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# Chebucto News

Vol. 6 • No. 11 • February • 2005

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## "Spryfield Village" theme of Herring Cove Road Planning Study

What was envisioned as a "streetscape" study for Herring Cove Road somehow blossomed into a "Herring Cove Road Planning and Streetscape Project" which will be ready for final draft presentation to the public February 10 at 7 pm in the Captain William

Spry Community Centre. And if results of the first public and preliminary presentation heard in late January ring true, the study might just set HRM on a course of action for Spryfield that will over time secure its position in the Eastern

Chebucto Peninsula as the "central business district" for communities from Armdale to Sambro. Sending out feelers in search of public feedback and offering possible image designs for potential signage improvements, Peter Klynstra, Ekistics lead on the project, said the planners are leaning toward a "Spryfield Village" concept. "When we talked to people about Spryfield, a good number of them referred to it as 'the village,'" he said, explaining both the short term and long term changes that would help make the vision come true.

Road intersection to Sussex Street or perhaps Drysdale Road, the planners came up with several concepts to slow traffic. Among the steps needed to slow traffic were reducing four lane areas to three lanes using central turning lanes and boulevards where possible, having turning lanes at corners, on-street parking "where it makes sense," and wide curb lanes that allow safer movement of bicycles through the community.

From the survey work that was done planners discovered 70% of the 350 respondents said their number one priority was to slow down traffic. After determining that the centre of the community is generally perceived to be from the Old Sambro Road and Herring Cove

In an effort to prevent a long linear commercial community similar to Sackville Drive, the planners offered creating fewer commercial zones along the road but developing "business nodes" in places where they now exist on the fringes of what might be considered the "village" area between Old Sambro Road and Drysdale.

see "Spryfield" pg. 2



John Humble of World Vision chats with Reverend Jack MacIsaac, Calvary United Baptist Church, whose congregation gathered more than \$8,000 for the Tsunami Relief effort in January. Rev. MacIsaac says the donation is a tribute to his parishioners' generosity.

## Chebucto Community Council green lights Governor's Brook

By Des Writer Staff

Chebucto Community Council Councillors voted unanimously this month to approve the residential development of 156 acres of Mainland South lands, setting the stage for an 870 unit housing project to be known as Governor's Brook Subdivision.

The decision represents the culmination of a long process, initiated by Council's rezoning of the land to a Residential Development District (RDD), in March 2003. Following the public hearings of January 5 and 6, in which concerns were raised relating to traffic flows around the Armdale Rotary, potential adverse effects on the watershed between McIntosh Run and Colpitt Lake, disturbance of Native artifacts and damage to environmentally sensitive areas, Director of Planning and Development Services for the Halifax Regional Municipality, Paul Dunphy, submitted a Supplementary report answering these concerns.

## Congregation's Tsunami donation overwhelms Pastor

By Betty Dobson Staff

The Boxing Day tsunami disaster in south Asia has generated an outpouring of relief funds from all over the world, yet the individual might feel as though one person can't do much to help.

donated more than \$8,600 to World Vision prior to January 11, which meant the federal government matched the overall amount.

To match individual donations, the church drew on what MacIsaac calls the in-case-anything-goes-wrong fund. "We decided that something has gone wrong—in the world, not just in our own church."

teachings of Jesus in a giving away, and we know it's going to a great organization."

"\$8,600 represents about 17% of our operating budget for the year," MacIsaac says, "so it's a huge chunk of change sacrificially for us. There are people that can give a lot more. We wish we could, too, but as far as it goes, we've never been able to give that kind of donation away ever in our 45 years of being in existence. It's so exciting for us to do that."

But the congregation at Calvary United Baptist Church in Spryfield proved that the smallest donation makes a difference by combining their resources. Reverend Jake MacIsaac passed a special collection plate for tsunami relief two Sundays in a row. People not only gave, they gave without sacrificing the regular collection plate. The two-week effort raised more than \$4,300 for tsunami relief. The church matched that amount and

He describes his congregation's generosity as act that goes beyond compassion. "Giving is a spiritual experience. We give not because we're moved by compassion or anything else, but because we want to learn as a community what it means to have treasures of Heaven and to not be attached to stuff. The way you learn to fall out of love with stuff is to give it away, and to have a lot of joy in that. So for us, this was a great opportunity to learn to embrace the

John Gamble of World Vision explained how the relief process works. "As soon as the disaster is declared, we have a first response team, they go to the tsunami area...within 24 hours. We have three warehouses worldwide containing our disaster relief supplies. They would immediately take those disaster sup-

Moving approval of the development agreement, District 18 Councillor, Stephen Adams, said he'd voted against the development in the late 1990s. However, Adams said the report of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board stated there would be safeguards in place for environmentally sensitive areas.

Noting that developer Kimberly-Lloyd has the authority to proceed under the rezoning decision, Adams said there would be far more passive and recreational land under the development agreement. "Either way there will be blasting," he said. "Protection for surges is essential, Jack pine will be saved, the

see "Congregation's" pg. 15

see "Chebucto" pg. 2

## Chebucto Community Council green lights Governor's Brook

continued from pg. 1

Departments of Fisheries and Oceans, and Environment and Labour will be extensively involved. And the developer is supporting these restrictions," he added.

District 16 Councillor, Debbie Hum, said she concurred with Adams's comments. Thanking all those who gave presentations at the public hearing, Hum said the developers

have approved consultation with a citizens' group appointed by Chebucto Community Council. "As a former director of the Friends of Hemlock Ravine, I had the opportunity to work with Kimberly-Lloyd in the development of Royal Hemlock Estates," said Hum. She says she's confident the developer will address the environmentally sensitive issues. "I do believe Kimberly-Lloyd is honest," she said.

Moving two amendments to the develop-

ment agreement, District 15 Councillor, Russell Walker, proposed that the apartment building contain no more than four residential storeys, and that a request be forwarded to the Supervisors of Streets and Roads that sand be used rather than salting during snow operations. Both amendments passed unanimously.

Referring to the required measures to protect the environment, Walker noted the developer must prepare a plan to implement alterations to the Roache's Pond pumping station. "All of a sudden we're concerned about water not going to Colpitt Lake," he said. Seconding approval of the development agreement, Walker referred to the clear cutting of land adjacent to Dunbrack Street, without any application for development to date. "There's no protection as of right under RDD, but this agreement will turn 245 acres of parkland and passive land over to HRM," he said.

Supporting the motion, District 10 Councillor, Mary Wile, said "the land does belong to Kimberly-Lloyd. We now have an opportunity to work with them."

District 17 Councillor, Linda Mosher, chairperson, said she didn't support the rezoning. "I would prefer that no development occur," she said, referring to her late father's opposition to the project. "The developer can proceed under RDD without coming to Council," she said. "Our choices are for development as of right under RDD, or the developer makes an agreement for a consultation process. Which is better, existing zoning or this development agreement?" she asked. "There would be seven acres of park as of right, but we have more than 200. Therefore, I'm going to support the agreement."

## "Spryfield Village" theme of Herring Cove Road Planning Study

continued from pg. 1

The planners also suggested changes in the existing Metro Transit schedule and the creation of a bus terminal at South Centre Mall to encourage commercial activity in the centre. They also advised creating a recognized trail along the McIntosh Run behind the mall and linking Northwest Arm parks and trail areas to Spryfield with major (wider) sidewalks.

The proposal also suggests increasing the housing density in the urban portion of Spryfield, realignment of the Northwest Arm Drive and Old Sambro Road intersection, making changes at the Purcell's Cove Road intersection to allow left hand turns onto Herring

Cove Road and making the Withrod Drive intersection a safer place for both motorists and pedestrians.

The plan suggests trying to "give the Punch Bowl Park" a Herring Cove Road connection and securing the park against further encroachment, building sidewalks along both sides of Herring Cove Road right to the rotary and creating a look-off just below Cowie Hill overlooking the Arm.

"We understand that it will take years to complete everything that's envisioned," Klynstra told the gathering. "But if we start with the street then others will follow."



Councillor Stephen Adams, left, Al Butt, Councillor Linda Mosher, Dawn Lawrence of RDM, and Purcell's Cove Social Club President Gary Hendsbee gathered for a few minutes during the annual New Year's Levy.

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# Retiring IIsley teachers represent an end to an era

By Betty Dobson  
Staff

Sheila Clark and Wendy Taylor have been teaching at J.L. IIsley High School for more than 30 years. Both women recognize the family spirit that exists at the school, but they also recognized when it's time to move on.

Clark's tenure at the school stretches back the farthest, to a time when both she and the building were new to education. The school had just been built, and she had just received her teaching degree. "I first entered these doors in January '71," Clark says. "I'm the last of the originals." January 21, 2005 marked her last day with the school.

Wendy Taylor followed closely behind Clark. Taylor first practice taught at J.L. IIsley in 1972, joining the staff full time in 1973. She will teach her final class in June 2005.

"Back over years," Taylor says, "where we all started as young teachers in our 20s, we sort of all partied together initially, and then all of a sudden started all having babies together. We went through all the different stages, became very comfortable with each other as far as popping in and out of classrooms, knowing who was doing what, and sharing projects."

Clark agrees. "I think that was the big connection in our own department, why we stayed so long, is we all worked together as a team.

It's a cooperative venture."

The feeling of family emanates from within the school walls and extends far into the community. "I met my husband here," Clark says. "Both my children graduated from here, so it's more than just the IIsley family."

One of the most rewarding aspects of their jobs has been their involvement with the school's scholarship fund. In total, the school awards about \$60,000 in scholarships to its outgoing students each year. "That's a big job. You want to be fair," Clark says of deciding who gets the awards. "You try to divide the money as widely as you possibly can."

Clark also oversees the annual auction, an event that brings in more than \$15,000 toward the fund and grows stronger each year. Remaining funds come from community and alumni donations.

Overall, the fund supports 30 to 40 individual scholarships that cover a variety of education and career choices.

Both women teach within the business department, a curriculum that includes computer studies, law, entrepreneurship, tourism, career and life management, accounting, and business management. "We're declining, though," Taylor says, "because more and more subjects are becoming compulsory. We're sort of going back to the way it was in the 50s and the 60s when it was all compulsory subjects."

The business curriculum benefited more than teenage students. J.L. IIsley offered a one-year business program to the community. "There are quite a few people in the mainland south area who have gone through that one-year business program," Taylor says, "and have gotten jobs directly from high school because of it."

Unfortunately, cutbacks led to the discontinuation of the program.

Taylor and Clark look forward to enjoying more free time when they retire, but both admit they'll miss the people they've worked with for so long. They also see their departures as part of major shift within the school. With the original teachers retiring in the last few years, turnover has been high, as many as 25 new teachers have joined the school in recent years.

"The school has undergone the biggest staff change that we've had," Clark says, "and we'll see a big administration change next year. Both vice principals will be gone. It'll be a total transition again."

"There won't be anyone to remember the little details," Taylor says. "But they'll make their own traditions."



Wendy Taylor and Sheila Clark are two of J.L. IIsley's longest serving teachers. Clark has already begun retirement, Taylor will begin at the end of the school year.

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# DISCOVERING OUR PAST

## Historic houses, past and present, featured in Annual Heritage Display

by Iris V. Shea, *Historian  
Mainland South Heritage Society*

**F**ebruary is the month for heritage celebrations, and the Mainland South Heritage Society will celebrate with their Annual Heritage Tea and Display. The featured theme for this year's event will be Heritage Houses: Past and Present. All communities in Mainland South have houses that date back to the 19th century and early 20th century, although it might be difficult to recognize them due to several "add-ons." Photographs of these houses, and other early houses demolished to make way for new development, are very valuable in recording the history of our communities.

You are invited to attend the Annual Heritage Tea and Display on Saturday, February 26 at the Captain William Spry Community Centre from 1:30 to 4 p.m. We are still looking for copies of photos of old houses to add to our display. Contact Iris Shea, telephone 479-3505, if you have a photo you would like to share.

One of the few houses in Mainland South that actually holds Municipal Heritage designation is Dingle Cottage, the only house on the left side of the Dingle Road on the way to Fleming Park. Built sometime during the 1870s, it is now rented out by its owners, Halifax Regional Municipality. The cottage was part of a purchase by the city in the 1940s along with several acres of land which increased the size of the park. A submission to make Fleming Park a National Heritage site has been made to Historic Sites and Monuments of Canada, and, if approved, Dingle Cottage and Old St. Augustine's Church will be included in that designation.

Sandford Fleming had the cottage built after he purchased several tracts of land from the original settlers in the area (the Jollimore and Boutilliers), and from William Cunard and Arthur Murphy. Fleming spent his winters in Ottawa at "Winterholme" and his summers in Halifax at "Summerholme" on Blenheim Terrace. Dingle Cottage was his summer retreat. The hill behind his cottage was known locally as "Summerhouse Hill" a term that has probably been lost today. In Fleming's time, he had a summerhouse built at the top of the hill and another below the hill which were used as look-offs, providing an expansive view of the activities on the Northwest Arm. Part way up the hill he built a circular road known as Loop Road which continues to be a favourite place to walk. It is said that Fleming had the road built for his children and grandchildren to ride their pony cart.

Until Fleming bought his Dingle property, the road from Halifax, referred to in documents as the old French Road, ended at Melville Island. Fleming, at great expense to himself, and with the help of soldiers and prisoners from Melville Island, had the road extended to his cottage.

Sandford Fleming (1827-1915) was born in Kirkcaldy, Scotland. He came to Peterborough, Ontario, in 1845, and then to Toronto where he distinguished himself as a surveyor and lithographer. Fleming designed Canada's first postage stamp, issued in 1851, depicting a beaver. His contribution to the adoption of the present international system of

time zones earned him the title "Father of Standard Time." During the construction of the Canadian Pacific and Intercolonial Railroads in the 1870s and 1880s, Fleming, as their chief engineer, was one of the most influential designers and engineers of his time. He was knighted in 1897 for his contribution to the building of the trans-Atlantic cable, earning him the title of Sir Sandford Fleming.

Locally, we remember Sir Sandford Fleming for his perseverance in having a memorial tower built on his property at the Dingle. In 1905, and again in 1907, he offered the city of Halifax part of his Dingle lands for the purpose of a park "for the use and enjoyment of the public forever." One of the conditions was the erection of a tower to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the first legislative

assembly of Nova Scotia (1758-1908). The city thought it should be provincially funded, and suggested that Fleming find support else-

where. Fleming found that support when the Canadian Club in Halifax agreed to raise the necessary funds for constructing the tower. The cornerstone was laid 2 Oct. 1908. An appeal for funds throughout the British Empire brought astounding results and building began in 1910. The grand opening and dedication of the tower took place August 14, 1912, attended by the Duke of Connaught, members of parliament, local politicians and other dignitaries. Fleming turned over the tower, and 100 acres of land around it, to the city for Sir Sandford Fleming Park.

The cottage became part of the inheritance of Fleming's daughter, Mary Ethel. She and her husband, Captain Thomas Critchley, spent many of their summers there. The outcrop of stones from the shore still bears the name "Critchley's Wharf." On 22 July 1915, Sir Sandford Fleming died

at Dingle Cottage while on a visit to the Critchleys. He was buried in Ottawa where, it was reported, his funeral was one of the largest ever held in that city.



Dingle Cottage, 1998. Photo by Mildred Richardson

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# Association says grandparents rights are a fundamental Charter guarantee

By Des Writter  
Staff

At first sight, it seems like a "motherhood issue." Fatherhood too. In the words of one MLA who declined further comment on grounds of conflict: "Grandparents' rights sounds like something that no-one could be against."

And that's just what troubles people like Thelma Gillespie and Carolyn Myra, both members of the Grandparents Rights for Nova Scotia Association. As far as they're concerned, it seems like no-one's working for them, at least in the government of Nova Scotia. "All parties say they totally support what you're doing, but none of them seem to be doing anything," says

Gillespie. And as for rights, "we don't have any rights." It's only the name of the association, an oxymoron."

The association meets monthly in the Community Room of Bedford's Atlantic Superstore. Secretary since 2000, Gillespie has been concerned about grandparents' rights since 1991, when her daughter's marriage had "fallen apart," and she lost faith in the "system."

"We were so appalled at the whole court system; it's unfathomable," she says. When, contrary to her expectations, her daughter didn't get custody of her grandchildren, Gillespie says she was cut off from them. "I just 'piggybacked' whenever my daughter had the children. We'd try to make outings that would include us as a family, and let the grandchildren know you still

love them and want to spend time with them," she says.

Gillespie rattles off a list of names that sounds like a "Who's Who?" of provincial politicians and journalists who say they're committed to the cause, but the frustration's evident in her voice. "We don't want custody. All we want is a visit once in a while where they've been cut off completely; just a 'phone call to say 'how're you doing?' There's a good many grandparents that don't have that right; I know one couple that can't even send a Christmas card," she says.

A recent member of the association, Myra has four grandchildren. When one of her sons went through a divorce, "all of a sudden things changed," she says. "All of a sudden I wasn't wanted."

Like Gillespie, Myra has harsh words for the justice system and Family Court. "I had to write down why I felt it would be in the children's best interests to have me in their life. Isn't that sad," she asks rhetorically.

But for Myra the issue is more a matter of family values. Brought up in the country, she says "my grandparents were very much a part of my life; I learned so much from mine. Today that value system has all changed." Grandchildren must wonder why you're not there anymore, she says.

The association believes grandparents' rights are fundamental, and guaranteed by The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Other provinces such as British Columbia, Alberta, New Brunswick and Quebec have enacted legislation that ensures a "positive and healthy relationship with grandparents and extended family members," says Chairperson, Pauline Glenn.

Authored by Dan L. Goldberg, a 60-page document on the Department of Justice Canada website offers a legal analysis of grandparent-grandchild access. Goldberg notes that courts, both in Canada and the US, have upheld parents' rights to make decisions on their children's behalf, in the absence of evidence demonstrating parental inability to act in the children's best interests.

"These decisions," Goldberg writes, "include those about whom the children see, how often, and under what circumstances." He recommends that legislation concerning access should allow for a "two-stage, child-focused hearing," the first stage determining if harm would result to the child from terminating grandparent access. In the absence of such harm being proven, grandparents would not have access. If the grandparents could prove it would be harmful to the grandchild to prevent access, the hearing would progress to a second stage, using the "best interests of the child test," which exists in all provincial legislations.

"Most grandparents are seniors on low incomes and it scares them to get into a lawyer's office," says Gillespie. "We want to be able to sit down with a mediator or judge and let them prove allegations. Quebec has a Bill where you have to prove allegations, if you say bad things about grandparents," she says.

Speaking for MLA Michel Samson, Liberal Justice critic, MLA Diana Whalen says her party hasn't looked at the pros and cons of this issue, and feels the onus is on government to bring forward legislation. "We feel the government should initiate a review and come up with a definitive answer," Whalen says. "There's no reason to leave the association in limbo."

## The Saraguay Club

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# Spry Café project looking for more local input and support

By Michael Kydd  
Staff

Debora Crooks and Carmel Pendergast don't mince words when speaking about the importance of the Spry Café. The two women, who sit on the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) at the Single-Parent Centre, agree that the monthly dinner event is something that families in the Spryfield community are benefiting from.

"I see the Spry Café as bringing the community together and a way for people to help each other," says Crooks, a mother of two children.

With the Single-Parent Centre set in a restaurant atmosphere, popular themes have

included Chinese night, pasta night, French night with crepes, and harvest dinners. Traditional dinners usually include appetizers, main course, dessert and coffee/tea. Children seem to be enjoying the desserts admits Crooks. The event is economically feasible and affordable for all families.

While the Spry Café is enjoying great success, there is a concern with how the event is going to be funded in the future. The PAC understands how important the Spry Café is to the community and will continue trying to secure a sponsor to host the event each month. On a few occasions, the PAC has had to dip into its contingency fund to run the event. A practice they hope does not become a habit. In recent months, trying to find potential

businesses to sponsor the event has been somewhat difficult. Right now, help from some local organizations and the United Way is keeping the event alive. "Recruiting efforts have not been successful. Out of the 25 letters we have mailed in the past, we've only received two returns," says a concerned Pendergast. The PAC is hoping to find more sponsors to donate time as volunteers to cook, clean, prepare and buy the food. Cost for the event is roughly \$250 with eight to ten people needed to assist for three to four hours once a month. In this case, a small amount for such an important and fun event.

"Once people get involved they absolutely love it," says Pendergast. Her passion for this event speaks volumes to the commitment and

energy that all members of the PAC put into organizing the Spry Café.

Sister Joan O'Keefe, who helped establish the event five years ago, was on-hand Wednesday January 19 to sponsor the evening with the Staff Sisters of Mount Saint Vincent Mother House. She agrees with Pendergast that the Spry Café is a fun way for organizations to relax and have a good time by helping others. "It's an affordable way to gather the community and eat a healthy, decent meal," says Sister O'Keefe. She says the event has been a success and will continue to be a success, but she would like to see more public ownership through monetary donations and volunteerism.



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District 17 Councillor Linda Mosher and District 18 Councillor Stephen Adams were welcomed to the annual Spryfield Legion levy by Sgt. At Arms Al Bergeron and President Betty Neville.

## Final Presentation for the Herring Cove Road Community Planning and Streetscape Project

Please attend a final presentation of plans and recommendations being developed by Ekistics Planning and Design for the future of the Herring Cove Road and surrounding area, from the Armdale Rotary to Roach's Pond.

**Final Public Meeting:**  
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attack. In fact, researchers found a death rate twice as high in people with the highest homocysteine levels, compared with those who had the lowest levels. Does this mean you should get your homocysteine level checked?

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early heart disease (before age 60), although Canadian guidelines have not yet included this recommendation. If your homocysteine level is high, then your doctor will probably suggest you take 0.4 to 1.0 mg of folic acid daily along with 500 micrograms of vitamin B-12. If that doesn't lower your levels, then vitamin B-6 is added.

These vitamins are thought to lower homocysteine levels enough to reduce heart attack risk. Something else you can do is eat lots of different fresh fruits and vegetables. Leafy greens, oranges, strawberries and cereals fortified with folic acid are all good choices.

*Lisa Herritt  
Pharmacist*

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Earl Francis Spryfield Memorial Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Chairman Norman Prowse and J. L. Ilsley Principal Terry Quinlan joined efforts to present winners of the Remembrance Day poster and literary contest with their awards. Winners included Adam J. Morehouse (absent from photo), first poetry; Jillian Reardon, second poetry; Arielle Godbout, first essay and Brittany Pickrem, first colour poster.

## Students fundraise for Tsunami relief

By Emily Cairns  
Grade Nine Student

Over the past few weeks, Herring Cove Junior High has been raising money for the survivors and people affected by the Tsunami. Through great fundraising activities such as hat days, where everyone can wear a hat all day for a dollar, through dances, and through pledge sheets, Herring Cove has succeeded in raising \$2388.00 dollars in total!

The school's Student Council decided to give all of the money from the dance, \$1115.48, to the Canadian Relief Foundation, and to give the remaining \$1272.52 to Unicef. Herring Cove is a very giving school,

where the students actively contribute to raising money for good causes. The staff and students alike are very proud of their contributions to the Tsunami survivors, and they know that by doing things like this, they can make a difference in the world, and they will make a difference for many families in the countries that were affected by this great tragedy.

These students are very supportive of fundraising activities, and try to participate whenever possible and to donate. They now have \$2388.00 to show for it!

What could be better than donating money to people in need? Knowing that you've given them hope, and that's exactly what Herring Cove Junior High has helped to do.



Students at Herring Cove Junior High School took up the challenge of senior high school students Danielle Daigle of Prince Andrew, left, and Achelle LeBlanc of Carrefour De Grand and raised almost \$2,400 for Tsunami relief. Jeremy Butler, grade seven, and Emily Purcell, grade eight, help teacher Marcel Arsenault present the cheques.



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# HRM Regional Plan should "speak clearly" on wetland protection - Raymond

By Michele Raymond  
Halifax Atlantic MLA

Over the last few months, I've received countless calls from across Halifax, about recent developments in Mainland South, telling me that the provincial government needs to maintain a hand in framing major planning decisions.

Every square inch of the province is included in a municipality, and the issues around development (residential and commer-

cial) are more and more often at a scale which can affect province-wide settlement patterns. Where a municipality like HRM includes more than 40% of the population of Nova Scotia, and covers an area the size of Prince Edward Island, its planning and transportation decisions are bound to impact the province as a whole.

Currently, one of the most contentious issues is that of a large scale development proposal for Colpitt Lake on the McIntosh Runs, and woodlands between the Herring Cove and

Purcell's Cove Road.

The McIntosh (or Pine Island) Runs, named after early settler George McIntosh, is a series of lakes and streams which threads together the inland communities of the eastern Chebucto Peninsula, until it reaches the sea at Herring Cove. Formerly a salmon river, the primary values of the Runs today are for recreation, and carrying storm water overflow, uses which coexist uneasily at best.

Increasing development in and around the Macintosh Runs and its watershed is pointing

out the need for some comprehensive statement about the value (or lack thereof) in watercourses. Wetlands and streams are known to be an important part of "cleaning" the groundwater; as well, they exert all the ancient fascination of water, as it attracts and sustains the plants and animals on which humans depend, directly and indirectly.

The Municipal Government Act gives municipalities the authority to pass bylaws protecting watercourses by dictating setbacks from the water. Yet not all have chosen to pass such bylaws, meaning that any such protection is purely 'optional,' a favour or bargaining chip which developers can use to negotiate for permission for other, usually more intensive, uses not otherwise permitted by current zoning. This is a tactic being used in at least two current proposals here.

Currently, the Department of Environment has only a reactive role in protecting watercourses: the authority to fine or order repairs when streams and lakes are damaged or filled in. This is no way to protect such assets.

It is my hope that the HRM Regional Plan, when complete, will speak clearly, not only on where development is to occur in the region, but on how it is to occur. I hope that the plan will be unambiguous in protecting the woods and waters of Halifax Regional Municipality, which have sustained the city physically and spiritually, and made Halifax what it is today. If not, then the Department of Environment must step in to make these protections non-negotiable wherever large scale development is proposed.

# MLA continues to urge removal of HST from home heat

By Graham Steele  
Halifax Fairview MLA

There are two kinds of politicians, or plumbers, or carpenters, or just about anything else. The ones who work to make things happen, and the ones who work to tell you why things can't happen.

I have written before, in this space, about the necessity of taking the HST off home heating fuel. I did it before the weather turned cold, when there was still a chance to make a difference this winter.

Now we're well and truly into the sustained, cold weather of January and February. I know many, many of my constituents are anxious about the cost of heating fuel. The anxiety is highest for those on low or fixed incomes.

The government had plenty of time to develop and implement an effective, long-term sustainable plan. Instead the Hamm government has come forward with a half-hearted,

short-term attempt at a fix. It does not provide the necessary relief Nova Scotians need. It is not even likely that the \$200 cheques will use up the HST windfall that the government is earning because of record high home heating costs.

The NDP has put forward our proposals to deal with this impending home heating crisis and provide more relief for more people this winter. At the centre of our plan is our call for the removal of the HST from heating essentials.

This should come as a surprise to nobody. Removing the HST from essentials like home heating was a key plank in our platform in the 2003 election. It was one of the seven key commitments we made to Nova Scotians. It remains a key part of the NDP's effort to achieve a better deal for today's families.

John Hamm's answer is "It can't be done." He says the HST deal with Ottawa can't be amended. I am sorry to say that this refrain has

been taken up by the Liberals, who got us into the HST deal in the first place.

It can be done.

I was part of a group of NDP MLA's who met with the leaders of the home heating industry. They see no problem with removing the HST from this essential. They have constructive suggestions about how to make it work. If the province could find a way to exempt books from the HST, and it did, it can find a way to exempt home heating fuel. It isn't rocket science.

Most Nova Scotians would tell the Premier that the HST should never have been placed on home heating start with. I don't have to tell you that this is a cold province for many months of the year. Look out your window!

Heating your home is as much of an essential as buying groceries. There is no HST on groceries. It's high time to remove it from home heating.

Remember, it can be done.

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Cornerstone Family Centre <i>Fourth Monday of each month</i>	9:30 - 11 am

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# A vote against Development Agreement might be considered "irresponsible" - Adams

By Stephen Adams  
Councillor District 18

On Monday January 10, Chebuco Community Council made one of the most significant decisions in its nine year history. By a unanimous 5-0 vote, we approved a Development Agreement to allow for a mix of residential housing, and environmental controls. As will many controversial decisions, rumours abound, unfortunately, some deliberate, so as to cause mischief. I will dedicate the majority of this column to outlining the rationale for supporting this decision, and to address some of the rumours I have heard.

Although I have written previously about this item, it is important that the background be presented so that the Development

Agreement decision is put into context.

In March 2003, Chebuco Community Council approved the re-zoning of this property from Holding to Residential Development District. After a number of appeals and challenges, this decision was upheld. Further, the process followed for the public hearing was deemed appropriate.

It is important to everyone to understand that this zoning decision would allow the developer to build single family and semi-detached homes without public input or environmental controls. During the public hearing, the zoning decision was not a topic of discussion which caused confusion for some of the residents who attended. For all intents and purposes, save for one pending appeal, the zoning decision is final.

The Development Agreement process involved a Public Hearing held on January 5 and 6. Consideration was given to allow a mix of housing, including single family homes on small, medium and large lots; semi-detached homes, townhouses and condominiums. Further tree retention, set backs from water courses, a parkland and conservation land contribution of 256 acres and a treatment component for the McIntosh Run were all part of the Agreement. None of these were part of the original zoning decision.

Based on the extensive environmental considerations and the favourable components of the DA, compared to the RDD proposal, I had no hesitation in supporting the Development Agreement. In fact a vote against the DA would have been irresponsible.

In approving the development, we are not going to close access to Williams Lake Road nor will Colpitt Lake Road be used as an access. Although blasting will occur regardless of which development was approved there are stringent regulations in place. This point may also be put in a better perspective by considering the following. Many residents suggested the Williams Lake was pristine, a point few, if any could argue. This despite the blasting that occurred during the development of Pine Bluff

subdivision in the early 80s. And, the blasting occurred relatively close to the shores. All this did not damage Williams Lake, it is difficult to believe that blasting on the west side of Colpitt Lake would be an issue, again, with more stringent regulations.

The Department of Environment and Department of Fisheries and Oceans will be monitoring all aspects of this development in conjunction with HRM staff.

The past month has given us more than our fair share of snow. Heavy snowfalls, along with high winds, has made plowing difficult, and at times frustrating. However, our crews have been equal to the task and have done a great job. Although I have had a few calls, they are minimal considering the conditions.

One individual deserves special mention. Derrill Campbell from DoT has gone above and beyond what could be reasonably expected from any employee. During one of our January storms I called Derrill on his cell phone and told him about a street that had been missed. Even though he was on holidays, Derrill took my call and had a plow dispatched within 20 minutes. His efforts are greatly appreciated. On behalf of those residents that you have helped, I say "Thank-You."

## Development Agreement preferred over "as of right" development

By Linda Mosher  
Councillor District 17

There has been much controversy over the Kimberly-Lloyd development application for Governor's Brook subdivision. Recently a public hearing was held for a development agreement on these lands. The decision before Council was "not" to decide whether or not development could occur at all. Council had to choose between the status quo, to allow the developer to develop as or right, or to permit development through a development agreement. This application was approved by Chebuco Community Council.

There was a public hearing in February 2003 regarding re-zoning of the lands from Holding to RDD, Residential Development Districts. Although I voted against this application, the majority of Council voted to approve the re-zoning. Therefore, the developer could proceed with developing the lands for R1 and R2 dwellings.

The decision of Chebuco Community Council was appealed by the Williams Lake Conservation Company on various fronts. Recently, the Utility & Review Board (UARB) upheld Council's decision, meaning that the developer could go ahead and develop these homes without coming to Council or the public. This is called "as of right" development. The Generalized Future Land Use Map of this property is designated for residential development.

Kimberly-Lloyd applied for a development agreement, which would allow different types of housing units compared to their existing zoning and provided many protective measures for HRM. A second public hearing was held, specifically looking at the development agreement. Our choices were either to allow development as of right through the RDD zoning, or develop through a development agreement, so that we can maximize the protection of the environmentally sensitive areas that were so

see "Development" pg. 14

### Stephen Adams

HRM Councillor, District 18

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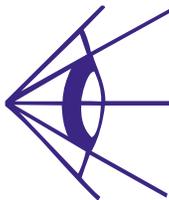


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# NDP fights for Canadians' rights - McDonough

By *Alexa McDonough*  
Halifax MP

In addition to standing up for our constituents on local matters, my NDP Caucus colleagues and I have fought day-in and day-out pressuring the Liberals to act on a number of issues. I want to share with you some highlights of our efforts.

NDP Leader Jack Layton stood up for marriage equality, the implementation of a Kyoto plan and has placed pressure on Paul Martin to say no to George Bush's star wars missile defense.

Working with peace groups across the country, I have sought to educate and mobilize Canadians on star wars missile defense, and worked with parliamentarians of all parties to urge the federal government to meet its commitment to increasing our contribution to international aid.

As the NDP's post-secondary education critic, I have been working with student representatives, as well as college and university administrators, faculty, researchers and support staff to press the federal government for increased federal funding of post-secondary education.

This month, my private member's Bill C-236, will be debated in Parliament. Bill C-236, an act to amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, if passed, will eliminate discriminatory measures that deny students the ability to file for bankruptcy for ten years after completion of their studies. No other group of Canadians faces such discrimination

under Canada's bankruptcy legislation.

Ed Broadbent, MP for Ottawa Centre continued leading the fight to end child poverty, and pushed for electoral reform and corporate accountability.

Charlie Angus, MP for Timmins-James Bay stood up for ranchers across Canada by fighting for better mad cow compensation, stood up against Liberal patronage at the CBC and for increased funding for the arts.

Bill Blaikie, MP for Elmwood-Transcona revealed the government has no coherent plan for its billion dollar defense expenditures, secured a review of the submarine purchase and challenged the Liberals to enforce the Canada Health Act and halt health care privatization.

Dave Christopherson, MP for Hamilton Centre revealed that the federal government's Millennium Fund is the next sponsorship scandal.

Jean Crowder, MP for Nanaimo Cowichan helped ensure the creation of a Standing Committee on the Status of Women and is standing up for action on softwood lumber.

NDP House Leader, Libby Davies, MP for Vancouver East continued to push for a national housing program and introduced a private members bill that would ban racial profiling.

NDP Caucus Whip Yvon Godin, MP for Acadie Bathurst continued the fight to reform the employment insurance system to ensure workers get the benefits they pay into.

Peter Julian, MP for Westminster-Burnaby launched the "Time To Act" campaign aimed

at getting the Liberals to fulfill commitments they made to people with disabilities 3,000 days ago.

Brian Masse, MP for Windsor West fought to end the despicable practice of allowing corporations to deduct pollution fines from their income taxes.

Pat Martin, MP for Winnipeg Centre introduced the adopted motion to ban trans fats and tabled the Worker's First Bill which would place workers' pensions and benefits the top priority for companies that declare bankruptcy.

Tony Martin, MP for Sault Ste. Marie conducted a cross Canada tour of childcare groups and is placing daily pressure on the Liberals to finally keep their commitment.

Peter Stoffer, MP for Sackville-Eastern Shore is fighting to stop companies from selling GMO fish in Canada.

Judy Wasylcyia-Leis, MP for Winnipeg North is fighting to ensure that Parliament and Canadians decide what happens with federal surpluses.

In the first session of this minority Parliament, the NDP introduced Bills or motions that would stand up for workers, Canadians' health, our environment, housing, students and training, consumers, First Nations, veterans, our military service men and women, and immigrant families.

Contact my office at 426-8691 for further details on the NDP's efforts to make minority parliamentary work. Hearing from you remains the most rewarding part of my job.

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# LOCAL OBITUARIES

Courtesy of J. Albert Walker Funeral Homes Ltd.

**WARNER**, Beatrice Elizabeth - 84, Colpit Lake Road, passed away in the New Halifax Infirmary, QEII. Born in Jollimore, she was a daughter of the late James and Emily (Marriotte) Slaunwhite. She was a member of St. Michael's

Roman Catholic Church and previous to her retirement, she was employed at Simpsons, Halifax, in the Maintenance Department. She is survived by sons, Robert (Judy), Prospect Bay; Richard (Judy), Harrietsfield; daughters, Barbara (Mrs. Bernard Collier), Harrietsfield; Evelyn (Mrs. William Shortell), North Wallace, Cumberland Co.; sister, Minnie Boutillier, Prospect Bay; 10 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, John Warner; brothers, Ronald and James. Cremation has taken place under the direction of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home, 149 Herring Cove Rd., Halifax. A private graveside service was held in Fairview Lawn Cemetery, Halifax.

**BOUTILIER**, Minnie Ellen - 82, Halifax, passed away at the New Halifax Infirmary, QEII Site, Halifax. Born in Halifax, she was the daughter of the late James and Emily (Marriott) Slaunwhite. Minnie is survived by son, John (Linda), Prospect Bay; grandsons, John and James. She was predeceased by husband, H. Wilson Boutillier; sister, Beatrice Warner; brothers, James and Ronald. Funeral arrangements were under the care and direction of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home, 149 Herring Cove Road, Halifax. Funeral service was held in Emmanuel Anglican Church, Spryfield, Rev. Dianna Brett-Fry officiated. Interment will be held in Emmanuel Anglican Cemetery, Spryfield in the spring.

**DEWOLFE**, Leo Charles - 55, Halifax. It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Leo Charles DeWolfe of Spryfield, at the VG Site, QEII, Halifax. Born in Halifax, he was the son of the late Leo and Josephine (Sweeney) DeWolfe. Leo was known to be a very generous person. He enjoyed friends, family, long drives, music, and old movies. He was employed for many years at Dover Mills, retiring in 2001. He was a member of the Earl Francis Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 152, Spryfield. He is survived by his loving companion and best friend of 23 years, Joye Priest; daughters, Cindy and Anne DeWolfe; five wonderful stepchildren; sisters, Josephine DeWolfe, Peggy Marriott, and Marjorie Goss, all of Spryfield; Marie Boudreau, Cape Breton; brothers, Earl, Halifax; Kenneth, Bedford; he will

be missed dearly by many grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. He was predeceased by sister, Dorothy; brother, David. Cremation has taken place under the care and direction of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home, 149 Herring Cove Road, Halifax. Interment will be at a later date in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Lower Sackville.

**SCHNARE**, Raymond Russell "Hon" - 72, Spryfield, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family, in the New Halifax Infirmary, QEII. Born in Halifax January 19, 1932, he was the son of the late Gordon and Anna (Josey) Schnare. He was a brick layer for 50 years. He will always be remembered by his wife of 50 years, Marie (Slaunwhite) Schnare; daughters, Debbie Majcan, Gail Schnare, and Heather (Ross) Vallis, all of Spryfield; sons, Gary, and Barry (Lisa), both of Spryfield; Donnie (Fran), and Kevin (Shelby), both of Hammonds Plains; 16 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by brothers, Douglas, and Courtney. Cremation has taken place under the care and direction of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home, 149 Herring Cove Road, Halifax. Rev. Dianna Brett-Fry officiated.

**DODGE**, Stanley Joseph - 83, Spryfield. It is with great sadness that we announce his passing on January 7, 2005, in Camp Hill Veterans' Memorial Building, QEII. Stan was born on October 8, 1921, in English Harbour East, NL. He was a son of the late George and Amelia (Kearley) Dodge. He was always a very hard worker and a good provider, setting good work ethics for his family. He worked at the National Sea Plant, retiring after 35 years of service. He was a loving husband and a caring man in his own quiet, confident way. He was also a pleasant father-in-law, loving to all of his family. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Loretta (MacInnis) Dodge, and their six children, Rita (Jan) Petrossi, Mary MacDonald, Billy (Lynn), Louise Zinck, Eddy (Linda), and Jimmy; brothers, John and Edwin; sister, Ellen Stewart; grandchildren, Dale, Andrea, Trevor, Lin, Cindy, Tina, Mike, Ivan, Ray, Barry, Heather, and David; 19 great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by grandsons, Tony and Benjamin; brothers, George, Cecil, and Bill; sis-

ter, Sarah. Funeral arrangements were under the care and direction of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home, 149 Herring Cove Rd., Halifax. Funeral service was held in St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Halifax, Father Duncan MacMaster officiated. Cremation to follow.

**SLAUNWHITE**, Bertha May - 88, Halifax, passed away peacefully at the New Halifax Infirmary, QEII Site. Born in Halifax in 1916, she was the daughter of the late Charles and Sarah (Murphy) Myatt. She lived in Kline Heights since the age of two. She was a resident of Melville Lodge for the past four years. She was a survivor of the Halifax Explosion. Her hobbies included bingo and Sunday family drives. She was the last surviving member of her immediate family. Surviving are daughter, Lorraine (Reuben) Marriott; grandchildren, Annette and Darlene; great-grandchild, Reuben; great great-granddaughter, Katlynn. She was predeceased by husband, William Stewart Slaunwhite; sisters, Dorothy, Laura, Lena, Margaret, Maude; brothers, Albert, Gus, Jim, Joe, Patrick. Cremation has taken place under the care and direction of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home, 149 Herring Cove Road, Halifax. Funeral service was held in St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church, Father John Fletcher officiated. Interment was in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Lower Sackville.

**ARCHIBALD** (Young), Goldie Evelyn Margaret - 80, Halifax, passed away peacefully in the New Halifax Infirmary, QEII. Born February 6, 1924, in Halifax, she was a daughter of the late Maude Hester (Murphy) and James Carmichael Young. Goldie loved doing crafts since she was a teenager, and many friends, relatives and even strangers enjoyed her labours of love. One of her other passions was bowling and she won numerous trophies. Then she loved to play bingo with her dear friend Barb Roache, in later years TV bingo, which she played with her friend Kay Sutherland, and became most important to her. She was a long-standing member of TOPS. She lived a full, happy life and has now gone on her journey to be with Leo, her one true love. Surviving are her daughters, Jacqueline (Lee), Oshawa, Ont.; Crystal (Niese), Halifax; son, Kent Archibald, Cobourg, Ont.; daughter-in-law, Pamela; sons-in-law, Glen Lee, Marco Niese; former sons-in-law, Bill Sellars, Leroy Saulnier; brothers, James and Waide Young; sisters, Marge Yeadon, Sandra Chase; grandchildren, Paul Saulnier, Dawn Sellars, Felicia Sellars; eight grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Leo Archibald; brothers, George, Charles and Sinclair Young; sister, Blossom DeYoung. She has been cremated. A memorial service was held December 15, in J. Albert Walker Funeral Home, 149 Herring Cove Rd., Halifax, Rev. William Sellars officiated.

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# Living with an older pet

As animals move into the geriatric phase of life, they go through changes that are similar to the aging in humans - hair turns gray, the body begins to wear out and the senses dim. Diseases that are commonly known to afflict humans also affect our furry friends - kidney, heart, liver disease, tumors, cancers, diabetes, depression, Alzheimer's and neurosis.

Since breeds and individuals have different lifestyles and different expectations, it is impossible to predict at what age you can expect to see changes. Generally, smaller breeds of dogs live longer than larger breeds, and cats live longer than dogs. Beyond that, the life span will vary with each individual and your veterinarian will be able to help you determine what stage of life your furry friend is in.

Geriatric care, which starts with a yearly

physical exam, is needed to catch and delay the onset or progress of disease and for the early detection of problems such as organ failure. A "baseline" blood and urine profile is highly recommended once your pet reaches seven years of age. This gives you an excellent indication as to your pet's current health and serves as a benchmark against which to measure future test results.

If your dog or cat has a history of serious chronic medical problems they will need to see a veterinarian for a routine examination more often.

The health and quality of your pet can be greatly enhanced by feeding premium and prescription diets. Veterinarians, receptionists and technicians all receive special training regarding nutrition. They welcome the opportunity to dis-

cuss proper feeding for your pet. When you make your regular visit to purchase pet food hospital staff will be pleased to answer any questions you might have.

There are many signs of a problem including sustained, significant increases in water consumption and/or urination; weight loss; decreases in appetite or failing to eat for more than two days; sustained increases in appetite; repeated vomiting; diarrhea lasting more than three days; difficulty in passing stool or urine; change in housebreaking; lameness lasting more than five days or lameness in more than one leg; noticeable decrease in vision; open sores or scales on the skin that persist for more than one week; foul mouth odour or drooling that lasts more than two days; increasing size of the abdomen; increasing inactivity or amount of time spent sleeping; hair loss especially if accompanied by scratching, particularly in specific areas; exces-

sive panting; inability to chew dry food; sudden collapse or bout of weakness; a seizure; persistent coughing or gagging for dogs and breathing heavily or rapidly for cats.

Recommendations for the aging pet include keep vaccinations current, frequent brushing, clipping toenails, keep plenty of fresh water available and monitor consumption, keep indoors and take your pet's weight every 60 days.

Overall each pet is different and will encounter different changes than their canine or feline companions. Not all preventative measures, such as change in diet, may be necessary or even good for your pet. Be sure to monitor behaviours and physical conditions and report anything unusual to your veterinarian who will help both of you head into the twilight years with ease.

## Development Agreement *continued from pg. 11*

well articulated through the public hearing process.

From the UARB's ruling on the re-zoning, they concluded "Under private ownership, the current Developer, or a future owner, can prohibit access by the public to these environmentally sensitive areas. Further, it can choose to remove stands of jack pine, or subject to blasting regulations, flatten outcrops of granite batholith. Viewed against this backdrop, the Board considers that the status quo offers little protection to the "environmentally sensitive areas." I agreed with the URAB and felt that the status quo was not an option and that the

development agreement afforded far greater protection for the environment and surrounding communities. As of right development would allow the developer to cut down every tree, have no setbacks from Colpitt Lake, and they would only have to donate 5% parkland.

Enhanced environmental protection is only possible and enforceable through a development agreement. The as of right zoning would only yield about 7 acres of parkland. The approved agreement allows for a total of 235 acres of conservation and parkland which will be deeded to HRM.



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**Thank-You**

The staff of Spryfield's Nova Scotia Liquor Commission Branch wish to thank their customers and friends for helping to raise \$1,700 for Tsunami Relief. The money will be matched by the Federal Government.

**Family Fun Day**

Spryfield's third annual Family Fun Day will be February 19 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. Parents are invited to come and play with their children. The Free Program includes Art Zone, Games Zone, Drama Zone, Noise Zone, Active Zone, Outdoor Games, Healthy Snacks, a Loonie Luau Swim. Bring hats, mitts, boots, swim suit, towel and a smile.

**Pancake Supper**

Emmanuel Church Hall at 322 Herring Cove Road will be the site of a Pancake Supper February 8 from 4 to 6 pm. Adults \$5, Children under 12 \$2.50

**Sharing Art**

The Captain Spry Library is looking for people interested in sharing their art skills and artistic talents with young adults. If you are interested call Marlene at 490-5715.

**Art And Music**

Children to age six and their parents or caregivers are invited to a drop-in art and music playgroup. Enjoy coffee and snacks in a relaxed environment while children engage in creative art activities, music and movement, stories, books. Children will also be introduced to the music of famous composers and fine art masterpieces. All are welcome! Each child will receive a free gift of one child-sized musical instrument or an art kit on February 22. Join us in the Community Room at Sobey's Herring

Cove Road Place on Tuesday, February 8 and 22, March 8 and 22 from 10 am to noon. Please call Josephine Egan at 423-2651 or email: josephine@saintmarymagdalene.ca. More information about "Art & Music" can be found on Church of Saint Mary Magdalene's website: www.saintmarymagdalene.ca.

**Seedy Saturday**

Urban Farm Museum Society invites you to buy, sell, share or trade your heritage and non-hybrid vegetable, flower and native plant seeds at our 6th Annual Seedy Saturday event on Sat. March 14th at Emmanuel Church Hall, 322 Herring Cove Road, from 2 to 4:30PM. Contact Jean at 477-2933.

**TAG Offers "Best of Friends"**

The comedy Best of Friends runs February 24 to March 12 at Theatre Arts Guild's Pond Playhouse on Parkhill Road with evening performances beginning at 8 pm and a Sunday Matinee March 6 at 2 pm. Ticket prices are \$12 with students, seniors and members at \$10. To obtain tickets call 477-2663.

**Annual Heritage Tea and Display**

The Mainland South Heritage Society invites you to our annual Heritage Tea and Display at the Captain William Spry Community Centre on Saturday, February 26 from 1:30 to 4 pm. The theme of the display is Heritage Houses: Past and Present. Enjoy our collection of photographs and Peter Saulnier's replicas of historic houses.

**Legion Bingo**

Bingo will be held at the Earl Francis Memorial Legion Every Sunday beginning at 1 - doors open at noon.

**Library Happenings**

**Computer Training**  
Capt. Spry Library laptop computer lab is now open for free private and small group computer training for adults. Learn computer basics, Internet or email skills. Ask about our practice time schedule. Days, evenings and Saturdays available. Call 490-5715.

**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 February 16 at 7 pm it will be The Guardian by Nicholas Sparks.

**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, February 19, Flossie and the Fox.

**Food Bank**

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

**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 jnj-paynter@ns.sympatico.ca me for information.

**Auction 45s**

An auction 45 card party is held every Monday at 7 pm in St. James Hall, Sambro. Admission \$2. For more information call 868-2660 or 868-2791. All welcome!

**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 Koin, Germany.

**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 at 865-2297.

## Congregation's Tsunami relief donation overwhelms Pastor MacIsaac

continued from pg. 1

plies, move them to the area effected." Donated funds ensure the warehouses are constantly restocked and ready for the next wave of distribution.

He says the recovery process in the tsunami disaster zone could take 10 to 12 years. Relief efforts include providing fresh water, digging wells, establishing schools, and addressing health concerns. "By dealing with the issue of fresh water," Humble says, "we automatically improve the health question." He also stresses the importance of helping the victims get back to a normal way of life and regain self-sufficiency. "You hope at the end of 12 years you have given them back their own life with pride and dignity in what they do, not in what you've done."

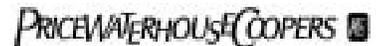
The relationship between Calvary United Baptist Church and World Vision goes back many years and began, in part, due to the nature of the congregation. "Our congregation is made up of a number of immigrants as well who have directly been affected by the work of World Vision in their own countries," MacIsaac says. "We actually have life stories in the church that can attest to World Vision's operations first hand."

MacIsaac adds, "our congregation is a lot of retired folks or seniors on fixed income. We're not a rich congregation at all, and we bring in probably \$50,000 a year. So this is a huge sacrificial gift for these folks to come up with. I'm very proud of them."

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