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# Chebucto News

Vol. 6 • No. 9 • December • 2004

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## Adams confirms "no disruption in service" at Lions Rink

There will not be any disruption to services provided at the Spryfield Lions Rink this season says Councillor Stephen Adams, determined that a management agreement between HRM and the Spryfield Lions Club for operation of the rink will be in place no later than

April next year.

The Councillor, in a telephone conversation with The Chebucto News, said "the Spryfield Lions Club has done everything it has had to do properly in its efforts to enter a management agreement with the city for the

rink. This should have been dealt with long ago," said a somewhat exasperated Councillor.

Two years ago the local service club initiated discussions with the city over the possibility of HRM taking over the thirty-year-old facility. According to the club's Board of Rink Management, the operation is self-sufficient but ongoing capital improvement and maintenance requirements are too much for the club to bear.

A few weeks ago, former King Lion and Board of Management Chair Darrell Wentzell sent a letter to George McLellan, HRM Chief Administrative Officer, informing the city that after two years of discussion with nothing happening the situation is getting worse and the club may be forced to close the rink as early as December 31 this year. "Some of the issues are starting to fall into the realm of safety and

environmental consideration and the club simply is not prepared to accept the increasing liability," said Wentzell.

The letter to McLellan caused Adams to bring the issue to light at a recent Council meeting. He said he wanted to make it public so he could "get it on the record" that he has asked for a report to indicate where the city is with this issue and "also to have the city look at opportunities for funding should the need arise."

He said he expects the report from staff will be on the next Council agenda set for December 7.

"I can fully understand Wentzell's and the club's frustration," said Adams. "They have done everything necessary and appropriate. A

see "Lions Rink" pg. 2



Work crews are busy building a new operations centre for the Halifax Regional Water Commission at the top of Cowie Hill Road. The new centre will put 90 full time employees in a new home and help organize the Commission's administration.

## HCR Planning Study draft scheduled for presentation in early 2005

The HRM Planning Department and Ekistics Planning and Design are preparing to bring forward draft recommendations on the future of Herring Cove Road at an open house at the Captain William Spry Community Centre January 19.

Between now and then, Ekistics will hold more public meetings, scheduled for December 8 from 1 to 3 pm at Captain Spry Community

Centre, December 9 from 1 to 3 pm at Cornerstone Family Centre and December 9 from 7 to 9 pm at Chocolate Lake Recreation Centre, to continue the information gathering and public consultation process required on the contract.

Up to now Ekistics has held a public information session at Captain Spry Community Centre which was attended by about 40 people, held a planning session with members of the Spryfield and District Business Commission attended by 20 business representatives, conducted research of past studies done in the area and interviewed people in the community.

"Much of the research," says lead HRM Planner Richard Harvey, "has been centered upon understanding what people believe are the important features within the community, how people travel within the area and the issues and perceptions people have of Herring Cove Road."

Harvey said future information gathering sessions will continue to explore these issues. The feedback so far has led Ekistics to ask a number of questions of the community through a survey that is being distributed throughout Districts 17 and 18 that should have arrive in

see "Water" pg. 2

see "HCR Planning" pg. 2

## Water Commission upgrade a boost for communities

By Michael Kydd  
 Staff

Jamie Hannam is a man who feels that the latest project involving the Halifax Regional Municipality Water Commission in District 17 is a good thing, not only for the Commission's operation, but for the adjacent communities as well.

The ongoing project, scheduled for completion this June, is centered on nine-acres of land just off of Cowie Hill Road. The Regional Water Commission is responsible for the production and distribution of potable water and water for fire protection across the urbanized area of all of HRM. Hannam, Chief Engineer

of the Regional Water Commission, says the \$5.6 million project to consolidate its operations, is the result of a two-year business case analysis, and the fact that the Commission is an existing landowner in Cowie Hill.

"We chose the business plan to sell our existing facility in the open market. We then took that cash and leveraged it forward to build a new facility on lands that we already owned," says Hannam. The location of the new headquarters in Cowie Hill makes perfect sense from a cost and infrastructure perspective. The land in Cowie Hill is critical to the development of the Commission because it holds much of the major water distribution infrastructure. Behind the new location of the

Water Commission sits a five million gallon water reservoir and a major control chamber booster station that supports the whole Mainland South area.

The operation and management of the building is also an important factor in the decision to build on Cowie Hill. From a management and administrative standpoint, all operations, including accounting, financial transactions and customer service, could have been managed in an office building downtown. But having administration and facility operations housed under one roof in such an ideal location allows the Commission to assist clients in

## HCR Planning Study draft scheduled for early 2005

continued from pg. 1

mailboxes about the end of November.

Aside from the individual detailed questions being asked of the study group, Harvey said "the overall question that the community seems to be raising is centered on how we might balance a number of seemingly competing roles and functions" now being provided by Herring Cove Road.

He said the role of the street seems to be both as a thoroughfare and a fully functioning downtown environment. "While some people might be interested in the road being automobile centered, others might want a pedestrian friendly environment that provides a positive identify for the surrounding area," he said.

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both as a thoroughfare and a fully functioning downtown environment. "While some people might be interested in the road being automobile centered, others might want a pedestrian friendly environment that provides a positive identify for the surrounding area," he said.

Comments from the public, he said, suggested civic amenities like street trees and boulevard concepts, while the business group cited concern with any possible changes that might impede automotive travel to businesses.

Business Commission President Kevin Umlah said members of the group are very interested in beautifying the area and making positive change in the community. "It is our challenge as a community to find ways to make improvements that benefit everyone including automobile users, pedestrians, resi-

dents who live on the street and business owners who make their living there."

Harvey said Ekistics will start to develop a "possible vision and some proposals for improvements" following the analysis of the surveys and further input from the December meetings. "These thoughts will be shared with an interdepartmental HRM Staff Steering Team and the public at a workshop on January 19," he said, with the final draft being presented to the general public on February 10 before submitting their final report.



Spryfield and District Business Commission President Kevin Umlah explains the results of his study group following a planning exercise with Ekistics, the company hired to do a review of Herring Cove Road.

## Water Commission upgrade

continued from pg. 1

an administrative capacity as well as take care of any facility issues in the area.

Mr. Hannam says accessibility to the new building will not restrict traffic flow to the Cowie Hill area. He emphasizes that dialogue and communication with area residents has been a very productive experience so far.

"We've had some preliminary discussions with the community on how we can optimize or enhance the recreational trail systems that criss-cross our property. Our plan is to leave most of the walking paths for community access," says Hannam. Ensuring public safety and recreation is a significant part of the project. With construction still undergoing major excavations, residents and the general public are encouraged not to visit the site until its completion in June 2005.

The overall impact of the project will have a positive spillover effect in Districts 17 and 18. Cowie Hill Road will be extended as a publicly lit road through to the entrance point of the new Water Commission and the design of the building is set to minimize the impact on most of the residents by creating a buffer with a new tree line.

On the political level, Councillor Linda

Mosher sees the development of the new facility as a positive step for the community because it will bring in new staff and municipal buildings to the area. It is expected that 90 of the 180 people employed by the Commission will be transferred to the Cowie Hill facility, with the rest working out of the Lady Hammond, Pockwock, Dartmouth and Sackville facilities. More staff and newer buildings usually signify that more dollars will be spent in the area.

Hannam realizes that this project is as important to the community as it is to the Commission, and would like to celebrate its completion by organizing a public barbecue sometime in June.

## Lions Rink

continued from pg. 1

lot of time has passed and nothing has happened. This should have been dealt with long ago."

Wentzell said the club needs a commitment from the city in its next budget. "We can keep operating until then if we know we're going to get a commitment but it will be a terrible hardship for us to continue beyond that point. This has to happen," he said.

The rink opened in the early 1970s after the Lions Club and the community undertook a massive fundraising effort to build the facility. Some members of the club were asked, and agreed, to put second mortgages on their homes to secure financing for the facility.

"My father was one of those people who put their homes on the line for this rink. I participated in the walk-a-thons to help raise money for it. The Lions Club has given a lot of service to this community. This rink will not go away. That rink will stay there," Adams said.

## Your Input Is Valuable for the Herring Cove Road Community Planning and Streetscape Project

Please join Ekistics Planning & Design at one of their upcoming public design workshops and help establish a vision and develop priorities for future improvements for Herring Cove Road from the Armdale Rotary to Roach's Pond.

### Public Sessions:

December 8, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Captain William Spry Centre

December 9, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Cornerstone Family Centre

December 9, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Chocolate Lake Recreation Centre

### For Information Contact:

Richard Harvey, Planner II  
West End Mall Office  
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# Fire Department has six volunteer career openings to fill this year

By Michael Kydd  
Staff

The Herring Cove District Fire Department has a message that is loud and clear. "We need more volunteers!" Since its incorporation in 1967, the department has maintained an average volunteer staff of 35 people. Today, the situation is much different with the numbers capped at 21 with only 15 of those members trained to be first call responders.

David Crowe, a volunteer fire fighter since 1991, was named Chief of the Herring Cove District Fire Department in June of this year. He says the issue of recruiting volunteer fire fighters is at a critical stage. "We are looking to regain a presence in the community, and the only way to do that is to communicate with potential members," says Crowe. Crowe, who also holds a full-time job with the Dock Yard Fire hall, says that volunteer fire fighting is a rewarding job as well as a potential career step for those who are interested in the profession.

In more recent years, the Herring Cove District Fire Department has taken steps to increase volunteer recruitment by adopting a

Junior Membership Program. The program is designed for youth from 16 to 19 and it is hoped that these junior members will eventually become volunteer fire fighters.

Crowe realizes the Junior Membership Program is an excellent recruitment tool, but "the need for more volunteers is now. We hope to recruit six volunteers a year, train them, and hopefully have their level-one fire fighting certification completed within a year," says Crowe. Crowe emphasizes that there is no cost associated with becoming a volunteer fire fighter, only a commitment to giving back to the community.

Like all other volunteer fire departments, the Herring Cove District Fire Department is supported under the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) budget

for things such as gear, trucks, and other operational equipment. "We have to compete with

there to Lieblin Park. There is a good working relationship between all the volunteer stations, and all would like to see an increase in volunteer membership over the next few years.

Crowe says anyone with an interest in community work, who is over the age of 19, in decent physical condition and possesses a valid driver's license is eligible to be a volunteer firefighter. Potential volunteers should also be good standing citizens with no criminal history. Training usually lasts anywhere from eight months to a year, with about 50 per cent of training time devoted to call response, 45 per cent to training and 5 per cent to monthly meetings.

Crowe and the department understand that people in the community lead busy lives.

With the department willing to work around busy work and family schedules, it is the perfect opportunity to receive professional training at no cost, and at the same time, give something back to the community. "We're in this to make the community proud and we hope people realize that we are a volunteer force with one common mission, to make our community safer and stronger."

For more information about the application process, David Crowe can be reached at 477-1494, or contact the Herring Cove District Fire Department, 57 Ketch Harbour Road.



Herring Cove Volunteer Fire Department Chief David Crowe says the company is looking for more volunteers. He expects six to be hired this year.

all the other fire stations within the HRM to get what we need," says Crowe. In terms of administrative functions, there are two paid staff members who look after the station when volunteers are working.

Crowe says other volunteer fire stations throughout the "Loop" are in a similar situation. The Herring Cove District Fire Department covers all communities along Purcell's Cove Road from Ferguson's Cove to Herring Cove and out the Ketch Harbour Road Sambro Head. The Sambro and Harrietsfield Fire Department covers all communities from



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I would like to wish you  
and your family a very  
Merry Christmas  
and a safe holiday season.



**Mayor Peter Kelly**  
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## DISCOVERING OUR PAST

### Two hundred years ago, farmers and fishermen thrived in Mainland South

by Iris V. Shea, Historian  
Mainland South Heritage Society

#### Part One

**T**wo hundreds years ago, in 1804, most communities in Mainland South were already established. Fishermen had become permanent residents in our coastal communities from Ferguson's Cove to Pennant; in Spryfield and Harrietsfield farmers

observed abundant schools of herring and mackerel, and encountered seals on the rocks near the shore as he rowed past the wooded hills covered with birch, maple, oak, pine and spruce trees. At the mouth of the Arm was a large Grist Mill fed by water from the stream leading from nearby Williams' Lake. In December 1804, the owner of the Grist Mill, George McIntosh, Esq., of Spryfield, advertised for sale "that valuable Grist Mill and dwelling House situated at the mouth of the

everything he owned in Rawdon, Hants County. Tragedy struck the family again when smallpox took the life of his two-year old daughter, Charlotte, in December 1800 and, four months later, his seven-year old son, John.

Next, the young man passed two more farms, one owned by William Thompson, the other by Christian Warner. In 1804 William Thompson and John Yeadon served together as Overseers of Highways for Harrietsfield. At Thompson's farm our young traveller was introduced to Thompson's daughter, Harriet, and offered food and drink for himself and his horse before continuing his journey.

To the west of Harrietsfield was John Drysdale, a Scotsman, who built his farm in 1786 on land that later became known as Brookside, but which, in those early years, was referred to as Spryfield or Harriet field. A narrow path across several wooded hills, skirting lakes and cranberry bogs, connected Drysdale to the farmers of Harrietsfield and Spryfield.

McIntosh and Drysdale had served the previous year as Overseers of Highways for Spryfield. Drysdale's daughter, Elizabeth, married William Yeadon in 1818.

At Moody Lake our weary traveller was ready to turn back the way he came. (John Moody, Jr. owned most of the land around the lake, but lived in Halifax where he owned a busy Auction House). Off in the distance was Christian Merlin's farm. Merlin and Christian Warner, both of German descent, had served as Overseers of Highways for Harriet field the previous year. Another Scotsman, Hugh Fraser, a disbanded soldier who came to Harrietsfield in 1787, settled on land that later became Fraser Road. He married Drysdale's daughter, Janet, in 1796. In 1812 our traveller, Gustavus Nicholls, not long after he was promoted to Captain, married William Thompson's daughter, Harriet, and, like Captain William Spry, went on to have a distinguished military career in the Royal Engineers.



Melville Island and the Citadel by G.I. Parkyn, watercolour, 1801. Courtesy NSARM.

were cultivating their land to produce grain and root vegetables. It would be 20 to 25 years for settlement to begin along the shoreline of the communities we know today as Purcell's Cove and Boulderwood, 40 years before the shoreline of Jollimore was developed, and just over 100 years before permanent settlers moved into Kline Heights and Melville Cove.

A curious but energetic traveller from Halifax in 1804 might attempt to explore the shoreline communities on foot, getting as far as Kavanagh's Island (now Melville Island) where the narrow road ended. Along the way he had a good view of Hosterman's Grist Mill situated on the stream running down from Indian Lake (Chocolate Lake) into the Northwest Arm, and may have noticed the Mi'kmaq encampment on the shores of the lake.

Upon reaching Kavanagh's Island he could see the activity of the early French prisoners of war being guarded by British soldiers. Since 1795 the British Admiralty had leased the buildings on Kavanagh's Island as a hospital for sick and wounded French prisoners of war who were captured and brought to Halifax during the early days of the Napoleonic wars. By 1803 the British decided to use the buildings for all French prisoners of war. The lease on the island was due to run out in August 1804 and, when James Kavavagh, a Halifax merchant, advertised the island for sale in June of that year, the British Admiralty purchased it, along with the surrounding land known today as Cowie Hill and Melville Cove. The island contained, in addition to several other buildings and dwelling houses "two large Stores as prisons which have contained 200 persons."

Further exploration of the western side of the Northwest Arm was by boat. Our traveller

North West Arm in the harbour of Halifax."

The advertisement continued to appear in newspapers for several months, and the mill did not sell until several years later, in 1811.

At this point we will leave our first traveller and catch up with him next month. In the summer of 1804 another young traveller, Lieutenant Gustavus Nicholls of the Royal Engineers, decided to venture on horseback from the head of the Northwest Arm to Harrietsfield. The road to Spryfield, cleared years earlier by Captain William Spry and his soldiers, was nothing but a dirt track with protruding stumps and rocks, not wide enough for a team of horses or a carriage to pass through in comfort.

The first sign of civilization was the farm and "Mansion House" of George McIntosh, Esq., formerly the 1500-acre farm of Captain William Spry, located on what is now Sussex Street and Rockingstone Road. McIntosh bought up several large tracts of land in Spryfield, Harrietsfield and along the shore of Northwest Arm which he eventually subdivided, but in 1804 his neighbours were quite a distance to the south and west (in Harrietsfield and on the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road). Our traveller chatted with a number of farm labourers on his way to Harrietsfield, most of them employed by McIntosh.

On the old road to Sambro the young lieutenant passed the farm of Jacob Bauer, Jr. whose father had leased the land, first from Captain William Spry, and then George McIntosh. In 1804 Bauer and McIntosh served as Overseers of Highways for Spryfield. John Yeadon and his family also leased one of McIntosh's farms. Yeadon, a Yorkshireman, moved his family to Harrietsfield in the late 1790s after an unfortunate fire destroyed

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# MLA seeks government assurance to ensure environmental security

The Utilities and Review Board this month turned away a third appeal by the Williams Lake Conservation Company over Kimberley Lloyd Development's proposal to create an approximate 850 unit housing community called Governor's Brook, and the decision has caused Halifax Atlantic MLA Michele Raymond to appeal to the provincial government for help.

Late in November a daily newspaper reported that Raymond wrote to Environment Minister Kerry Morash, requesting the province undertake an environmental assessment and review of the proposal which has been mired in controversy

since first being proposed in 1998.

This newest proposal first appeared at Chebucto Community Council in February 2003. A public hearing was held at Halifax West High School which literally hundreds of people attended to object to the plan. Chebucto Community Council approved the project, and that decision was appealed on the basis of process. The appeal was rejected by lower court and upheld at the province's top court.

The most recent appeal to the URB, based on planning law and discrepancies between the city's Master Planning Strategy and the Mainland South Planning Strategy

(MSPS) which governs the community. The MSPS identifies areas of the project that are considered environmentally sensitive. But the URB declared that the MSPS is subservient to the MPS which contains an intention by the city to develop land.

Basically said Andrew Ross, President of the Williams Lake Conservation Company, the decision says that the land deemed environmentally sensitive is not a consideration in this case. He said the appeal was based on whether council had given proper consideration to the environmental sensitivity of the area.

He said the company will consider the ruling very carefully before deciding if it wants to follow its right to appeal to the provincial court of appeals. In the meantime, he said, Michele Raymond has asked the minister for a level two environmental assessment before the proposed development agreement is approved.

"We are not opposed to development up there," he

said. "But the size and scope of this project and its potential affect on this area is the concern. This is very sensitive land, unique to HRM, and it needs to be protected."



Harold Bellefountain turned 99 this past week but the Portuguese Cove resident isn't prepared to give up his bowling league. He's been at the game since 1919.

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# New Police office will increase visibility, effectiveness of service

It would seem the only things left to do now is have an official opening and get signage on the front of the building before Spryfield's new satellite police office is fully operational.

At press time this month there was an obvious air of activity at the newly redeveloped street frontage of the old Canadian Tire Store where Police Chief Frank Beazley told residents earlier in November that a new police office will be located.

The new office will include space for Spryfield's Community Policing Program, the

Citizens On Patrol Programs for District 10, 15, 16, 17 and 18, and space for the city police department's "Community Response Team" described as a sort of commando unit that responds immediately to areas of the whole city where crime seems to be on rampage of one kind or another.

But the best news for local residents, said the Chief, is that the new office will increase police presence throughout the entire area. The big advantage is that officers now wanting to do interviews or needing to do paperwork can do the work without leaving the community.

Previously officers had to travel to West Division's Headquarters in Bedford to do routine work, and that took them out of the community.

"The response time should be better once we get settled in," Chief Beazley told about 30 who attended a Police Open House at the Captain William Spry Community Centre this month. "We can keep officers in the area and that's something residents have consistently asked for over the years."

Previously the department maintained a Community Policing Office in the basement of South Centre Mall but it was out of sight and not very accessible for the people. The new site will be right on the main road, very visible

and very accessible, said Beazley.

Councillors Stephen Adams and Linda Mosher each chipped in \$10,000 from their discretionary funds to help off set the cost of renovations and get the location operational. "It's just great," he said. "It will be good for the community to see the police there and they (the police) are just going to love the convenience."

Adams said he is hopeful that over time the RCMP will also consider the location a useful place to conduct their business. "With the RCMP and HRP now working on a closest car available kind of service I am confident they will see the benefit of sharing this facility."



Halifax Regional Police Chief Frank Beazley makes a presentation to local residents. The Chief has been on a campaign to speak to community groups throughout HRM.

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Spryfield Animal Hospital, Ultramar, Wilsons Gas Stop, Royal Bank and McDonald's Restaurant have landscaped their properties with trees, shrubs, grass and flowers. Plantings such as these make Herring Cove Road more attractive and help to improve the image of Spryfield.

Making the Road a more pleasant place to spend time is a project of People Around Communities Every Day (PACE). In previous years, PACE has given Certificates of Appreciation to residents with attractive front yards who live along the Road. This year, PACE decided to focus on businesses with attractive, well-maintained landscaping. The residential program will be in place again in 2005.



Captain Penelope Henneberry, Army Reserves, was the recipient of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal from Rear Admiral Glen Davidson during a ceremony at Windsor Park in Halifax in recognition for her work with the Army Cadets. Penny is a daughter of Cyril and Pearl Henneberry, Sambro.

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For Chocolate Lake Centre: **Wayne Jay 490-4589**

For St. Mary's Boat Club/Chocolate Lake Centre:

**Sherri Moffatt 490-4538**

For Spryfield Lion's Wave Pool:

**Shelley Young 477-POOL (7665)**



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J.L. Esley was chosen in 2002 to participate in Active Kids Healthy Kids, which is a 3-year pilot program to get Youth more physically active.

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If you are interested in volunteering your time, skills or ideas, please contact Anna Grantham, Physical Activity Coordinator at 476-0651 or [grantha@halifax.ca](mailto:grantha@halifax.ca)

To add your active community event to our website, email the details to [munrom@halifax.ca](mailto:munrom@halifax.ca)



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2. Complete the application form available at your local community recreation centre.
3. Mail, fax or drop off to your local community recreation centre or send to - HRM Kids c/o Peggy Allen Parks and Recreation, 10 Kidston Road, Halifax, B3R-2J7

For more information see our website or call 876-4364

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 Call Kristi at 477-0964.

## Northfield Williamswood Community Centre

477-8749

Creative Play for Tots	3-5	M/W/F	9:00-11:30am
Hip Hop	4-9	Wed	6:30-7:30pm
Hip Hop	9+	Thurs	6:30-7:30pm
Afterschool Program	Gr P-6M-F		until 6:00pm
Friday Night Darts	Adult		Fri 7:00pm
Boxercise	Adult		Thu 6:30-7:30pm

Registration Night: January 10, 2005 5:00-6:30pm.

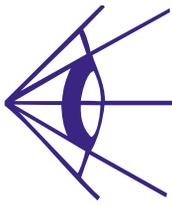
## Rockingstone Heights School

Sports Night for Teens	12-18 Tues	7:00-9:00pm	Free!
------------------------	------------	-------------	-------

Contact: Jim @ 475-3456

Here are just a few of the many exciting programs you can enjoy in the new year...  
 For registration call 490-4607

Program	Ages	Location	Start	Date	Fee
Kiddle Korner	3-5	Herring Cove Fire Hall	Tu/Thu 9:30-11:30am	Jan 25	\$36/8 wks
Skating Lessons	2-12	Spryfield Lions Rink	Sun 12:30/1:00/2:10pm	Jan 9	\$40/\$48/8 wks
Soccer	6-8	Chocolate Lake Centre	Wed 5:50-6:30pm	Jan 12	\$20/8 wks
Babysitter Training	11-15	Capt. Wm Spry Centre	Sat 9:00am-1:00pm	Feb 26	\$26/2 wks
Girls Basketball	15-16	Chocolate Lake Centre	Thurs 7:30-8:30pm	Jan 6	\$55/12 wks
Breakdancing	12-17	Chocolate Lake Centre	Sun 6:30-7:30pm	Jan 16	\$30/10 wks
Drawing	12-17	Chocolate Lake Centre	Thurs 5:00-6:30pm	Jan 13	\$33/8 wks
Girls on the Move	12-15	Chocolate Lake Centre	Fri 6:30-8:50pm	Jan 14	\$30/10 wks
Self Defence	14-18	Chimo Taekwondo Club	Sat 1:00-4:00pm	Feb 12	\$9/1 Class
Cross Country Skiing	14+	Adventure Earth Centre	Mon 7:00-9:00pm	Jan 17	\$8/1 Class
<b>Adult</b>					
Women's Basketball		Chocolate Lake Centre	Thurs 7:30-8:30pm	Jan 6	\$35/12 wks
Bridge		Chocolate Lake Centre	Wed 8:00-10:00pm	Jan 5	\$45/10 wks
Bridge		Chocolate Lake Centre	Thurs 9:50-11:30am	Jan 6	\$45/10 wks
Emergency First Aid		Chocolate Lake Centre	Sun 10:00am-6:00pm	Feb 27	\$50/1 Class
Fitness		Chocolate Lake Centre	Thurs 6:30-7:30pm	Jan 6	\$18/8 wks
Golf		Chocolate Lake Centre	Wed 1:00-2:15pm	Jan 12	\$48/6 wks
Golf		Chocolate Lake Centre	Wed 2:15-3:30pm	Jan 12	\$48/6 wks
Darkroom Photography		Chocolate Lake Centre	Wed 7:15-9:45pm	Jan 19	\$78/6wks
Tai Chi		Chocolate Lake Centre	Thurs 3:00-4:30pm	Jan 13	\$44/10wks



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# 30th Annual Parade in Spryfield a huge success

By Akiko Lovett  
Staff

Herring Cove Road was busier than ever this year for the 30th annual Spryfield Santa Claus parade as event organizers and volunteers say pleasant, warm and sunny skies helped make it one of the largest spectator turn-outs ever.

"It was one of the largest crowds I'd ever seen," says District 18 City Councillor Steve Adams. "We guess there were about 10,000 people watching." And the more than 55

Spryfield resident Katie Lepradd, who walked in the parade dressed as a Christmas present with the Chebucto Boys and Girls Club. "I had so much fun I'll come back next year for sure," she said with glowing eyes. Katie's group won the prize for Best Community Entry in the parade, but while winning was fun, she says it wasn't the best part. "Santa Claus was the best for sure," she says.

This year's parade included everything from Grey Hound dogs, to a big green grinch, but one entry that stood out was KAGS



This year's 30th Anniversary Spryfield Santa Claus Parade was a huge success. Thousands lined the streets to watch dozens of entries parade by.

entries in the parade included some participants who have been there since day one and some others who had never attended before.

"This was my first year," says 11-year-old

Kanada, dressed as Star Trek cling-ons. "I think they're great," says Adams about the scary crew covered in masks and fur. But the scary crew of Cling-ons, who won for best original entry, were contrasted by other floats, including the Baden Powell Scouting Association, the Halifax Regional Municipality with non other than Mayor

Peter Kelly himself, and of course, the infamous giant Santa sleigh float, which traditionally anchors the parade.

"This was the nicest parade I've seen in 34

years," says life-long Spryfield resident Allan Clarke. "I've been all over the world but



The Boys Scouts are always well represented at Spryfield's Santa Claus Parade.

there's something about the parade here in Spryfield, people just come together as a community." Clarke says the parade is a definite positive in a community that generally gets a bad rap, as it shows the good in the people and the community itself. "What Spryfield needs now," he says. "Is a sign that reads 'Welcome to the New Spryfield.'"

Organizer Kevin Johnson says he was more than happy with this year's parade. "I'm very pleased, everyone had a great time, we had a lot of entries and the sun was shining," he says. Johnson took over helping to organize the parade about 11 years ago. He says over the years, the parade has seen many changes. "In the last year before we took over organizing it, there were only 5 entries," he says.

"We've been up as high as 86 entries in past years. It's the largest single event in the Mainland South area," he says proudly.

Winners this year included: Best overall entry: Elizabeth Sutherland School Honourable Mention: Badan Powell Scouting Association - Best Community Entry: Chebucto Boys and Girls Clubs; - Best Commercial



Students at Elizabeth Sutherland School recreated the "Rockingstone" for this year's Santa Claus Parade in Spryfield.

Entry: Crowell's Pharmasave; Honourable Mention: Canadian Tire; - Best Majorette: Sparklettes; - Best Cheerleading Entry: J.L. Ilsley; - Most original entry: KAGS Kanada; Honourable Mention: Safety Minded ATV Association; - Best Individual Entry: Spryfield Physiotherapy; - Best Decorated Vehicle Entry: Harrietsfield Beavers; - Best School Entry: Lindentree Day School; - Best Marching Entry: Spryfield Earl Francis Memorial Legion, Branch 152.

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# Riverview will not reopen, community loses 80 day care spaces

"It just wasn't tenable," a disappointed Catherine Chambers, head of an ad-hoc group trying to reopen the Riverview Day Care Centre told the Chebucto News.

The group, working with the former but now disbanded Board of Directors of the Riverview Centre since it closed its doors for financial reasons in mid March this year, had been negotiating with the Department of Community Services in efforts to achieve funding to keep the facility open.

But Chambers said the "process is now stopped," and is a reflection of what in her estimation is a lack of commitment on the part of government to provide funding for day care not only in this community but throughout Canada.

What is needed she says, is support for new non-profit centres. "A recent report has criticized the day care system in Canada," she said, and what is needed are more centres than

can teach and support children whose parents need the help.

The worst news, however, is that what had been 80 subsidized spaces attached to the community and the day care centre are now lost. The spaces are now considered "portable" by government, which means there is less money available, and "they have now disappeared in our community," said Chambers who considers the situation "particularly disturbing because of the number of at risk kids in our area."

She said there are a significant number of the former Centre's 60 or so clients who have not been able to find alternative arrangements for their kids. "These people have had to take time off work because they could not find spaces," she says.

Chambers said a few "smaller private" centres are opening up but not enough to cover the shortfall left from Riverview's closure.



These coins show the front and back of a new coin minted by the Royal Canadian Mint. The Sambro Lighthouse at the entrance of Halifax Harbour is the oldest working lighthouse in North America.

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## Earl Francis Spryfield Memorial Branch 152

# Thank-you for your support

The Royal Canadian Legion, Earl Francis Memorial Spryfield Branch 152, wishes to take this opportunity to thank all the citizens who came out to remember our local Veterans during this year's Remembrance Day Ceremony.

The Legion, its members and its Veterans, also wish to publically thank local businesses and sponsors for their participation in this year's Poppy Campaign and Remembrance Day Wreath services.

We at the Legion believe the Poppy Campaign and Wreath Program is a "trust-fund" to help Veterans and their families. The Legion uses funds from its Poppy Campaign to support Veterans and Widows with "Remembrance Fruit Baskets" at Christmas and Easter. The Legion also uses its funds to support the education of local students. Last year the Legion gave out 14 Bursaries to J. L. Ilsley High School Students and four others to students in College or University who qualified under the Poppy Program.

Without the support of the Community, its residents and businesses, we could not achieve the success we have come to enjoy.

### In Appreciation

Betty Neville  
President

- |                             |                        |                          |
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# Government priorities must reflect Canadian values - McDonough

By *Alexa McDonough*  
Halifax MP

Each year, in the lead up to the federal budget in February, the federal government conducts pre-budget consultations across Canada. This process is supposed to create opportunities in every region of Canada for Canadians to put forward their priorities, and for the government to take those priorities into consideration when they outline how they intend to spend your tax dollars.

Canadians have steadfastly outlined their concerns about the lack of a national housing program, the drastic federal cuts to post-secondary education (PSE) and resulting increases in university and college tuition and unbearable student debt, and the lack of federal investment in cleaning up our environment.

There are no shortages of creative ideas, and the federal government has the capacity to fund these priorities. Regrettably, the federal government lacks the political will to do so. For the sixth year in a row, the federal government has drastically underestimated its surplus. This year alone, the federal surplus is over nine billion dollars!

Recently, concerned citizens came together to plead with the federal government to convert a closed military property in Dartmouth into affordable housing for our community's homeless and for families struggling on fixed incomes. Shannon Park has 400 units. HRM's housing needs far exceed

the 400 units that could be converted into affordable homes. That is why I urged the Minister of Defence to listen to the community, and not sell the property to private developers.

Every education stakeholder - including students and their families, educators, university and college administrators, and scientists and researchers, have unanimously called for the federal government to reverse the more than four billion dollars it cut in post-secondary education funding in the last decade. Nova Scotia now has the highest tuition in Canada and students have record student debt loads.

The government had the foresight to anticipate that cuts to PSE would result in

tuition hikes and increased student debt. So it responded by changing Canada's bankruptcy legislation to prevent students from filing bankruptcy for ten years after completing their studies. Canadians who find themselves in a situation where there is no recourse but to file for bankruptcy, can, under Canadian law, do so - except students!

My private member's bill, C-236, currently before Parliament will reverse this discriminatory treatment of students who may not have any choice but to file for bankruptcy. I encourage you to write to Parliamentarians urging them to support Bill C-236, An Act to amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (student loan).

The NDP remains committed to fighting

for a national strategy to implement our Kyoto commitments. The NDP has demanded the federal government retrofit its federal public buildings, invest in clean technology research, and fund public transportation to alleviate smog and pollution in our urban centres.

In the spirit of the Holidays, I am pleased to invite you to a holiday reception and annual general meeting hosted by my riding association at Captain William Spry Community Centre on Sunday December 5 at 3 pm. The Centre is located at 10 Kidston Road. If I don't see you there, best wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday season, and good health and happiness in the New Year.

# District 18 issues and answers to questions - Adams

By *Stephen Adams*  
Councillor District 18

Given the significant amount of new building and rejuvenation along the Herring Cove Road, there are bound to be some delays in one project. Such is the case with the Petro-Canada situation. Unfortunately, the company building the new station has not been able to complete the work. As of the writing of this column, a new contractor has applied for the appropriate permits, and work should begin in due course.

As you travel further down the Herring Cove Road, it is impossible to miss the "sawmill" at civic #555. The wood is from damage as a result of Hurricane Juan and is being milled under the auspices of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. At a recent Western Community Council meeting, we asked for clarity as to the future of other such operations. When this information becomes available, I will forward the findings.

On November 15, a Public Information Meeting was held at Cunard Junior High School to hear information on a proposed development bounded by Williams Lake Road, Joyce Avenue and Whimsical Lake. This project has proposed approximately 68 single family homes, along with a new soccer field, natural environmental areas and walking trails and buffers for water courses.

Issues raised included, but were not limited to, buffers for waterways, access on Joyce Avenue, increased traffic and environmental

protection. One of the items that raised the most concern was a proposal to extend Joyce Avenue which was presented as a requirement of our staff. The developer and HRM staff are looking at options to determine whether or not this will be a necessity of the development.

You may see some activity at this site which may include the cutting of trees and drilling of test holes. This activity is standard to ensure that all aspects of the proposal are accurate. As well, the cutting of these trees will help to preserve larger trees in the future.

On a final and very sad note, we lost a very dear friend in November. James McPhee, a well known business man and community supporter, passed away. As was evident from those who attended James' funeral, he was indeed well liked and well respected. I have initiated the process to re-name the ball field in Sambro after James, which will reflect in a small way his contributions to the community.



**Linda Mosher**  
*HRM Councillor, District 17*

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Cell: 476-4117  
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# Lieblin Park bus schedule change

Lieblin Park bus users are getting an improved schedule. Beginning November 28, Route #14 will increase Mid-Day service to a half hour frequency on weekdays.

In conjunction with the ongoing imple-

mentation of Transit Strategies, extended partial trips will be made at 8:52 and 8:59 am and at 2:48 pm for busses traveling to Leiblin Park.

**Alexa McDonough, MP Halifax**



*Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday*

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**Stephen Adams**  
*HRM Councillor, District 18*



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# Take HST off home heating fuel, says MLA

By *Graham Steele*  
*Halifax Fairview MLA*

Winter is here, and we are all looking anxiously at home heating costs. Consider the ill omens. There is a looming shortage of home heating oil in North America. Oil prices are soaring world-wide. Nova Scotia Power has applied for a 14% rate increase. Fuel prices are already 30% higher than a year ago. High fuel prices hurt everyone. They are especially hard on people with modest or fixed incomes.

On November 15th, the Hamm government announced its fuel relief plan. Up to \$200 will be paid to families with an income under \$22,000, and to individuals with an income under \$13,400. They must heat with oil or propane, and they must send in an application.

The Hamm plan is not good enough. In fact, the government may well reap more from HST on high fuel prices than it will spend on this relief plan.

Led by Darrell Dexter, the NDP has put forward two proposals to deal with the impending home heating crisis. First, we have called for the removal of the provincial portion of the HST from heating fuels and other necessities of life. This was a key NDP commitment in the last election. It would provide an immediate, permanent break for you and your family. No application. No income threshold. Just an immediate drop in your fuel price.

The Hamm government says it cannot be done, or that it would take too long. They are wrong. This is the same government that sent out more than 400,000 cheques for \$155 just

before the last election. This is the same government that said we could never stop charging seniors for their health-care in nursing homes. If they really wanted to give you an HST break, they could. I believe that providing a point-of-sale rebate for the provincial portion of the HST (8%) could be done quickly and easily.

Removing the federal portion of the HST (the other 7%) would be a tougher nut to crack. We would have to persuade our Liberal

friends in Ottawa to listen to our needs and give us a break. We would also have to convince New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador to amend the HST agreement. It is beyond me why the provincial Liberal government locked us into such an inflexible HST deal.

Second, we have urged the adoption of conservation and efficiency measures, including a program that would offer help in the installation of insulation, weather-stripping and

other energy-efficient weatherproofing that can be done right away. A program like this would be good for our homes and apartments, good for local tradespeople, and good for the environment. This kind of program, together with the development of alternative energy sources, is the way of the future.

I and my NDP colleagues are working every day to create a better deal for today's families. That includes getting you a break on your home heating bill this winter.

## Trial shows reduced speed limits have "negligible effect"

My *Linda Mosher*  
*Councillor District 17*

Over the years there have been many resident requests for speed limits to be lowered on residential road ways from 50 km/hr to 40 or 30 km/hr. There are some of these signs posted in our district, but they are older signs and are not approved by HRM's Traffic Services or the provincial government.

In response to these requests, HRM's Public Works and Transportation and the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Public Works (NSPTW) worked together to determine if lower speed limits could be a successful initiative. In July 2003, HRM and NSPTW jointly funded a study to review the current practices of reducing speed limits in residential areas across Canada. The study involved a "Best Practices" survey of fourteen jurisdictions in Canada. It reviewed guidelines,

criteria, and procedures to look at the effects of reducing speed limits in residential areas.

The survey revealed that speed reviews are reactive in nature, often initiated by Councillors in response to resident concerns. It was also determined that speed limit reductions driven by political decisions are less likely to be successful than those driven by engineering decisions. The larger jurisdictions were more inclined to have a formalized system to handle the volume of complaints and requests, such as in HRM. The study concluded that most Police agencies feel that speed limit changes without "heavy" enforcement have a negligible effect on operating speeds.

During the same time as the study, Chebucto Community Council submitted a request to the Minister of Transportation and Public Works to reduce the speed limits in several districts. This request was amended to include one location as a test site. The area

chosen was in Clayton Park and Rockingham. Roadways were approved for reduced speeds on a trial basis and the results of posting speed limits less than 50 km/hr would be examined as part of the joint study that was undertaken by HRM and NSTPW.

In September 2003, 40 km/hr signs were posted on the test streets. Prior to the installation of the signs, speed surveys were conducted on the affected roadways. Both the 85th percentile speed and the average speed were recorded as part of these surveys. The 85th percentile indicates the speed at or below which 85 percent of the motorists drive on a particular road. The speed studies were conducted on two separate occasions. To reduce potential bias, the Police were asked not to change the regular enforcement that they provided in this area.

see "Trial" pg. 18



### Graham Steele

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**Spryfield Lion's**

**Bingo**

**Sunday's  
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There will be no Bingo Boxing Day, December 26th.

**BINGO**



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**Legion members, family and friends lay wreaths to remember**

Unusually warm and sunny skies greeted hundreds of participants who crowded into the Earl Francis Memorial Spryfield Legion Branch 152 parking lot to honour veterans during this year's Remembrance Day Ceremony.

Legion Pastor Carl Price hosted the ceremony, initiating the proceedings as soon as Sergeant At Arms Al Bergeron and the Legion

Ginn of St. Paul's, and Major Owen Razol of the Salvation Army offered prayers before a Legion Member strode to the podium to lead others in the simple offering "Lest We Forget - Lest We Forget."

More than 60 representatives of various organizations, agencies and business laid wreaths after Silver Cross Mother Pidge Chant

President Ken Smith; Frank Oakley and Lynn Martell for Granite Lodge 158 IOF and Topaz Rebeccas 125; Tom Parsons for the Spryfield Lions Club; Daughter Jean Clement for the Lions Aquatic Club in Memory of Frank Cameron; Doug Young for Knights of Columbus AOC Spryfield 5017; Bob MacIntock for Duke of Kent Lodge; Jeanne LaChance for St. Michael's Catholic Women's League; Christine Jaggo for Armdale Yacht Club; Greg Meade and Greg Noseworthy for the Men's City Dart League in Memory of Earl Francis; Peter Dockrill for Grecco; Students for J.L. Ilsley, Elizabeth Sutherland and Herring Cove Junior High School; and cadets laid wreaths for the Senate, Veterans Affairs, Alexis McDonough; the Merchant Navy; Melville Heights and Glades Nursing Homes.

Private wreaths were laid by June Stropole for Kenny, Horrace and Frederick Robinson; Wife Anna for Edward Duggan; Son Graham for J. Graham Walsh; Husband Roy, Son Roy Jr., daughters Shelly and Peggy and Granddaughter Heather for Jean Chambers; Wife Iona for George L. Beaman; Son Jack Nicholson and Great Grandsons Jack and Jacob for Samuel Nicholson; Son Vince for Walter K. Purcell; Diane Purcell for Lawrence Bellefontaine; Wife Mrs. Margaret Melvin and Daughter Anna for Father John Francis Connolly, Edward Connolly, and brother Lou, George, Robert, Charles, Steve, Pat and Edward; Son-In-Law Warren Pellerine for Don Langille; Daughter Helen Ginn, granddaughter Jennifer and great grandchildren Allison and Braedon for Gerald and Cyril Shunamon; Ron, Cara and Crystal for Clarence White; Sally Kingsley for Angus and Bill; Tammy Kelly for Joseph; Don Pelham for Harold; Dan McDonald for Albert; Daughter Maureen Connors for Cyril; Daughter Christine, granddaughter Sally and Great Grandson Scott for J. Albert Walker and John Hadley; Great Grandson Kevin Hurshman for John Hurshman Sr., John Victor and John White; Son John, Shawn and Great Grandson Skylar for William (Bill) Walsh; Maureen and Jean for Spencer Armsworthy; Thomas Delorey and Son for Herb Edward; Carmen Bachynski for John Thomas Stewart; Kathy and Son Danny and Arthur for Robert Ayers (Green Cross); James Auby for Albert Richardson; Daughter Lorraine Collins for James Ernest Candow; Son David and Daughter-In-Law Karen for Douglas Wright; Cadets for Chebucto Boys and Girls Club, Father John Campbell and Brother Victor Campbell.



Sergeant at Arms Al Bergeron, Royal Canadian Legion, Earl Francis Memorial Spryfield Branch 152, salutes in memory of fallen comrades during this year's remembrance Day ceremony at the local cenotaph.

Colour Party gathered parade marchers, including the Dartmouth Pipe and Drum Band, together in the parking lot. J.L. Ilsley's school band played O'Canada just before Pastor Price asked the crowd to recognize the traditional two minutes of silence, giving special remembrance to Lieutenant Chris Saunders, Canada's most recent military personnel to perish while on duty.

Pastor Price performed the reading of "The Act of Remembrance," and the Dartmouth Pipe and Drum Band offered the Lament and Julianne Harnish played Reveille. Hymns "O God Our Help" and "Abide With Me" were sung before the J.L. > Band played "For The Fallen" and "In Honoured Glory."

Rev. Jake McLissac of Calvary Church, Rev. Dianne Fry from Emmanuel, Rev. Calvin

began the annual ceremony. Pastor Price offered the final benediction and blessing.

Laying wreaths in honour or loved ones or organizations included: Ian McKinnon for the Government of Canada; Al Bergeron for ACPOA; MLA Michele Raymond for the Province of Nova Scotia and the Halifax Atlantic NDP; Councillor Stephen Adams for HRM and District 18; Legion President Betty Neville for the Legion and Ladies Auxiliary; Councillor Linda Mosher for District 17; Walter Francis for Hong Kong Veterans; Reginald Gamache for Korean Veterans; Alexis Beaman for Past President Doug Ash; Wolford Gates Jr. for Past President Wolford Gates; Judith Kennedy, grandchildren and great grandchildren for Past President Walter Kennedy; sons Tim and Bill Smith for Past



Once again this year the parking lot of Earl Francis Memorial Spryfield Legion Branch 152 was filled to capacity for Remembrance Day services.

# Special treats for animal lovers

With Christmas right around the corner, for many people the preparations are now in high gear. However, for anyone who thinks that dog and cat owners might be too busy to include their pets in the festivities of the holiday season - think again.

Results from a recent survey by the American Animal Hospital Association showed that pets will definitely be part of the party this year and in more ways than many might believe. According to the survey results, eighty-seven percent of pet owners say they include their pets in holiday celebrations, with Christmas being the most celebrated holiday. Seventy percent of pet owners admitted they hang a stocking for their pet, 24 percent said they send a greeting card to or from their pet, and sixty-five percent said they give wrapped gifts to their special animal companions.

For last minute shoppers looking for something special for their furry friend this year, there are lots of fun ideas out there and here are a just a few ideas of gifts available at pet stores or veterinary clinics.

For cats, fleece covered window seats for those cats who love to watch the great outdoors in style and comfort; chicken and fish flavored teething toys for young cats and kittens; traditional cat nip toys in all shapes and

sizes; kitty condos for indoor cat climbing exercise; pet hideaway beds made of washable fleece in cozy hutch designs; designer ceramic feeding bowls for kitties; cat dancers for fun and exercise.

For dogs, seat belts designed to keep Fido safe while on the road; elevated feeding bowls for optimum feeding comfort that help to alleviate postural problems in older dogs and may help promote digestion in some pets; Outward Hound Gear, practical top quality gear designed to make going places with your pet easier, more convenient and fun and include products ranging from doggie back packs and fanny packs for holding food and water bowls, to leash attachments for carrying keys and "doggy-doo" bags to nylon travel water bowls, etc.; Doggie rain gear; Kong toys for great chewing fun and pet nests and loungers.

Thanks to the love and attention our companion animals receive from us, many pets will have a very comfortable and healthy Christmas this year. There are however, many animals, who because of illness, will not. Others, because of homelessness, will not enjoy the warmth of a heated home or a meal on Christmas Day. There are many ways you can help our not so fortunate animal friends this season. Donations may be made by individuals

or given as a gift in the name of an animal loving friend to charities such as the Metro SPCA or the Bide-a-While Animal Shelter. Pet supplies, food, litter and veterinary gift certificates are also being accepted by the Salvation Army to help feed Metro's hungry pets. This food drive was initiated by country singer and Dartmouth resident, Ruby Daley-Starrs who earlier this month recognized the problem was a growing concern in the Metro area.

For those pet lovers who have lost a beloved animal companion or who know of a friend who has recently lost a pet, donations may be made in memory of an animal friend to the Companion Animal Trust Fund at the Atlantic Veterinary College in Charlottetown, P.E.I. (call 1-902-566-0870). Funds go toward supporting research into companion animal diseases and other related animal health projects. For any individual wishing to make a donation to help support humane health studies dedicated to improving the health and well-being of companion animals and wildlife, the Morris Animal Foundation will also gladly accept memorial donations and provide holiday gift cards (call 1-800-243-2345 or visit via [www.morrisanimalfoundation.org](http://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org)).

As the howling winds surround our homes let us pledge to do our part to be responsible pet owners and friends to all animals. By remembering to spay and neuter your pet at six months of age you will be helping to do your part in preventing homelessness and we will be one step closer to providing every pet with a warm home and proper meals each and every day. Happy Holidays.

### Supporting Your Community

# ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

### Earl Francis Spryfield Memorial Branch 152



## WE CARE



Master Seaman Spiers of the submarine HMCS Chicoutimi, who served with the late Lt. Chris Saunders on the vessel, made an appearance at the Elizabeth Sutherland School Remembrance Day ceremony.



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**From The Editor**

# Your "Community Events" are about celebrating and communicating

The other day, I walked into Sobeys. The purpose was to buy provisions for the production weekend, but also to fulfill a photo assignment. I had been asked to celebrate the union of the Salvation Army and the Spryfield Lions Club, whose members agreed to donate man

hours to the Annual Kettle Program. I gladly took the photograph.

But while I was there, two spirited and happy ladies, were selling tickets on a basket raffle. It is part of a project to send Rockingstone Heights School kids to Upper

Clements Park.

My dilemma is that it's production weekend. That means it's already late in the month, and I've already made all kinds of commitments to folks. And there's nothing worse, than promising to help by putting someone's picture in the paper, only to let them down, by not being able to get it in.

So I gave the ladies my card, asking them to call me the next time they're doing something to help their project. "Valentines Day," one exclaimed! "Good," I offered, glad that I could do something for them later on. "Call me in January will you, so I can get a notice in the Community Events Section for you. That's the best help I can be." She agreed.

And I walked out wondering once again, how it is that we know we can help folks promote things, and still stuff happens that we didn't know about, and we miss yet another chance to help. I thought again about all the things all our schools, clubs, organizations and volunteers do that we don't seem to know about.

And I thought about The Chebucto News and its Community Event section. This one is sponsored by the Real Atlantic Superstore. It is their way of supporting an ambition to help you communicate with each other better. And that's the purpose of the Community Events Section. To help you communicate with each other. So that you will know what is happening in your community.

It's easy to use. Go to the section, find the

notice that is closest to what you want to say, model your own to fit the format, e-mail it to rhomer@ns.sympatico.ca, or fax it to 479-6397 (news). We'll do the rest.

Timing is the only issue. The best premise to take is one that says "Late is better than not at all!" To be sure, send your notice by the 20th of the month before your event. If I wanted my notice to appear in time for a May event, I would need to send it in by April 20th. If you send it in too early, we'll just have to try and run it for you twice.

Thank-you for this opportunity  
Reg

PS: The Chebucto News has just redesigned Business Directory. An honest attempt on our part to simply conduct our business. But it's also an attempt on our part, to help local business showcase themselves, and to remind everyone, that there are a number of plusses in doing business in your own community. Support for your programs, is only one of them.

## Trial shows "negligible effect"

*continued from pg. 14*

After the reduced speed signs were installed during the trial period, the Police had special checks for radar enforcement and they monitored traffic patterns. There were sixteen special checks and a radar trailer was also deployed on the streets to document speeds throughout the day.

Even with the reduced signage and special checks, the speeds were not reduced much. Prior to the trial, the average speed for the 85th percentile was 57.5 km/hr and during the trial it was 54.7 km/hr. Motor vehicle collisions

were also assessed before and during the trial and there was no indication that the reduced speed limit had any bearing on the incidence of motor vehicle collisions.

The survey and trial results indicated that the reduced speed limit trial had a negligible effect on operating speeds. The Province asked HRM to remove the 40 km/hr signs and reinstate the 50 km/hr signs. HRM must find alternative measures to reduce speeds on residential streets.



The Field Family, including Matthew, Justin, Mother Nancy, and Amanda all helped to make crafts to sell at this year's Cunard School Christmas Craft Fair. Coordinator Laura King admires some of the family's handiwork.



## Rent the Lions Den

Whether it is a Christmas party, anniversary, wedding, end of year banquet or other special occasion, the Spryfield Lions Den and hall are available for rent.

The Den is available for groups of up to 120 people, and the hall for larger groups.

*For rental information or to check available dates, call Herman Peterson at 477-7753.*



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Friday December 17, 6-8 pm, Saturday December 18, 11 am-12 pm & 2-3 pm



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# Community Events

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### Christmas Peace Tree Lighting

The whole community is invited to the Christmas Tree Peace Lighting to be held Monday December 6 at 6 pm at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. There will be music, refreshments, special guests and a visit from Santa. Food bank donations will be accepted.

### Christmas in Ketch Harbour

A Christmas in Ketch Harbour fundraiser will be held Saturday December 18 from 11 am to 1 pm in St. Peter's Church Hall. Hotdogs, pop, crafts, a special visit from Santa and a lunch of chili, corn bread, tea or coffee will be available for \$3. Donations for the local food bank are appreciated. For more information for new people in area regarding Santa's visit phone Sheila Dornie at 868-2542 or Nora MacNee at 868-2001.

### Tree Lighting

A Tree Lighting and Volunteer Appreciation Night will be held at the Harrietsfield Community Centre December

19 from 6 to 8 pm. All welcome. For information call Sandra Oickle at 446-4847.

### Recycling Fundraiser

John W. MacLeod Fleming Tower School is following a successful recycling fundraising drive with another on December 11 from 10 am to noon rain, shine or snow. Pop, beer, wine or juice containers in cans or bottles can be dropped off at the school.

### Auction 45s

An auction 45 card party is held every Monday evening at 7 pm in St. James Hall, Sambro. Admission \$2.00. For more information call 868-2660 or 868-2791. Everyone welcome!

### Lobster Supper

St. James United Church, Sambro (3811 Old Sambro Road) will hold a Lobster Supper on Saturday, December 11 from 1:00pm to 6:00pm. Adults \$15.00; Children \$7.50. . . Everyone Welcome.

### Christmas Concert

St. James United Church, Sambro (3811 Old Sambro Road) will hold a Down Home Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 12 starting at 6:30pm. Everyone welcome.

### Holiday Tree Lighting

On Friday, December 10 Chebucto Heights PTA will once again hold a Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony 6:30pm - 7:30pm. Everyone welcome.

### Heritage Meeting

The next meeting of the Mainland South Heritage Society is Thursday, January 27 at 7:30 PM at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. All welcome.

### 2005 Firefighting calendar

There will be a weekly 50/50 of calendars has been produced by the Regional Firefighters Interpretation Center Society. "Nova Scotia Fires and Fire Halls", including the 1939 Queen Hotel fire, the Poor House fire of 1882, the West St. Fire Station 1922 and the Wolfville Central Station 1900 will be featured. The proceeds from the sale will go toward the establishment of a firefighters Museum in the Region. Cost is \$ 10.00 + 1.50 postage (if applicable). To obtain a copy contact Don Snider 454-5392 or e/mail don.snider@ns.sympatico.ca

### 50/50 Draw For Youth

There will be a weekly 50/50 draw at Coates Irving in Harrietsfield with the proceeds going toward a local youth's trip to the World Youth Day to Koln, Germany, in 2005.

### TAG's Christmas Pantomime

"Red Riding's in the Hood" - A Not So Traditional Pantomime, is coming to the Pond Playhouse December 2 to 18.

### Legion Notes

The following events will be held at the Earl Francis Memorial Legion in January:  
Bingo - Every Sunday beginning at 1 pm - doors open at noon;  
Senior's Day - November 1st and 15th, with Newfie George at 1 pm.  
Karaoke November 5th and 19th 9 pm to 1 am, Members and guests welcome.  
Remembrance Day Service November 11th at 11 am.

### Library Happenings

Adult  
Book Discussion Group for Adults: The Captain Spry Book Discussion Group is a great way to meet new people and share the enjoyment of good books in an informal, relaxed atmosphere. Be ready for an hour and a half of animated discussion and a lot of fun. Books for discussion are a mixture of genres and are decided by the group. For more information, call Scott Taylor at 490-5774. On Wednesday, December 15 at 7 pm it will be The Romantic by Barbara Gowdy.  
Children  
Puppet Shows and Crafts - Alternated Saturdays:  
Patrick the Pig and Moe the Crow invite you to bring the whole family and all your friends for a half hour of hilarious entertainment with a show featuring your favourite puppet characters. Following the puppet show, you can create your very own craft. For group bookings, call Cindy Sampson Fleet at 490-5796. Saturday, December 4 at 10:30 a.m. Santa Claus and the Glump Puppet Show, 11 a.m. Tissue Paper Wreath Craft.

### Volunteers Urgently Needed

Girl Guides of Canada - Guides du Canada urgently requires volunteer leaders in the Cowie Hill and Jollimore area for a Spark unit (girls aged 5 and 6) and a Guide unit (girls aged 9 to 12). If you are a woman with a few hours to spare each week, please call Jeanette Paynter at 477-7526 or email me at jni.paynter@ns.sympatico.ca me for information.

### Pain Support Group

The Pain Support Group is a self help group for pain sufferers dedicated to providing support to people in chronic pain. It meets the last Monday of each month at 7 pm, St. John's Anglican Church, 3415 Dutch Village Road. For info call 902-463-5757 or 902-479-0409 and leave a message

### Old Photos Wanted

Local Historian Peter Saulnier is looking for photographs of the St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church Quonset Hut, Kidstons Mill formerly located below the Kindston House on Rockingstone Road and Steves Store now PG's Pizza. In you can help contact Peter at 475-1449.

### Toastmasters Meet

The Spirit-ED Toastmasters Club, a program to improve public speaking and self confidence, meets every Wednesday at 7 pm in Bayers Lake. For more information or to come to a meeting please call Jim at 865 2297.

### Members Wanted

The Armdale Halifax Kiwanis Club, sponsors of Air Cadet Squadron 529 and a number of other community activities, are accepting members interested in making a difference in the lives of children at home and throughout the world. For information call 456-1670.

### Residents Meeting

The Spryfield Residents Association meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. Everyone welcome. Spryfield needs your help.

### Lions Club Meets

Want to be part of a great tradition and help make your community a better place to live and work. The Spryfield and Area Lions Club meets the second and fourth Tuesday of every month to learn and work toward making this community a better place. For information on becoming a member contact King Lion Darrell Wentzell at 477-3664.

### Seniors Club Bingos

The Young At Heart Seniors Club will use it's J. Albert Walker Golden Age Centre, 212 Herring Cove Road, to host band rehearsals, Card Socials Fridays at 8 p.m., Crib Thursdays at 1:15 p.m., and Darts Thursdays at 7 p.m. The Centre Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. For information contact Elaine Wells at 477-0837 or 479-0624.

### Food Bank

People interested in Food Bank services provided by the St. Paul's Family Resource Institute should call 477-5090 on Wednesdays for pick-up on Thursday.

### Air Cadets Meet Weekly

The Armdale Kiwanis Air Cadet Squadron 529 meets each Monday evening at Elizabeth Sutherland School from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. All new members, both male and female, between the ages of 12 and 19 years, are welcome to attend and join.

### Business Commission Meetings

The Spryfield and District Business Commission holds monthly meetings the second Monday of every month at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. The meetings are open to interested persons.

### PACED Meetings

The People Around Communities Every Day organization meets the fourth Monday of every month at the Captain William Spry Community Centre at 7:30 p.m. People interested in improving their local community are encouraged to attend.

### Members Wanted

The Chebucto Hiking Club is looking for new members. For more information call 477-7142 or e-mail chebuctohiking@hotmail.com.

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