilson, Sambro; William Gray, Sambro; John Quan, Portuguese Cove; William Osborne, Red Head.

William Pryor, James H. Tidmarsh and Edward Cunard were appointed commissioners to examine and select pilots for the Port of Halifax. In 1826 an inexperienced pilot attempted to guide a Cunard ship carrying tea into Halifax when the ship went aground. The residents of Halifax were not pleased to lose their supply of tea. The incident brought about the need to license pilots.

Certificates were registered and renewed each year for a sum of 10 shillings. The rates in 1831 to which pilots were entitled were as follows: Vessels of 200 tons and under, £2; Vessels of 200 to 300 tons, £2.10; Vessels of 300 tons and upwards, £3; on vessels entering

the port, if boarded to the northward of Herring Cove and Thrum Cap Island, one-fourth less than the above rates. The Act stated "Each and every pilot who shall take charge of



any ship or vessel having on board Emmigrant passengers shall cause said ship to come to anchor between McNab's and George's Island, that vessel shall there remain with her ensign hoisted as a signal for a Health Officer to examine her." Any pilot who ignored this law was required to pay a fine of £5 and forfeit his license.

When a new system of piloting was inaugurated in 1874, the following licensed pilots were listed: James Fitzgerald, Patrick Hayes, John Flemming, Bernard Gallagher, Thomas

Holland, Timothy Saul, James Hanrahan, William Martin, Archibald Darragh, Geoffrey Gorman, Thomas Beazley, John Simmonds, Joseph Ryno, Jeremiah Holland, Edward Byers (probably Bowers), Daniel Martin, James Holland, Joseph Gray, Hugh Munro, William Baker, John Johnson, William Beazley, John Hayes and Charles Martin. Again, the majority of the harbour pilots were from the local fishing communities, from Ferguson's Cove to Sambro. Timothy Saul and John Simmonds were from Prospect.

Several pilots received the Order of the British Empire for their dedication and service: John Bracket in 1945, and Wallace Bracket, Emmett Delouchry, Nicholas Power and Edward Renner, in 1946. John Bracket, after whom John Bracket Drive in Herring Cove was named, is credited with saving the city from what might have been one of the world's worst disasters. During World War II, Mr. Bracket guided the burning United States freighter "Volunteer" out of the harbour to McNab's Island. The ship was carrying enough explosives to flatten Halifax. Mr. Bracket remained at his post until the ship's holds were flooded and the danger no longer existed. John Bracket was a pilot for 40 years and died in Herring Cove in 1958 at the age 68 years.

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Ilseley girls had a successful hockey season

By Rick Minnimee

The abundant history of Spryfields J.L. Ilseley High School Hockey program has taken yet another step in a new direction by developing a positive school wide pride to have a female competitive hockey team.

Coached by Kevin Julien, a teacher at the High School, the team had an unbelievable season, highlighted by many personal achievements by players, as well as overwhelming support from the fans.

The team ended the season with 11 wins, 3 loses and 4 ties, overachieving everyone's goals and expectations. Merideth

Legge, who is also the field hockey team goalie, and first year player Kelly Arnold split playing time between the pipes, and came away with a few shutouts to show for it.

Captain of the team, Grade 12 student Melissa Young, led the team and was among league leaders in goals, finishing with 35 in all. Assistant Captains included Hollie Ivenko and Kayla Oakley, who had important roles in the team's first year.

What's most impressive about this team is that nearly half have never played competitive hockey before. Melissa Young says about the team that "the girls had an amaz-

ing year and passed everyone's expectations for a first year team. The first year players really advanced and everyone really put a good effort into the year."

The team hopes to continue this success and plans on continuing in the following years.

Chebucto Bantam "B" wins title

The Chebucto Atlantic Bantam "B" squad returned from March break tournament in Chester with the title after dumping their host 5 to 3 in the championship game.

The Atlantic took the opening contest 3-2 over the Halifax Hawks in a close contest that ended on a disturbing note when the Atlantic's Trent Tingley was injured during the third period and had to be taken to hospital in Halifax.

In their second contest the Atlantic edged out the Chester Ravens 3-1 and in game three the Atlantic dumped Lunenburg 9-1, earning their way into the championship.

In the championship against the host Ravens the Atlantics began slowing down in the second period but Tingley's telephone call from his hospital room in Halifax rejuvenated the team in time for a 5-3 victory and the title.

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APRIL EVENTS

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The theme is "Having fun in our community!" Photos developed at Sobeys Herring Cove PhotoLab between April 1st and April 29 will be eligible for entry. There will be three winners. Draw date Friday April 30th.

Easter Colouring Contest

Kids drop by and pick up an Easter Colouring Contest!

Easter

Come celebrate Easter with us on Saturday April 10th, 1pm-3pm.

Nutrition Classes

Our new Dietitian Felecia Tighe Kimball, PDT, is now offering a variety of nutrition classes with information on cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes and other health issues.

Also offered are individual appointments, label reading tours and a 10 week healthy weight program.

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Spice up your meals without adding extra calories. Join Felecia and Chef Richard every Monday evening from 6:30-8:30pm.

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Heritage meeting most successful to date

By Leslie Harnish, President
Mainland South Heritage Society

Despite initially being postponed by the Blizzard of 2004, this year's Heritage Tea and Display was undoubtedly the most successful one held to date when the Mainland South Heritage Society invited people to come to the Captain William Spry Community Centre's Meeting Room to honour "Local Heros - People Who Made a Difference."

The annual Heritage Tea and Display has been so successful in the past that the society became a victim of its own success, outgrowing the usual meeting room in the library, so the local group opted to move the display to

the large community meeting room in the centre and changed from a weekday to a weekend date. These changes proved to be a big success, providing more room and comfort to the guests, estimated at approximately 100 people who made their way through the doors through the course of the event.

Another great event in conjunction with the tea was the unveiling of society member Peter Saulnier's latest miniature replica of the Hosterman Mill. Peter's other works have been on display in the South Centre Mall for a time and have recently been returned home to remain on view at the Captain William Spry Library. The Local Heroes display will also remain available for viewing in the Library for

the next month.

"This event was truly a team effort and wouldn't have been possible without the help of many society members," said local historian Iris Shea. Thank yous are extended to the Captain William Spry Library for co-sponsoring this event, everyone who donated food including Subway, and the Urban Farm Museum Society, and most importantly the public for attending and supporting this event.

The Mainland South Heritage Society's goal is to preserve and promote the rich history of all of the communities within Mainland South through events such as the annual Heritage Tea & Display. The group meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Captain William Spry Community Centre and endeavours to have guest speakers when possible. Members and guests are always welcome as are new members.



The Mainland South Heritage Society held its annual Display and Tea at the Captain William Spry Community Centre's Community Meeting Room. Standing near Peter Saulnier's newly crafted Hosterman's Mill are Marilyn Moore, Anna MacDonald, Historian Iris Shea, Jackie Brousseau and President Leslie Harnish.

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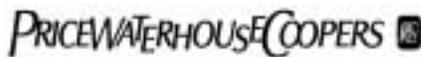
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Deadline for applying is Thursday, May 6, 2004

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Deadline for applications is 4:30pm Thursday, May 6, 2004

Applicants must reside within Chebucto West which includes districts 15 (Fairview/Clayton Park), 16 (Prince's Lodge/Clayton Park West), 17 (Armdale-Purcell's Cove) 18 (Spryfield-Herring Cove) and 23 (Prospect/St. Margaret's Bay)

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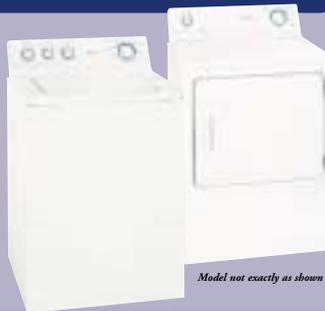
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Happy Mother's Day

Herring Cove Treatment Plant to be operational in 48 months

By Stephen Adams
District 18 Councillor

The Halifax Harbour Sewage Treatment Project is moving forward with a recent announcement by our local MP Geoff Regan. Mr. Regan committed an additional \$30 million to the project. In the overall picture, this may

not seem to be a great deal of money given the magnitude of the project. However, \$10 million of this funding will go directly to the Herring Cove plant. That is a significant amount of funding.

At the press conference, which was also attended by the Community Liaison Committee members John Furey, Peter Pelham, Anne

MacIsaac and David Crowe and his family, Mr. Regan confirmed the timelines for the Herring Cove Plant. That is, the Herring Cove Plant will be built and operational within 48 months. And as I reported last month, we have in excess of \$7 million to assist with sewer and water extensions and integration of the plant. Your CLC will help determine how this funding will be

utilized.

This process has been long, frustrating, controversial and tedious to say the least. Timelines have changed, literally 1000s of hours have been committed by staff and community members. However, we have all endured and will be successful in delivering water and sewer to the community of Herring Cove. There is money in place and the combination of dedicated community members, staff and myself will ensure this will come to fruition. The next few months will bring forth exciting developments indeed.

The civic addressing project has been ongoing in our district for the past three months. There have been numerous inquiries with respect to policies utilized to rename and renumber streets.

The rationale for this project is one of safety. When there are similarly named streets in the same or adjacent districts, 911 responses could get confusing. For example, Oceanview Drive in Herring Cove has a twin in Purcell's Cove. In order to eliminate any possible confusion, one street must be changed. Unfortunately for those in Herring Cove our street has to have a name change. Litchfield Lane is another example of duplicate naming.

The criteria utilized to determine which name will change includes, but are not limited to, the number of residents on the street, the age of the street, the amount of inconvenience for the residents among others. Although the short-term may be inconvenient, the longer term benefits of safety will be worth it.

In a recent article I addressed an issue in Portuguese Cove with respect to the purchase of an existing playground. I am pleased to report that the sale has been approved by Council.

MLA "adamant" residents receive environmental information

By Graham Steele
Halifax Fairview MLA

On February 23rd and 24th, I sat in a courtroom as your "eyes and ears" to find out more about an environmental controversy swirling around a local property.

The developer of the new Fairmount Ridge subdivision has taken the provincial Department of Environment and Labour (DOEL) to court. The developer says it has done enough. The DOEL says more needs to be done.

To understand the issue, let me take you back two years. North of the St. Margaret's Bay Road and south of the Fairmount subdivision was an undeveloped, 39-acre property, known as "the Butler lands." This property had for 40 years been the scene of indiscriminate dumping. No-one knew for sure what had been dumped there. Tests showed levels of contaminants that made the land unsuitable for residential development. The cost of a clean-up had defeated all attempts at development.

Then along came a developer who thought he could, with new technology, develop the land. The contaminated soil would be removed

and sifted. The larger pieces (uncontaminated) would be re-used as fill, while the smaller pieces (potentially contaminated) would be placed in an engineered "containment cell" along the southern edge of the property.

Work began in late 2002. There were many questions and concerns from nearby residents, especially about traffic and blasting, which were handled by the municipality. The one issue in which the provincial government was front and centre was protection of the environment, and that's the issue I've been watching closely.

In the fall of 2003, the developer concluded that the soil was not as contaminated as first thought. If so, there was no need for a containment cell. In fact the developer stopped putting any more soil in the containment cell after September 30th. But the DOEL did not accept the developer's analysis. The developer decided the only way to resolve the impasse was to go to court.

In the end, the two days set aside for the hearing were not enough. The case will continue on April 16th. After that, I expect it will take the judge several weeks or even months to issue a written decision.

I am neither for nor against this development. But I have been adamant that nearby residents must receive good, timely information about their environment. I have been disappointed that the DOEL has not interpreted its mandate to include public information.

In a way, I suppose this could be a good news story. If the judge sides with the developer, that means the soil is less contaminated than previously thought, and is within guidelines for residential development. That's good news for everyone, including anyone living near the development and anyone buying there. It also means residents of Crown Drive (and anyone else downhill from the development) don't need to worry about the future of the containment cell, because there won't be one.

If the DOEL's position is upheld (and my guess is that it will be), that means we're back where we were before, which is that contaminated soil will be removed and contained. I will inform area residents of the judge's decision as soon as it is released. In the meantime, you can check my website (www.grahamsteele.ca/butlerlands.html). I'll be posting any news as it occurs.

Media's E.Coli reports erroneous - Mosher

By Linda Mosher
District 17 Councillor

Recently, a local newspaper published a story about Stoneridge On The Park. The article was quite alarming, questioning whether or not HRM was piping sewage into nearby Hail Pond. The story was based on discussions at a Water Shed Advisory Board meeting. This board is comprised of volunteers and act in an advisory capacity to HRM.

There were allegations that fecal coli form levels in the pond were very high and that nearby residents had smelled odours emitting from the pond. The article implied that the storm water pipes and the sewage pipes were mixed up, resulting in sewage being discharged into the pond. HRM's Development Services have

policies and procedures in place to ensure that this does not occur.

Neither HRM Environmental Engineering staff, nor I were contacted or made aware of these concerns. The day the article was published, HRM's Public Works and Planning and Development services went to Stoneridge to assess the situation. They also conducted an on site investigation the next day. During their assessment they found no physical evidence of odour or sewage at either storm outfalls or ditches, or in the storm system itself. HRM's investigation concluded that sewage is not being discharged into Hail Pond from the Stoneridge on the Park development. Also, it was found that the levels of E.coli in Hail Pond are typical of levels found in urban water bodies that are

see "Media's" pg. 11



Linda Mosher

HRM Councillor, District 17

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Election boundary changes and program funding commitments

By Geoff Regan
Halifax West MP

I take great pride in representing the people of Halifax West and look forward to being the Liberal candidate in the next federal election and having the honor of serving another term in Parliament.

Until that happens I will continue to serve all of my constituents to the best of my ability, including those who may unfortunately be transferred to another riding.

Given the intense speculation about the timing of an election call in recent weeks, I thought it would be useful to outline the electoral boundary changes that will affect the riding when the House is dissolved and the elec-

tion writ is issued.

As many of you may recall, a census was conducted by Statistics Canada in 2001. In order to ensure that each province of Canada is fairly represented in the House of Commons, independent electoral boundary commissions analyzed the 2001 census data, consulted with the public and MPs and then redrew riding boundaries.

The findings of the commissions resulted in the number of seats in the House of Commons increasing to 308 from 301. In the redistribution process that followed, there were some significant changes to many ridings, including Halifax West.

When our new prime minister, Paul Martin, decides to call an election, the bound-

aries of Halifax West will expand to encompass the communities of Clayton Park, Fairview and Rockingham. I look forward to representing the interests of the residents of those new communities in the House of Commons after the next election.

Furthermore, it was a pleasure to have represented Spryfield, Herring Cove, Harrietsfield, Sambro, The Pennants, Armdale, Kline Heights, and Cowie Hill. Unfortunately, these boundary changes mean that the communities I have just listed will be excluded from Halifax West in the next election. They will become part of the Halifax riding.

I appreciate all the support I received from voters and encourage you to contact the staff in my Bedford Highway constituency office, Joan Faulkner, Gary Logan and Alan MacMullen at 426-2217 if you have questions regarding these boundary changes.

Meanwhile, I will continue to work on behalf of not only my own constituents, but the entire region. For instance I was pleased to confirm recently that the federal government is providing an additional \$30 million to the Halifax Regional Municipality for the Halifax Harbour Solutions Project (HHSP). Providing additional funding was a long-standing commitment for me and it was a pleasure to be able to deliver on that promise.

The additional \$30 million will be used for wastewater treatment plants in Dartmouth and Herring Cove and will bring the total federal contribution to the project to \$68 million.

The health and environmental benefits of the HHSP will impact all residents of Halifax, regardless of where you live. As part of Prime Minister Martin's vision of increasing support to cities, this new HHSP funding represents our commitment to helping the HRM grow and expand in a way that is healthy and sustainable.

Finally, I recently joined Defence Minister David Pratt to announce measures that will improve the safety and security of all Nova Scotians. We have agreed to enhance collaboration and information sharing between our two departments in the areas of marine security and fisheries enforcement.

In addition, the federal government is also providing an additional \$17.5 million for East Coast fishery patrols that will enable the reactivation of the CCGS Cygnus, a patrol vessel based in Dartmouth, and create 15 new jobs in the HRM.

On another issue I also was pleased to be able to provide an \$8 million advance payment for disaster relief. This down payment will help provide to victims of last year's floods and hurricane Juan.



Geoff Regan, MP
Halifax West

Suite 222, 1496 Bedford Hwy.
Bedford, NS B4A 1E5

For information or assistance:
Phone: 426-2217
Fax: 426-8339
email: geoff@geoffregan.com
www.geoffregan.com

Media's E.Coli reports erroneous - Mosher

continued from pg. 10

subject to storm water run off. HRM staff reviewed the situation with officials from the Nova Scotia Department of Environment, who concur with HRM's findings.

Water quality results are generally measured in units per 100 ml. E.coli is the major component of the level of fecal coli form. The levels of fecal coliform in urban lakes may vary. In HRM, it is not uncommon to find levels that are in the 100s and 1000s per 100 ml. The Canadian swimming guideline is 200 units per 100 ml. HRM's review of water sampling and analysis in Stoneridge, dating back to December 2001, revealed that the highest E.coli count from the sampling was 43 units per 100 ml.

Any allegation of public health issues are taken very seriously by HRM. Our staff has conducted our own samples of Hail Pond and these will be analyzed to confirm E.coli levels. I have asked HRM to continue to monitor this situation over the next few weeks and requested a full report on these allegations from the developer.

At a community meeting I arranged for

residents of Stoneridge, HRM's Manager of Environmental Services provided a letter indicating that the likely sources of E.coli in this environment are from pet, bird and possibly deer feces entering the pond. He recommended that property owners can reduce contamination of their local water bodies by picking up after their pets. There are no garbage cans in this area. I have asked HRM to install bins along the trail and to post signage encouraging their use.

Also in the Stoneridge area, there have been many recent sightings of deer travelling between Stoneridge and Long Lake Provincial Park. They have also been seen at HRM's Park Depot on the Cowie Hill Road.

Weather conditions and development patterns appear to have contributed to this proliferation. There was an accident involving a car traveling on North West Arm Drive. As vehicles travel at high speeds on this road, a serious accident could occur if a driver does not see a deer. HRM has agreed to post deer crossing signs on the Cowie Hill Road and have asked the province to post signs on their road, the North West Arm Drive. Please drive safely in this area.

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The threat of rabies - what to do for you and your pet

There are several things you can do to protect your pet from rabies. First, visit your veterinarian with your pet on a regular basis and keep rabies vaccinations up-to-date for all cats, ferrets and dogs. Second, maintain control of your pets by keeping cats and ferrets indoors and keeping dogs under direct supervision. Third, spay or neuter your pets to help reduce the number unwanted pets that may not be properly cared for or vaccinated regularly. Lastly, call animal control to remove all stray animals from your neighbourhood since these animals may be unvaccinated or ill.

Why does my pet need the rabies vaccine? Although the majority of rabies cases occur in wildlife, most humans are given rabies vaccine as a result of exposure to domestic animals. This explains the tremendous cost of rabies prevention in domestic animals in the United States. While wildlife are more likely to be rabid than are domestic animals in the United States, the amount of human contact with

domestic animals greatly exceeds the amount of contact with wildlife. Your pets and other domestic animals can be infected when they are bitten by rabid wild animals. When "spillover" rabies occurs in domestic animals, the risk to humans is increased. Pets are therefore vaccinated by your veterinarian to prevent them from acquiring the disease from wildlife and thereby transmitting it to humans.

What happens if a neighbourhood cat bites me? You should seek medical evaluation for any animal bite. However, rabies is uncommon in dogs, cats and ferrets in the United States. Very few bites by these animals carry a risk of rabies. If the cat (or dog or ferret) appeared healthy at the time you were bitten, it can be confined by its owner for ten days and observed. No person in the United States has ever contracted rabies from a dog, cat or ferret held in quarantine for ten days.

If a dog, cat or ferret appeared ill at the time it bit you or becomes ill during the ten day quarantine, it should be evaluated by a veterinarian for signs of rabies and you should seek medical advice about the need for anti-rabies prophylaxis.

The quarantine period is a precaution against the remote possibility that an animal may appear healthy but actually be sick with rabies. To understand this statement, you have to understand a few things about the pathogenesis of rabies (the way rabies virus affects the animal it infects). From numerous studies conducted on rabid dogs, cats and ferrets, we know that rabies virus inoculated into a muscle travels the site of the inoculation to the brain by moving within nerves. The animal does not

appear ill during this time, which is called the incubation period and which may last for weeks to months. A bite by the animal during the incubation period does not carry a risk of rabies because the virus is not in saliva. Only late in the disease, after the virus has reached the brain and multiplied there to cause an encephalitis (or inflammation of the brain), does the virus move from the brain to the salivary glands and saliva. Also at this time, after the virus has multiplied in the brain, almost all animals begin to show the first signs of rabies. Most of these signs are obvious to even the untrained observer, but within a short period of time, usually within three to five days, the virus has caused enough damage to the brain that the animal begins to show unmistakable

signs of rabies. As an added precaution, the quarantine period is lengthened to ten days.

What happens if my pet (cat, dog or ferret) is bitten by a wild animal? Any animal bitten or scratched by either a wild, carnivorous mammal or bat that is not available for testing should be regarded as having been exposed to rabies. Unvaccinated dogs, cats and ferrets exposed to a rabid animal should be euthanized immediately. If the owner is unwilling to have this done, the animal should be placed in strict isolation for six months and vaccinated one month before being released. Animals with expired vaccinations need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Dogs and cats that are currently vaccinated are kept under observation for 45 days.

Spring fair

Central Spryfield Elementary School's Parent Teacher Association is organizing a Spring Fair to be held from 10 am to 1 pm April 24 for the first time in ten years.

The Association has generated great support from the local community with prizes including a \$200 shopping spree at Shoppers Drug Mart, three month membership at Take 30 and a 20 inch bicycle from Canadian Tire.

There will be a craft table, candy, bake table, plants, flea market, books, face painting and games. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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Learning about the community

By Linda Roberts, Multi-Service Coordinator
Captain Spry Community Centre

A major way to encourage community action on community issues by community members is through communication. Letting people know what is happening in our area is one of purposes of this column. Two new resources are coming out in April to provide information to residents on local activities and

services.

Captain William Spry Community Directory 2004: The Captain William Spry Community Centre - Multi-Service Office produces the Community Directory every two years. This free booklet provides a description and contact information on local non-profit agencies and organizations such as schools, churches, service groups, sports and recreation groups, social agencies, health facilities and

other organizations from the Armdale Rotary to Sambro. In this updated edition, there are websites and email contact information on organizations. The Directory is available from the Multi-Service Office at the Captain Spry Community Centre (the office between the Library and main reception area on the main floor) and at the Pool Desk.

Give Local: In the 2004 edition of the Captain William Spry Community Directory is a page encouraging residents to 'Give Local.' Frequently people want to give back to their community in terms of their time, expertise or money. In the Community Directory you will find a lot of local organizations that need volunteers and need financial donations to keep going. Those organizations that have Charitable Tax Status (they can issue tax receipts to be used as deductions on your income tax) have the special logo of a maple leaf in a heart.

Chebucto East Community Website: On Tuesday, April 20 the brand new Chebuctoeast community website is being launched. Come to the St. Paul's C@P Site in the basement of St. Paul's United Church at 7 pm (corner of Old Sambro Road and Sussex St.) to see the collection of websites of non-profit organizations in the Chebucto East area. This launch will also be an opportunity to learn about the Internet as a communication tool, find out what is happening in the Chebucto East area (Armdale to Sambro), and check out the C@P site. The Chebucto East Community Website is a project of the Multi-Service Office of the Captain William Spry Community Centre in cooperation with St. Paul's Family Resources Institute. For more information call me at 479-4487.

Community Services Award: The Captain William Spry Community Centre is seeking nominations for the 23rd Annual Community Services Award. This award is given to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to this community. Nomination forms are available at the Pool Desk at the Community Centre. The deadline for nominations is April 16. For more information call me at 479-4487.

Organize your own neighbourhood Outdoor Skating Rink in 2005: There will be a public meeting on Wednesday, April 14 at 7 pm in the Community Meeting Room at the Captain Spry Community Centre to provide information on how residents can form groups to build outdoor skating rinks. This public meeting is sponsored by the Captain William Spry Community Centre and Halifax Regional Municipality Recreation Tourism and Culture. For more information, call me at 479-4487 or call Mary Angela Munro at 479-4486.

Community Development Spring Workshops: Workshops on "Executive Board Development" (how an effective Board operates) and "Grant Writing" are being held on April 24 at the Harrietsfield Williamswood Community Centre. For more information, call me at 479-4487.

Post-Partum Doula re-launch: The launch of the Post-Partum Doula program originally scheduled during the Blizzard of 2004 is rescheduled for Friday, April 16 at 2 pm at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. The Post-Partum Doula program sponsored by the Single Parent Centre was a training program for women to assist new mothers. For more information, call 479-0508.



Sobeys in Spryfield donated jerseys and water bottles to a number of teams in the Chebucto Atlantic Minor Hockey Association. Store Manager Mike Wade presented this team with shirts including Chebucto Blackhawk players Olivia Palmer, Zack Goulden, Jacob Goulden, Mitchell Spence, Ben Gray, Patrick McNamara, Emma Hart, Jordon Gray, Alex Cater, Daniel O'Hearn, Alexander Parkinson, Erika Pyke, Laura Trider and Leslie Rogers. Missing from the photo were Connor MacAdam and Coaches Andrew Schnare, Rick Pyke and Dan Goulden.



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What to Do if You Feel Depressed

It's a rainy day, a phone call brings bad news from a friend, and your car won't start. No wonder you've got the blues. Feeling unhappy or sad occasionally happens to all of us, but clinical depression is different. It stops you from functioning. You can't enjoy life, or being with friends and family. If it's not treated, it can lead to feelings of despair, illness, and – in the worst cases – attempted suicide.

Although we may not recognize, or admit, it, one in ten of us goes through an episode of clinical depression in our lifetime. On average, it lasts six months, although fortunately, most depressions can be shortened with treatment.

You may be more at risk if there is a history of it in your immediate family. Also, if you have gone through any of the following in the last year:

- A sudden loss, such as the death of a loved one, or being let go from your job.
- Prolonged or severe stress because of money worries, unemployment, or long-term illness.
- Recently giving birth. After delivery, some women experience post-partum depression.
- Drug or alcohol abuse.
- Medical conditions such as thyroid disease, diabetes, Parkinson's disease, vitamin B-12 deficiency, and multiple sclerosis.

There isn't always an obvious reason behind clinical depression. If you have been feeling unusually down, or don't seem to enjoy life at all these days, it's worth talking to your doctor.

*Lisa Herritt, Pharmacist
Crowell's Pharmasave*

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LOCAL OBITUARIES

Courtesy of J. Albert Walker Funeral Homes Ltd.

CHRISTIAN, J. Howard - 83, Herring Cove, passed away peacefully in the New Halifax



Infirmiry, QEII, with family at his side. He was a son of the late Herbert and Dorothy Christian. Howard worked at Canada Post for 35 years, retiring while in the position of Superintendent of City Mail. He was a devoted member of St. Paul's Parish. He was

the loving husband and best friend to Margareta (Reta) (Spears); and father to James (Carol), Herring Cove; Tommy (predeceased); Peggy, and former son-in-law Reg Allen, Herring Cove; Suzanne (Rick) Gannon, Herring Cove; Annette (Rick) Keseluk, Fall River; Blair (Maria), Bear Cove; Robert (Lisa), White Rock, B.C.; 15 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren; sisters, Mary Christian, Halifax; Anna (Carl) Wright, Toronto. He was predeceased by his brother, Laurie. Funeral mass was held in St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church, Herring Cove. His daughter, Peggy, provided the music ministry as a tribute to her father. Donations may be made to St. Vincent de Paul Society or a charity of your choice.

DEMPSEY, David Matthew - 67, Halifax, formerly of Herring Cove, passed away at home. He was a son of the late Carleton and Elsie (Brackett) Dempsey. He was a tool and die maker, and retired after 35 years of service at DND Dockyard, and he was recently employed with Home Depot. He loved playing cards, and

had a great love of sports. He was a very enthusiastic and proud volunteer driver for the national and international events held at the Metro Centre in recent years. He is survived by his wife, Gloria (Gentles); daughters, Terry (Greg) Boss, Waverley; Sharon, British Columbia; Jennifer (Jim) Hubley, Herring Cove; brothers, Larry (Noreen), Murray (Lucy), Peter (Lorraine), Keith (Jeanette); he was the loving grandfather of Jacqueline, Matthew and Jeffrey Boss, Jade, Mikayla and Kiana Moore, Emma and Justin Hubley; brothers-in-law, Don, Laurie, Leonard, Jack, Ron; sisters-in-law, Beverley and Paulette; a friend of B.W. for 32 years. Funeral arrangements were under the care and direction of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home, 149 Herring Cove Road.

BEAMAN, Iola Marion - 83, Halifax, died January 29, 2004, in the New Halifax Infirmiry, QEII. Born in Halifax, she was a daughter of the late Archibald and Louisa (Auld) MacVicar. Iola was a long-time resident of Captain William Spry Manor, Spryfield, and was active in the Spryfield Seniors Clubs, choir, bowling and a number of charities. She is survived by her daughters, Barbara (Gordon) Jennings, Hammonds Plains; Marion Warren, Halifax; Elizabeth (John) Chiasson, Hammonds Plains; Kathleen (Andrew) Lloy, Halifax; Jean (David) Starling, Prospect; sons, George, Hammonds Plains; Gary (Beverly), Halifax; Robert, Halifax; James (Mary), Halifax; Perry (Bernice), Calgary, Alta.; David (Tori), Ottawa, Ont.; grandchildren, Shawn, Gregory, Darryl, Anne, Terrilyn, Derrek, Janis, Jennifer, Richard, Brandi, Nancy, Jimmy, Trevor, Johnathan and Gillian; great-grandchildren, Morgan, Arica, Kody, Sarah, Kristen. She was the last surviving member of her immediate family. She was predeceased by her husband,

George; sisters, Edna and Jessie; two brothers in infancy; son, Donald. Cremation has taken place under the direction of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home.

WEAGLE, Una Marie - 77, Halifax, passed away January 31, 2004, in Glades Lodge Ltd., Halifax. Born in Sambro, she was a daughter of the late Lyle and Althea (Hart) Hart. Surviving are daughters, Nina (Richard) Foster, Richmond, B.C.; Maria Ernst, Nova Scotia; Marlene (Glenn) Goulden, Halifax; son, Roger (Maxine), Ontario; sisters, Avedna (Carl) Bookholt, Nova Scotia; Diana Harnish, Sambro; Leona (Carl) Doubleday, Herring Cove; brother, John Hart, Dartmouth; five grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Eric; son, Carter; sister, Theora, and sisters, Shirley and Erica in infancy; brothers, Jimmy and Harvey Hart. Interment was in Fairview Lawn Cemetery, Halifax.

HARNISH, Diana Nettie - 68, Halifax, passed away February 2, 2004, in the New Halifax Infirmiry, QEII. She was a daughter of the late Lyle and Alfreda Hart. She is survived by sons, Wade (Margaret) Harnish, Sambro; Matthew (Frances) Harnish, Ketch Harbour; daughters, Gwen (Thomas) Campbell, Dutch Settlement; Juanita (Frankie) Gray, Sambro; brother, John Hart, Dartmouth; sisters, Avedna (Carl) Bookholt, Leona (Carl) Doubleday; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her former husband, Jasper; son, Roland; brothers, Jimmy and Harvey; sisters, Una Weagle, Theora Harnish, Erica and Shirley in infancy. A memorial service was held February 4, in St. James United Church, Sambro, Rev. Anne Singer officiated.

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Heritage Meeting

The Mainland South Heritage Society meets 7:30 pm at the Captain Spry Centre every last Thursday of the month. Visit our display of photographs on Local Heroes at the Capt. Spry Library until April 15th.

Community Services Award

The Captain William Spry Community Centre is seeking nominations for the 23rd Annual Community Services Award. This award is given to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to this community. Nomination forms are available at the Pool Desk at the Community Centre. The deadline for nominations is April 16. For more information call me at 479-4487.

Outdoor Rinks

There will be a public meeting on Wednesday, April 14 at 7 pm in the Community Meeting Room at the Captain Spry Community Centre to provide information on how residents can form groups to build outdoor skating rinks. This public meeting is sponsored by the Captain William Spry Community Centre and Halifax Regional Municipality Recreation Tourism and Culture. For more information, call me at 479-4487 or call Mary Angela Munro at 479-4486.

I Hate Hamlet

The Theatre Arts Guild's "I Hate Hamlet" begins April 22 and runs Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays until May 8

with a Sunday Matinee May 2 and 2 pm. General Admission \$12, Seniors, students and members \$10.

Blood Donor Clinic

The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a blood donor clinic at St. Michael's Church Hall from 5 to 8 pm April 13. All donors welcome. To make an appointment call 1-888-2-donate.

Post-Partum Doula re-launch

The launch of the Post-Partum Doula program originally scheduled during the Blizzard of 2004 is rescheduled for Friday, April 16 at 2 pm at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. The Post-Partum Doula program sponsored by the Single Parent Centre was a training program for women to assist new mothers. For more information, call 479-0508.

Website Launch

The launch of the Chebucto East Website has been changed to Tuesday, April 20 from 7-8:30 pm at St. Paul's C@P Site, St. Paul's United Church, 173 Old Sambro Road.

Sambro Dinner Theater

Tickets go on sale March 15th for Lights! Camera! Action!, this year's production of St. James Dinner Theater. This is being held in the United Church Hall, Sambro April 30th, May 1st, 7th and 8th at 6:30 pm.

Tickets are \$25.00 with a choice of lobster or roast beef meal. Call Eva Mae at 868-2660 for info or tickets.

Dinner Supports Scouts

The Emmanuel scouting groups will hold a corned beef and cabbage supper at Emmanuel Church Hall, 322 Herring Cove Road, Sunday April 25 from 4 to 6 pm. Adults \$8, children and seniors \$5.

Executive Board Development

Learn how an effective Board operates and how an Executive should function. This workshop will explore the problems that Boards run into and how they can ensure that meetings are productive. The session will be held at the Harrietsfield Williamswood Community Centre April 24 from 1-4 pm. Cost \$10.

The Grammar of Grant Writing

This workshop will provide you with the information that you will need to write an effective grant. The workshop will be held at the Harrietsfield Williamswood Community Centre April 24 from 9 am - noon. Cost \$10.

Golf Privilege Club

Will visions of new golf clubs be dancing in your head this holiday season? If so, do not forget to add the 2004 Edition of The Lung Association of Nova Scotia's Golf Privilege Club Membership Book to your wish list. For only \$50, you will have access to 2 golf for 1 green fee offers from 60 golf courses throughout the Maritimes! Plus, special offers from driving ranges in Nova Scotia and 10 golf courses in Maine. Golf Privilege Club Books are now available at any Pharmasave store or through your Lung Association of Nova Scotia office. If you wish

to purchase a book or have any comments and suggestions, please call 1-888-566-5864.

Blind Bingo

The Canadian Council of The Blind Club will be holding a "Merchandise Chip Bingo" Friday, April 15, in the CNIB Auditorium, 6136 Almon Street, Gladstone Street Entrance, commencing 7 pm. Merchandise prizes, Door prizes, Half The Take. Admission \$5.00 All are welcome. Come join us for a fun evening.

Dinner Auction

Dinner and Auction at the Jolly Mug Pub and Grill in Bayers Lake on April 17 in support of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. Viewing of items at 5:00, quarter chicken dinner at 6:00 followed by the auction. Tickets are \$10.00. Call 443-3036 or e-mail lcmurphy@hfx.eastlink.ca to reserve tickets.

Super Cities WALK For MS

Register today for the annual Super Cities WALK for multiple sclerosis! Call 1-800-268-7582 or visit our website at www.supercitieswalk.com. Together, we can connect with a cure for multiple sclerosis. The Walk will be held Sunday May 2, beginning at 9:00 am with Check-in; 10:30 am the WALK begins and at 12:00 pm the BBQ and Entertainment start. It will be held at Dalhousie Memorial Arena.

TAG Auditions

Auditions for the Theatre Arts Guild's next production "Dead Guilty" by Richard Harris will be held at the Pond Playhouse, 6 Parkhill Road, on Sunday April 25th from 2 to 4 and Monday April 26th from 7 to 9 pm.

Chebucto News

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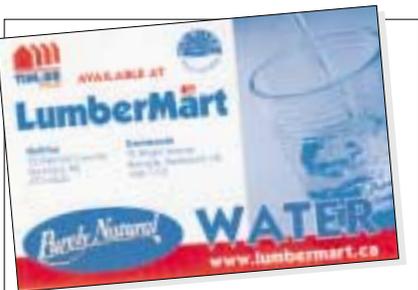
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