

Chebucto News

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"Skyhawk" soars – ESS musical nominated for ECMA Award

By Glenn Taylor Staff

First you must have a dream and then you must believe! That's what the old Skyhawk believed and that's just what the students, staff and parents of Elizabeth Sutherland School

believed too. Dreams sometimes come true, and in this case, that's just what happened. Almost four years in the making, the dream has taken the cast, crew and supporters of Spryfield's "Skyhawk the Musical" from an idea to center stage at the East Coast Music Awards at the Halifax Metro Centre.



Creators of "Skyhawk the Musical" Glenn Taylor and Bernard Curtis Williams with lead singer, the Young Skyhawk, Laura Hatcher.

"Skyhawk" has been nominated for 'Children's Recording of the Year!'

In 2004 Elizabeth Sutherland Elementary School Principal Glenn Taylor (retired) and Music Teacher Bernard Curtis Williams wrote a musical. The story line took place in the Spryfield Woods right next to the old Rockingstone. The story revolved around the animals in the woods, but the moral was directed right at the kids who live in Spryfield, or anywhere else for that matter!

The animals' leader, the old Skyhawk, was dying. This created a problem for the animals because the old Skyhawk always guided and helped them with their decisions. A young bird decides that even though she doesn't want the responsibility, she's going to have to assume a leadership role among the animals. She must stand up for what she believes, for what is right.

Like so many situations in which youth find themselves, Young Bird could have 'chickened out,' but she didn't. To her surprise the other animals in the woods felt the same way

she did. They simply needed a leader and with the old Skyhawk gone, they didn't have one.

At the same time, those animals in the Spryfield Woods who lived by stealing, cheating, fighting, and frankly just being a pain, announced that their style of living was going to rule. Young Bird and the other animals had other ideas. With the young bird leading the way, the animals took on the rats and challenged them to a hockey game. Whoever won the game got to call the shots in the woods. Young Bird and her team won the game. They won more than just the game; they won over the rats who decided being good was easier and a whole lot more fun than being bad.

The purpose of the musical was to reinforce the concept that if you stick together, you often achieve more than if you remain on your own. The musical was also designed to give youth the message that more people think like them than they realize. They are not on

see "Headline 1" pg. 2

Lions, community open new recreation centre

With a simple cutting of a ribbon the Spryfield Lions Club officially opened the new Recreation Centre and adjacent study hall for kids bringing a bevy of recreational opportunities to the community.

King Lion Rene Quigley, the initiator and spearhead energy behind the change in venue for what was the Lions Bingo Hall, presided

over the ceremonies before about 80 attendees including Mayor Peter Kelly, MLA Michele Raymond, Councillors Stephen Adams and Linda Mosher and Lion District Governor Evelyn "Evie" Morine.

The new centre, which will feature basketball, floor hockey and badminton opportunities at the relatively low rate of \$30 per hour, plus a parent and tot and senior citizen programs during the day and an "after school" opportunity for youth, was inspired by the Lions Club after far too many unsuccessful and unprofitable bingo nights.

This month, after receiving a grant from Action for Neighbourhood Change, a donation

see "Headline 2" pg. 2

see "Lions" pg. 7

Park development aims to give Centre a HCR address

A new park envisioned to take shape along Herring Cove Road in front of the Captain William Spry Community Centre is beginning to be discussed by community members through an Action for Neighbourhood Change

project involving Dalhousie planning students. Students Seamus McGreal and Tyson Simms have been asked by Action to lead a community based review to help the community determine what kind of park area should be

created in an effort to "give the Captain William Spry Community Centre a Herring Cove Road address." Giving the centre a HCR

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Elizabeth Sutherland musical nominated for ECMA Award

continued from pg. 1

their own. They can stand up to bullies if they stick together.

Skyhawk the Musical contains ten songs and takes about one and half hours to perform. A cast of approximately 45 grade four to grade eight students put on the show. The entire cast

but one was under fourteen years of age. Well known Elizabeth Sutherland teacher Paul Hunt, a little over 14 years of age, agreed to play the role of Coach Porcupine. He provided intermission commentary on the hockey game between the animals and the rats.

Breakfast TV covered rehearsals and CBC's Information Morning even played one

of the songs "Dream and Believe." Students became television celebrities and recording artists. But, it didn't end there. The school, with financial support from an Elizabeth Sutherland alumnus, produced its own CD. The drama continued when staff and parents realized the school stage needed new curtains. A major fundraising effort went into high gear

and in the end approximately twelve thousand dollars was raised for new curtains. Then the show needed an audience. Enter the United Way. More money for buses was delivered. In the end close to 2500 excited fans saw the musical.

The musical was supported by local firms including Grant Thorton, Johnson and Johnson, Shoppers Drug Mart, Sports Direct, the United Way, W.M. Fares and Associates, Presse Mason Law Office, Atlantic Automatic Sprinkler Limited and K.N. Umlah Insurance. HRM Councilor Steve Adams, Marjorie Willison, the United Way and the Elizabeth Sutherland PTA helped out big time too!

The musical was directed by teachers Bronwyn Wagner and Karen Pay. The cast included students: Laura Hatcher, Marcia Peters, Morgan Johnson, Kristen Gielen, Colby Lamey, Shianne Ferguson, Jessica Davis, Brittany Lang, Subrina Daurie, Sara Zreik, Alyssa Pyke, Kayla Peterson, Allison Roache, Danny McNamara, John Berakos, Cheyenne Comeau, Jill Lamontagne, Jesse Comeau, Joanna Auby, Adrienne O'Neil, Courtney McCarthy and Paul Hunt.

The Skyhawk Chorus included Maira MacKinnon, Calee Whitehead, Melissa Feltham, Shaylene MacLean, Shaundelle Anderson, Shye Nicholson, Amanda Organ, Ashley McFarlane-Baker, Paige Cameron, James Rowsell, Spencer Huskins, Taylor Conran, Madison Lunn, Tristan Harnish, Gloria Edwards and Nicole Masters. The musical's band was comprised of Alys Martin, Sophie Stryniak, Alana Thibault, Sara Curtis-Williams and David Shelden.

The musical's crew was made up of Mamie Wilks, Randi MacKinnon, Melanie Masters, Linda Goris and Kelly Shelden (Costumes), Alex Cross and Alex Nadon (Sound) Sue Vey, Gerry Beck (Set Design), Keith Pineo and Sean Sullivan (Lighting), Heavenly Nicholson (Curtains), Mamie Wilks, Kelly Higgins, Ellen Baldwin, Sophie Fong, Jill MacDonald, Jana Wicha, Mara Dieras, Valerie Targett and Olivia Driscoll (Make-Up), Daphne Nichols, Heather Venham, Robyn Cobean, and Kelly Shelden (Publicity)

And now "Skyhawk" soars with a fairy tale ending to the ECMA's. On February 18th the school and its supporters will anxiously wait to see if the musical receives the ECMA for Children's Recording for 2006. Whether it does or it doesn't, the cast and crew of Skyhawk had a dream come true and the wonderful community of Spryfield has reason once again to be proud.

Park development

continued from pg. 1

street address is a recommendation of the Herring Cove Road Streetscape and Planning Document completed last year.

The park project is also one of the priorities of Halifax Regional Municipality and is supported by both Councillors Stephen Adams and Linda Mosher. Part of the concept is to encourage construction of a walking bridge across the McIntosh Run leading from the park area to the Centre. HRM is also projecting to spend more than \$1 million to renovate the Centre, including reshaping its front entrance.

McGreal and Simms held an initial meeting this month to help them gather ideas and concepts of what the public might envision. In their preliminary work the paid have suggested the park – to be called McIntosh Park, would be a converging point for a number area walking trails, help improve access to the Centre, maintain the area's natural and cultural heritage, offer some recreational opportunities and contribute to a sense of place for the community.

The students suggested the park should also contribute to the "village theme" contained in the Streetscape document and suggested their work would be based on a "Project for Public Spaces" approach which means the design of the park takes a second place to first creating uses for the area which involve as many different segments of society as possible.

Park Input Wanted

The Spryfield Community Action Coalition is working with two Dalhousie planning students to consult with local residents about their ideas for a park in front of the Captain Spry Community Centre. Public meeting times and dates include Sunday, February 11, Planning Charrette (community workshop), 1:30 to 4:30 pm, community meeting room; Wednesday, February 21, Advisory Committee, 4:00 to 5:30 pm; and Monday, March 19, Advisory Committee, 4:00 to 5:30 pm. All meetings are at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. For information call 475-3783.



MLA Michele Raymond presented King Lion Rene Quigley and the Lions Club with a framed Resolution of the House of Assembly recognizing the Club's 50-Year history in Spryfield.

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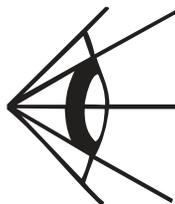
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Joan Stewart – talented artist and giving person

By Heather White Brittain

Joan Stewart is a visual artist who has been contributing to the local arts community for many years. Always interested in learning, Joan learned how to paint under the tutelage of John Cook and Allan Wiley, well respected artists who taught classes back in the 1960's. Joan would travel from Halifax to Bedford where they offered painting lessons from the former Carriage House in Bedford. During this time, there she was managing a career in healthcare.

A graduate of Acadia University, Joan's was trained to be a dietician. Later, she would go on to Healthcare Management at the VG Hospital. There, Joan advanced and filled a position as Director of Special Services. Eventually, she

would take some time to teach and in 1989, she formally retired. Before retirement, and while she was meeting the challenge of being in management, she found time to take art lessons. "I took classes and found time to do this when I was working," she says. "When you are in senior management, you don't always have those choices."

Joan Stewart made some other choices as well. Continuing to learn at every available opportunity, the artist also saw the need to form an artists' group. Saying that "there were not a lot of artists' groups" when she started painting, Joan was the driving force behind the formation of The Painter's Palette Gallery. Significantly, she "was the founding member," along with a group of fellow artists who started the gallery.

Meeting when they could, and painting much, produced a lot of work. "If you paint like that, you need to have a place to show your art so we initiated The Painter's Palette Society when we took a sculpture course at Dalhousie," says the artist. That was back in 1973.

Over time, Joan also developed her art in another form by learning china painting. She traveled to the United States and attended workshops there and in Ontario to learn more about this presentation. Well traveled and insightful about life and people, she says that "we are all different and that's what makes people interesting." Currently, she is a member of the Zonta Club of Halifax, an international service club whose main focus is to improve the status of women. Locally, the Club works to assist agen-

cies like Bryony House and Alice Housing.

Another special interest is the Bayer's Westwood Resource Centre and the Marguerite Centre. The latter is a centre for women with addictions. Feeling a strong sense of giving, she says "you have to give back to the community."

When you talk to people who know Joan Stewart, it is not uncommon to hear one say that she has been a tireless giver to the arts community, to her friends and to anyone who has needed a helping hand. "This is not my quote," Joan adds, "but the other day I was reading something and I read that 'you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands.'"

To view Joan Stewart's work or to meet the artist, you can visit Painter's Palette Gallery located at 1535 Dresden Row, 425-4619.



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Joan Stewart has built a solid reputation of helping not only artists but others less fortunate than herself.

**Information Meeting
Armdale Roundabout Project**

Thursday, February 15th, 2007

Location
St. James Anglican Church,
2668 Joseph Howe Drive (at the "Rotary")

Time
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
(Doors Open at 6:30 to view design and plans)

This meeting is open to all members of the public. HRM staff will be on hand to describe the physical conversion from a rotary to a roundabout. Other topics include a left turning lane on the St. Margaret's Bay Road and the planned reversing lane project on Chebucto Road. Please attend as your input into this important project would be greatly appreciated.

Linda Mosher, Councillor,
District 17, Purcell's Cove – Armdale



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DISCOVERING OUR PAST

Many local teachers were born and educated in Mainland South

By Iris Shea, Historian
Mainland South Heritage Society

Once again, in February, Mainland South Heritage Society celebrates our heritage by holding its annual Heritage Tea and Display. This year, on Saturday, February 24th, from 1:30 to 4 pm at the Captain William Spry Community Centre, the display is entitled "Remembering our Teachers," and will focus on teachers from our past.

For the purpose of this article, I have included a few teachers who not only taught in our local schools but were born and educated in this area. Elizabeth (Bessie) Sutherland was one of those teachers. She was born in Spryfield in 1841, the daughter of George Sutherland and Mary Ann Carmichael. Elizabeth received her early education at home from her mother before attending private instruction for one year in Halifax as a 17 year-old. In 1859, at the age of 18 years, she began her teaching career

in the church school, built on land donated to the Bishop of Nova Scotia by Elizabeth's parents, now the site of Emmanuel cemetery in Spryfield. Elizabeth taught alternate weeks in Spryfield and Harrietsfield. During her teaching career, which spanned over 40 years, she was governess to the Cunard family for seven years, spent at least one term (1867) at Cunard School in Jollimore, seven years in Herring Cove during the 1870s, and nine years in Terence Bay, between 1879 and 1887. She returned to Spryfield during the 1890s and taught in the new public school. Elizabeth Sutherland died in Spryfield in 1925 and is buried in Emmanuel Cemetery.

Another local teacher we remember is Ida Mae (Yeadon) Marriott. Ida Mae was born in 1888 in Spryfield, the daughter of Amos Yeadon and Laliah Bashford. She attended

Spryfield's first public school. Located where Central School is today, this school opened in 1893 and was known as The Little Red School House. By 1911, Ida Mae was teaching in the same school, earning \$350 a year (her brother, William, earned the same salary working as a labourer in the quarry). Following her marriage to Otis Clarence Marriott of Harrietsfield, the couple lived on Quinpool

Road where Mr.

Marriott had a blacksmith shop. Ida Mae continued to teach in Spryfield, walking each day from Quinpool Road to teach the children of Spryfield. She died in 1951, not long after her retirement. Ida Mae Marriott School was named in her honour.

Jeanne (Nickerson) Henneberry grew up in East Pennant, the daughter of William and Nima (Myra) Nickerson. She attended Pennant School in her early years, Morris Street

School in grade nine, and graduated from Queen Elizabeth High School. She obtained a teacher's license in 1944 from Normal College in Truro and, after teaching in Bayside and on McNab's Island, taught at Sambro in 1947-48. She then taught at Pennant, the same school she had attended, and the same school where her mother had taught many years earlier. When Pennant School was declared surplus, she taught at Sambro, Harrietsfield, Holly Drive and Ketch Harbour. Following retirement, Jeanne was called back to substitute at Herring Cove Junior High, Central Spryfield and Sambro. Ten years ago, in June 1997, Jeanne graduated from the Atlantic School of Theology and is now Reverend Jeanne Henneberry. She continues to live in Sambro.

Flora Nicholson was born and educated in Spryfield, the daughter of Daniel B. and Constance Ruth (Dentith) Nicholson. Following her university education, she went on to teach at Halifax West and transferred to BC Silver High School in Spryfield the year it opened where she was vice-principal. When J.L. Ilsley High School opened in 1971, Flora became vice-principal of that school until her retirement. Flora Nicholson died in June 2000.

Connie (Kidston) Backman was born in Spryfield, the daughter of Sidney and Laura (Drysdale) Kidston. She received her education in the Spryfield school system, graduating from Halifax West in 1959. She did her practice teaching at John W. MacLeod School while attending Normal College in 1959/60 and returned to teach at John W. MacLeod the following September. She stayed for 34 years, setting a record for the number of consecutive teaching years for any teacher in that school. Connie retired in 1994.

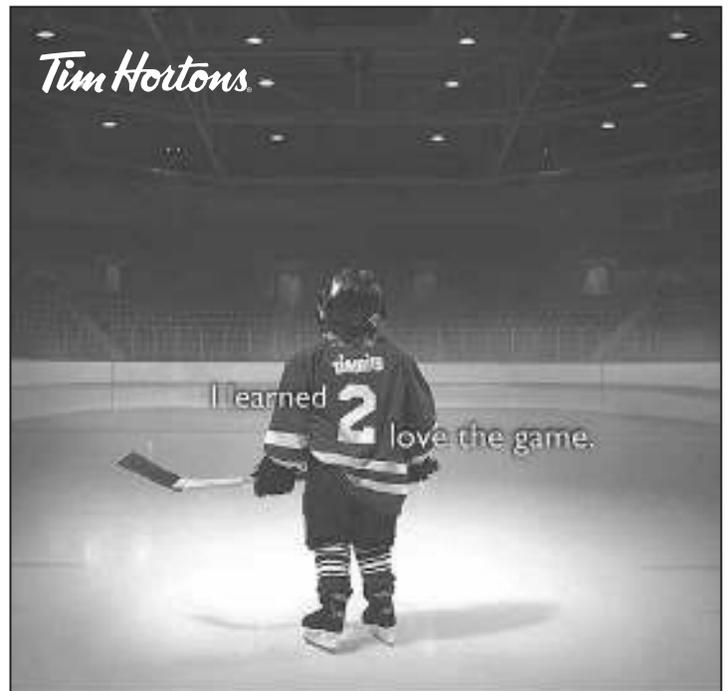
Carolyn Mont was born and educated in Spryfield, the daughter of Stirling (Bun) and

Billy (O'Brien) Mont. Carolyn attended school in Spryfield and graduated from B.C. Silver High School. She obtained her teaching license from NS Teachers College and began teaching at Pinegrove Junior High in 1969, then at BC Silver when it was changing from a Senior High to a Junior High in 1970. She graduated from Dalhousie University with an Arts degree, taught a few years in Halifax schools, and returned to Spryfield to teach at Elizabeth Sutherland School in 1994. Carolyn retired from that school in 2001.

Three male teachers from Spryfield were Blair Perrott, Gary Turner and Jim Bradbury. They were educated in Spryfield and went on to teach in that community. Blair Perrott was principal of Pinegrove and of BC Silver Schools. Gary Turner was vice principal of Rockingstone and taught at Cunard Junior High until his death in 2001. Jim Bradbury, whose mother taught in Spryfield, started his teaching career later than most. He taught at Pinegrove, BC Silver, and retired from Elizabeth Sutherland School in June 2006.



Ida Mae (Yeadon) Marriott, September 1945, honoured at the opening of Spryfield's new eight room Central School.



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Canada Winter Games

Fairmount's Matt Vaughan to represent province in Judo event

This year will mark the second time Matt Vaughan has competed for Nova Scotia in the Canada Winter Games. While his first trip to the 2004 Games in Bathurst, NB, didn't result in a medal for the young judo fighter, it did give him invaluable experience and gave him the chance to hone his skills against older, more experienced athletes.

"The Games are an excellent opportunity to advance to higher levels of competition and are also a major stepping stone on the path to other major events, such as nationals or international opens," explains Matt, a Fairmount Subdivision resident currently studying science at Dalhousie University. "It's also a great place to meet people from across the country and from other sports, giving you the chance to share experiences and learn new things about them and their sport."

In fact, meeting people from across Canada was one of the most memorable experiences of Matt's first Games' visit. And much of that interaction happened in the Athletes' Village, where the athletes spent much of their time when not competing or training. While that village experience was rewarding, Matt thinks the HRM's proposed Athletes' Village, featuring four-star hotels connected by pedways in the city's downtown core, will be an even better one for athletes, should HRM be successful in its bid to host the 2011 Canada Winter Games.

"It's very important that the athletes have the freedom to move around and cheer on people in other events," says Matt. "HRM's Athletes' Village will allow them to do just that. Being able to move around, without going outside, is also a major virtue. During the last winter games, this was not an option and we spent a lot of time trudging through snow to get to the different venues."

For athletes from the HRM, competing in their hometown would be another significant advantage. As Matt describes it, the home advantage is highly desirable. "Staying on your own time table is a great advantage in competitive sports, and you don't need to overcome the burden of jet lag. Also, there is usually a larger hometown crowd out to cheer you on, giving you an added boost of confidence."

After the 2007 Canada Winter Games in Whitehorse, Matt plans on furthering his judo skills as much as possible. He's even considering taking a break from school to accelerate his training.

"Through competitive sport I have maintained excellent physical fitness, gained confidence, made life-long friends and have found something that I am proud to be a part of on any level," he explains. "I have been given the opportunity to travel all over Canada to see and do things that would otherwise not have been possible were it not for my sport."



Matt Vaughan will represent the province at the Canada Winter Games in the judo competitions.

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Location: Shoppers Drug Mart Conference Room
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Time: 6:30 to 7:30 pm

HealthWATCH



New recreation centre

continued from pg. 1

of funds from Councillor Adams and contributions of labour expertise from local trades organizations Quigley has been associated with for years in the union movement, the project was opened.

Past King Lion and past Councillor Darrell Wentzell was asked by Quigley to explain the history of the space to the audience. Wentzell said the original building was constructed as part of the rink project for \$193,900, including a \$50,000 grant from the Province of Nova Scotia.

The building was first used as a recreation centre for programs provided by Halifax Regional Municipality, he said, recalling that the recreation programs were discontinued in the mid 1980s, which resulted in the facility being used as a bingo hall. Wentzell walked the audience through a slide show of the construction process for the Centre and study hall.

District Governor Marine said it is a privilege to attend this opening. "When I was here for my official visit last fall and the club told me of its plans I immediately targeted this date

to be here. I wanted to be here to see the opening of this collaborative effort," she said, calling the Centre a "boon to the community."

In 1925, she said, Helen Keller challenged the Lions Club to become "knights of the blind," said Morine. "Keller's position," she said, "was that alone we can do so little but together we can do so much. And this facility proves that very fact."

Councillor Adams told the audience the facility would not have been possible without the interest, dedication and energy of King Lion Quigley. "From the very start he's been a little Tasmanian Devil running all the time trying to get something else done. I don't think he talked as much to his wife Sharon over the past two months as he did with me. No matter where I was he was on the phone trying to solve a problem. This wouldn't have happened without him."

Adams said as well as Quigley he too talked with students at all three levels of school to see what they wanted in a facility. "At every grade level all they wanted was a place to study. I couldn't believe it, how important that was to them," said the Councillor who presented a cheque to the club in support of the project.

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Recreation ups and downs in District 18 – Adams

By Stephen Adams
Councillor District 18

January 13 marked a significant milestone at the Spryfield Lions Rink, or should I say "new Recreation Centre." About 70 residents gathered to have a look see at the facility and learn what we have to offer. A slide show was presented illustrating the transition from bingo hall to Recreation Centre and the Board Room conversion to a Study Hall.

The Centre offers programming for young and old alike, with badminton, basketball, volleyball and other indoor sports. I would encourage you to drop in and have a look for yourself. I am sure you will agree it

has something for all to enjoy.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize a few of the many who made this possible. Brian Harvie and Rob MacPherson of Armo Communities, local tradespeople Brad Hartlin of Bubbles Mansion (yes, that Bubbles), and especially the Spryfield Lions Club. Once again they have shown us how valuable an asset they are for our community. Finally to King Lion Rene Quigley. Without Rene's dedication, perseverance and leadership this would not have been possible. He worked tirelessly to ensure the Centre moved forward and that everyone could have access. My sincerest thank-you.

In mid-January, Councillor Mosher and I

met with Chris Shaw, a local resident and business person, to discuss an additional ice surface for Spryfield. The initial meeting allowed us to look at possibilities and to help map out a plan. During our Recreation Centre opening, this was briefly mentioned. Afterward, in no time, a small group was formed and a subsequent meeting held to look at options. Although no concrete plans have been developed, it looks as if we will look into an additional arena for hockey, ringette, figure skating, lacrosse and other non-ice activities. This arena could be built to accommodate additional expansion as well.

This will be an intense process, but with

the energy and commitment to community shown by attendees, I am optimistic this too will be a successful venture.

You may recall a few articles back, I had written about the small parking lot at Long Lake just off Old Sambro Road. At issue was illegal dumping on the site which was getting expensive to clean-up. As a remedy, the Provincial Department of Natural Resources blocked access with large boulders. I asked that they reconsider due to issues surrounding vehicles backing up onto Old Sambro Road. The next remedy, "No Parking" signs. The Minister then replied that a management plan was being discussed and that this site would be considered during the process.

In speaking with a few local residents, it has clearly become an issue for those living on or near Schnare Street. Residents assessing the park were parking their vehicles on Schnare Street, a narrow short connector to Spencer Street, blocking driveways, further narrowing the street and causing concern for many, all because of the blockade.

A number of issues have arisen because of this item and all are a result of the blockade. From a safety perspective, the Fire Department must find a way to gain access to the lake for a rescue. Residents are forced to park in an unsafe manner and recreational users are compromised as well.

At a recent Council meeting, I asked for a report to investigate the possibility of HRM assuming responsibility for the park. We could then maintain it, and bring back access for all to enjoy. I expect a response within a few months.

Know your representatives, says Fairview MLA

By Graham Steele
Halifax Fairview MLA

Often when people call or write to me looking for help with something, they're not sure if they have the right place. After all, we have four levels of elected government (federal, provincial, municipal, school board), and it's hard to keep straight who's responsible for what. So in this month's column I'm going to give a quick overview of the people whose job it is to listen to you and to help you navigate the maze of government.

There are two Members of Parliament (MP) in Halifax Fairview. They are your representative on all issues for which the federal government is responsible. That includes military and veterans' affairs, foreign policy, immigration, the Canada Pension Plan, and employment insurance.

If you live north of the Bicentennial Highway, your MP is Geoff Regan (426-2217, geoff@geoffregan.ca). If you live south of the Bicentennial Highway, your MP is Alexa McDonough (426-8691, alexa@hfx.eastlink.ca).

As your Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA), I am your representative on all issues for which the provincial government is responsible. That includes provincial roads like Northwest Arm Drive and the Bicentennial Highway, as well as social assistance, workers' compensation, residential tenancies, motor vehicles, and provincial taxes. You can find my contact information in my ad on this page.

There are two Halifax city Councillors in

Halifax Fairview. They are your representative on all issues for which the municipal government is responsible. That includes roads (except for the Bicentennial Highway and Northwest Arm Drive), snow clearing, traffic, police, fire, waste collection, and building permits.

When I go around knocking on doors during elections or between elections, the most common issues people raise with me are municipal. So do be sure to know who your Councillor is, and keep their contact information handy.

If you live north of the Bicentennial Highway or east of Joseph Howe Drive, your Councillor is Russell Walker (443-8010, walker@halifax.ca). If you live south of the Bicentennial Highway and west of Joseph Howe Drive, your Councillor is Linda Mosher (477-8618, mosherl@halifax.ca).

Up until recently, there were two school board members in Halifax Fairview. Darren Watts represented Chebucto Heights and Springvale Elementary schools, and Gary O'Hara represented Burton Ettinger and Fairview Heights Elementary schools, as well as Fairview Junior High. But in December the Minister of Education disbanded the Halifax Regional School Board and replaced it with a single, appointed person by the name of Howard Windsor.

I want to thank Gary and Darren for their service to their community. Whatever the problem may have been at the Halifax Regional School Board, I know it was not caused by Gary or Darren. They have always been thoughtful and helpful in my dealings

with them.

I recently spoke with Howard Windsor about how he will deal with the questions and concerns from parents. He has indicated his willingness to receive and deal with any issues that come up, and he gave me his telephone number and e-mail, which I would be happy to pass along to you if you need them. I know Howard personally from his previous work in the provincial government, and I believe he will do his very best to carry out his new and onerous duties.

So there's a quick overview of the people who represent you. Call, write, drop in. We can do our jobs best when we know what's on your mind.



Linda Mosher

HRM Councillor, District 17

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Fairness for families – NDP priorities

By Alexa McDonough
Halifax MP

“Jack Layton is a true believer—in environmental sustainability, in modernized and much-needed social programs such as home care and pharmacare, and in equality. Unwavering conviction is rare in politics...” —Columnist Susan Riley, *Ottawa Citizen*, 22 Dec. 2006.

In a country as wealthy as ours, is it really fair that millions of average Canadians spend their lives worried that they won't make ends meet? At least half of today's families now feel they're just one or two missed paycheques away from falling into poverty. Others fear they'll never save enough to retire in dignity, never mind affording a quality post-secondary education for their kids.

Today, even middle-income families are feeling squeezed. And that's happening even as CEOs, banks and oil companies enjoy record windfalls, massive profits and executive salaries the rest of us can't comprehend. Yet federal governments keep wasting Canada's surplus on more unnecessary corporate tax cuts.

After years of watching the prosperity gap widen, it's time for some fairness for ordinary people. That's why the NDP's top priorities for 2007 include targeting predatory bank charges and credit card interest rates, expanding access for training and post-secondary education, and strengthening health services for families, seniors and people with disabilities.

As Canada's economy grows, only the most privileged among us see the full benefit. It's only fair that everyday families should get their turn too - that's what the NDP is standing for.

Recently, the NDP co-launched the Children's Health and Nutrition Initiative. Canada is one of the few developed countries with no nationally funded child nutrition program. NDP Children's Advocate Olivia Chow has co-launched a campaign to change that, because today's families believe kids everywhere deserve a chance to thrive.

Under-nourishment and obesity are on the rise among kids, and both are linked to low academic performance, low self-esteem and health risks. Diet-related diseases like diabetes, hyper-

tension and high cholesterol are also up, hurting families and robbing our economy of billions through higher health care costs and lost productivity. The good news is that a modest federal investment could help ensure that no Canadian child goes to school hungry. The Children's Health and Nutrition Initiative proposes these first steps:

Universal nutritious food programs: Ensuring a nutritious breakfast, snack or lunch for any Canadian child under 18 - by flexibly supporting existing local programs and building

on the capacity of community organizations and parent groups.

Targeting marketing manipulation: Combating manipulative marketing messages that corporations use to encourage poor nutritional habits among kids and parents.

Alongside the NDP, founding supporters of the Children's Health and Nutrition Initiative include Breakfast for Learning, Foodshare and the Center for Science in the Public Interest. You can find more on this initiative at: www.childrensfood.ca/chni.htm.

HRM moving toward "green energy" – Mosher

By Linda Mosher
Councillor District 17

Despite diligent efforts to reduce our reliance on power, HRM still spends \$10 million a year. After the sewage treatment plants are operational (taking into account modest increases in growth), this will grow to \$12 million a year by 2009. To reduce energy costs and benefit the environment, Council recently committed 40% of our energy purchases to wind power. We signed contracts with two companies, which will have HRM purchasing 20% from each company for a twenty year period, pending public hearings with the Utility and Review Board and Provincial approval.

Wind energy is often referred to as a renewable or sustainable energy source. Although wind energy has been around for a long time, it is becoming more widely used. Part of the reason is that turbines are becoming

cheaper and more powerful. Larger blades can utilize more wind and therefore produce more electricity, which brings down the cost. Also, as demand increases traditional sources such as oil, coal and gas are running out, and they are not good for the environment. Wind energy prevents the emissions of several greenhouse gases, including carbon and sulphur dioxides and is the safest of energy technologies.

There is a limit to how much wind power can be on the grid as it is only reliable about 80% of the time. Currently there is no way to store power generated from wind, so if there is no wind, the turbines don't generate power. Therefore we must rely on Nova Scotia Power Incorporated (NSPI) as a secondary back up power supply. NSPI must ensure that the power grid can satisfy the new demand created by wind contracts. Wind fluctuations have an impact on the system, therefore we need to know exact site, size, type, followed by a technical analysis of the grid so NSPI can assess how it could affect other projects. There is a wait list, or "queue" that is managed by NSPI to prioritize companies that want to provide wind power. Any project ahead of another project could have an impact on that application.

The two companies that HRM signed contracts with are Barrington Wind Energy and Ventus Energy. They are in first and second place in the queue, primarily because they have already had their feasibility studies, environmental assessments and financing completed. When questioning staff on why we cannot provide benefits of establishing wind farms within HRM's boundaries, it was stated that currently no HRM companies have made the queue. However, staff assured us that by signing with these companies, it does not preclude us from signing future energy contracts with farms located within our municipality. I specifically asked about off shore wind farms. Having been to Southampton England and vis-

iting their offshore wind farm, I felt that our windy off shore would be an ideal location for this technology. Wind power is a function of the cube of the wind speed, meaning that if the wind blows at twice the speed the energy output will increase eight fold. This, and other benefits such as minimizing issues like proximity to houses and noise, make our offshore a good choice.

Barrington will have a 50 turbine wind farm located in Canso. This contract has lower risk. The price of power doesn't matter with this contract, HRM will always get a discount. Financial benefits would not start until the 6th year, increasing until the end of the contract. The other firm, Ventus, will have a 55 turbine wind farm located in Lunenburg County and their contract involves higher risk and likely greater savings for HRM. There are no guarantees, but if you assume modest price increases by Nova Scotia Power, we will save money.

The two contracts provide balance, and by signing them, it enables us to achieve the benefits sooner, as these two companies are at the top of the queue. Also, we do not require the capital investment required, which is in excess of \$230 million to build each wind farm. It is like we are buying an insurance policy, or a hedge against future power increases. Historically electricity rates have increased consistently, since 2002 the average increase has been 4.3% per year. Therefore, it is pretty safe to say that HRM will save a low of \$4 million per year to a likely amount of \$8 million per year by signing these contracts.

Council's 1.5 hours of discussion resulted in a healthy debate and informed decision making. I am glad that we had a thorough discussion so members of the public and Council would also have a greater knowledge of this

see "Green Energy" pg. 10

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Harrietsfield Community Centre
Third Monday of each month 9:30 - 11 am

Cornerstone Family Centre
Fourth Monday of each month 9:30 - 11 am



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LOCAL OBITUARIES

Courtesy of J. Albert Walker Funeral Homes Ltd.

SCHNARE, Leslie Alexander - 92, Sambro, passed away peacefully at home. Born September 28, 1914, in East Pennant, he was a son of the late Alexander and Hannah (Young) Schnare. He was a fisherman most of his life. In later years, he worked for Havelle Bros. and Guildford Ltd. After his retirement he enjoyed traveling and gardening. He was a lifetime member of St. James United Church in Sambro and sang in the choir for many years. Leslie is survived by his wife of 71 years, Marjorie (Garrison); daughter, Shirley (Maurice) Gray; son, Allan (Shirley); grandchildren, Roxanna, Teena, Maurice Jr., Charlene, Jill, Andrew, and Allana; 10 great-grandchildren; one great great-grandchild; sisters, Vera Kidston, Nettie Gillingham and Velma Beazly; brother, Royce (Irene). He was predeceased by sisters, Loretta and Rhoda; brothers, Earl, Arthur, Weldon, and Oliver. Cremation has taken place under the care and direction of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Rd., Spryfield (477-5601). A celebration of Leslie's life was celebrated January 13 in St. James United Church, Sambro, Rev. Valerie Kingsbury officiated. Interment was held in St. James United Cemetery, Sambro.

KEDDY, Neil William - 65, Herring Cove. Neil left this life and went into the arms of his Lord from the QEII Health Sciences Centre. Born in East Dover, he was a son of Ruth (Manuel) and William Keddy. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie (Yeomans); sons, Michael, Calvin and Stanley; sister, Sandra Jennings (Leslie); niece, Sally; nephew, Kent; great-nieces, Natasha and Alexandria. He was predeceased by his brother, Jerome. Neil was a very kind and caring person and was loved by everyone that knew him. Cremation has taken place under the care and direction of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Rd., Spryfield (477-5601). Interment has taken place in St. James Cemetery, West Dover. The family wishes to extend a special thanks to the emergency department of the QEII Health Sciences Centre for their care.

CLARE, Bernard Richard O'Rourke "Brock" - 62, Halifax, passed away in the Palliative Care Unit, VG Site, QEII, from cancer. Brock was the beloved son of the late Ruth Catherine (McLeod) Clare of Halifax, and the late Bernard Joseph Clare of Windsor, Ont. Born in Halifax on December 31, 1943, Brock was an accomplished artist whose beautiful oil paintings, painted boxes and many beautiful rocks are enjoyed by many who are fortunate enough to own them. Brock was an avid "CB'er" during the 1970s and he was known as "The Mad Painter." He enjoyed chatting with folks from all over, including President Gerald Ford's wife, who was known on air as "The First Mama" Brock once received a letter from Betty Ford and he was so proud of the envelope that did not require a stamp! Brock wrote his biography during the 70s entitled "Cracks in the Pavement," which told of his life during the 50s and 60s, when life for a person with cerebral palsy was not so accommodating in many respects as it is today. Brock could regularly be seen "flying" through Spryfield in his motorized wheelchair, always in a hurry to get to the mall or grocery store when the weather was good. Brock will be sadly missed by his family. Surviving are sisters, Ruth Thomsen, Joanne (Rodney) Burns, Shelley Clare, and his only brother, Christopher Daniel, all of Halifax. He is also survived by his three nieces, Leanne (Blake) Haley, Pictou; Kimberly Thomsen, Halifax; and Angela

(Nathan) Barnard, Timberlea; and four nephews, Tyler Burns, Jeff Hampden, Michael Thomsen (Heather) and Christopher James Clare (Kelly), all of Halifax; six great-nieces, three great-nephews; and sister-in-law, Rose Clare, Timberlea; his aunt, Peggy (Bill) Johnson, Stewiacke, and his cousins in Halifax. Besides his parents, Brock was predeceased by his brother-in-law, Clement Andrew Thomsen, and his little nephew, Clement Michael Thomsen. Brock also leaves behind his special "Guardian Angels," Shirley Graham, Marie Parker and Mauretta Higgins, who always knew what made him happy and how to make him smile, Kevin Yeardon, his best friend, his Avon lady of 31 years, Doris Smith, and his "touring" buddy, Judy. A special thank you to Northwood Home Support, Community Services, God bless you, Louise, Palliative Care doctors and nurses, especially Glenna and Dr. Rob Horton, VON Home Support nurses, and O.T. Lexi. As requested by Brock, cremation has taken place under the care of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Rd., Spryfield (477-5601). A memorial service was held in Brock's honour in the funeral home chapel January 7, Rev. Ellen Wilson as officiant. Burial was with his mother and grandmother in St. John's Cemetery.

SULLIVAN, James Michael - 74, Halifax, loving husband of Audrey (Jollimore) Sullivan, passed away on in the New Halifax Infirmary, QEII, Halifax. Born in Halifax, he was a son of the late Timothy and Kathleen (Murphy) Sullivan. Affectionately known as Jim, he and Audrey had recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. He had been employed with Halterm as a stevedore and crane operator, retiring following

45 years of employment. Jim loved to hunt and fish, and his family was extremely important to him. He is survived by his loving wife, Audrey; treasured sons, John (Debbie), Richard (Bonnie) and Jamie, and cherished daughters, Margaret Stone (Allan), Patricia Chambers (Brian), Shelly Leslie (Joey) and Kathy Sullivan (Jamie); daughter-in-law, Judy; brothers, Robert, Harold and Arthur; sisters, Grace Toppie and Marie Devlin. He will fondly be remembered by his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Jim was predeceased by his parents, son, David; infant son, James Paul; sisters, Florence Kusmaul and Margaret Brown, and brothers, Thomas, Leo and William. By request, cremation has taken place under the care and direction of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Rd., Spryfield (477-5601). A private family graveside service was held in Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

CROSBY, Eric James - 77, Halifax, husband of Marion (Redmond) Crosby, passed away in

the New Halifax Infirmary, QEII, Halifax. Born in Halifax, he was a son of the late James and Elsie (Lenagham) Crosby. Eric was a dedicated fire fighter for over 34 years. He was an avid hunting and fishing enthusiast. For over 15 years, Eric was a volunteer at Fairview Nursing Home, now known as Parkstone Enhanced Care. Eric loved his family dearly and will be missed by his loving wife, Marion; sons, Darrell (Valerie), Dartmouth; John (Norine), Lethbridge, Alta.; David (Laura), Timberlea; his daughters, Janice Bradshaw (John), Elkford, B.C.; Nancy Slaunwhite (Travis), Goodwood, and Christine Chan (Jonathan), Bradenton, Fla.; brother, Harold (Jessie), Halifax; sister, Marie Crosby, Halifax; as well as nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was predeceased by his parents and brother, Percy. By request, cremation has taken place under the care of J. Albert Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Rd., Spryfield (477-5601). Interment has taken place in Sunrise Park Inter-Faith Cemetery.

Green Energy

continued from pg. 9

complex issue and understand why we were signing 20 year contracts for energy from wind farms located outside our municipality. I am happy to support this commitment to sustainable energy, ensuring that we do our part to protect the environment and at the same time are fiscally prudent.

Recently the Province of Nova Scotia had

an exciting announcement that by 2013 they would be purchasing 20 per cent of their electricity through renewable energy. Also that if electricity utilities such as NSPI failed to meet these targets, they could pay fines up to \$500,000 per day. The Province's move to encourage greater use of "Green Power" sources of electricity paves the way for HRM to finalize our contracts to purchase 40 per cent of our electricity needs as wind power.

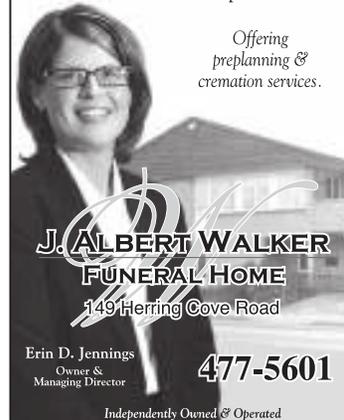
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NUTRITION for FEBRUARY

8 Week Healthy Weight Program

Are you looking for a great way to get in shape this year? Join the Dietitian for a FREE healthy weight program and learn how to eat right and feel good!

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Lowering Your Cholesterol

Discover how to lower your cholesterol levels by making heart smart food choices.

FREE. Thursday, February 1st, 1-3pm.

Healthy Cooking Classes

February is Heart Health Month (\$5.00 each, 6-8pm)

Monday, February 5th – **Warm Up Your Heart** Corn Chowder, Tuna and Bean Salad with Lemon-Cream Dressing, Dipped Strawberries

Monday, February 12th – **For the Valentine in Your Heart** Romaine Salad with Sour Cream Dressing, Honey Mustard Salmon, Flax Oatmeal Raisin Cookies

Monday, February 19th – **Straight to the Heart** Primavera Risotto, Lemon Herb Chicken Breast, Italian Baked Pears

Monday, February 26th – **Take it to Heart** Spinach Vegetable Soup, Oriental Mushroom and Tofu Delight, Melon with Lime and Mint

Chebucto News Community Events

To have your Community Event listed call or fax us at 477-NEWS or send e-mail to rhorner@ns.sympatico.ca

Seedy Saturday

Celebrate! Spring IS coming. The Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield is holding its 9th Seedy Saturday at the Captain William Spry Community Centre, Saturday March 10, from 2-4:30 pm. Swap and or buy seeds, visit seed and plant vendors. Visit the Kids Corner. There will be displays and speakers as well as a focus on Seeds of Diversity, and heirloom seeds. Bring some seeds to share and take home some new seeds but if you have no seeds come anyway. Admission by donation. Door prizes!! For more information or to book a table (donation, 10 % of sales) contact Jean White (902) 477-2933 or by email jphwhite@ns.sympatico.ca.

Annual Meeting

The Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield will hold its Annual Meeting on Monday, February 19, beginning 9:30 am at the Captain William Spry Centre, Conference Room 3. Everyone Welcome!

Health Fair

A health fair will be held at Ecole Chebucto Heights on Thursday February 8 for the students, staff and parents. A number of community agencies will be on site during the day to provide mini workshops in the area of healthy eating, exercise and stress reduction. The students will have an opportunity to attend the health fair during the

day. An evening session is being planned for the parents. There will be a presentation schedule for the AV room on Diabetes, along with other presentations occurring in the gym. The evening session open to parents and other interested community members will run from 6 to 8pm. A completed Health Fair Passport from the student and parent sessions will be entered into a draw for door prizes. The health fair is sponsored by the Healthy School Grant the school received for the 2006-2007 school year. Please support out health fair by joining us Thursday evening from 6 to 8 pm.

Draw Winner

Lucy Hadley was the winner of a recent Spryfield Lions Club raffle for \$100 worth of lobster. The draw was held to support Lions Club projects in the community.

Heritage Tea

The Annual Heritage Tea and Display, sponsored by Mainland South Heritage Society, will be held Saturday,

February 24 from 1:30 to 4 pm at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. "Remembering our Teachers" is the topic of the display. All welcome.

Breast Cancer Program

Encore, a program for breast cancer survivors, free of charge, is an 8 week program at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. The two hour each week program includes water and land exercise and guest speakers. Please call 479-1111 for information.

Tinnitus Meeting

Do you suffer from tinnitus (ringing in the ears) or know someone who does? If you do, plan on attending the next meeting of the Tinnitus Support Group of Atlantic Canada Wednesday, February 14, 7 pm at the Captain William Spry Community Center, 10 Kidston Road in Halifax. For more information please call 473-4366 or visit: <http://tinnitusatlantic.tripod.com> (website) or inquire at tinnitussupport@eastlink.ca (e-mail).

TAG Production

"Scotland Road," a mystery thriller by Jeffrey Hatcher and directed by Nick Jupp, the Theatre Arts Guild's next production, is a story about a beautiful young woman in 19th century clothing found floating on an iceberg in the mid Atlantic. When rescued she says only one word "Titanic." The play runs Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings February 15 to March 3 with a Sunday matinee February 25 at 2 pm. For reservations call 477-2663 or visit www.tagtheatre.com.

Auditions for Office Hours

A Comedy by Norm Foster and directed by Bill VanGorder are being held at Theatre Arts Guild's Pond Playhouse, 6 Parkhill Road, Sunday, Feb 18 from 1 - 4 p.m. and Monday Feb 19 from 7 - 9 p.m.

Funding Search

The McIntosh Run Watershed Association is a non-profit organization that needs a volunteer to do grant proposals for us. We are looking for funding to help with both the protection of the fish and plant life in and around the McIntosh Run, and the completion of a trail system that will connect to the Trans Canada Trail. If you have the time to commit to this worthwhile cause, please contact either Kaarin Tae at 477-1604 or Paula Lawlor at 477-7118.

Essay Contest

Caregivers Nova Scotia Association is holding an essay contest. High School Students are invited to submit a short essay, telling the story of a family caregiver they admire. Deadline for submission is Friday, March 9. The prize is a trip for four to Florida. For further information please call 421-7390 or 1-877-488-7390 or go to www.caregiversns.org.

French Immersion Meeting

Ecole Chebucto Heights will host a French Immersion registration for parents of primary students who will be entering the system in September. Registration for primary for both English and French Immersion students will be held from February 12 to February 16th.



Marjorie Willison, Spryfield's local and one of Nova Scotia's best known gardeners, held a book signing at the Captain William Spry Library recently to unveil her updated "Complete Gardener's Almanac" now titled East Coast Gardener.



Councillor Stephen Adams, Councillor Linda Mosher and MLA Michele Raymond joined Vice-Commodore Betty Ann Haliburton, Commodore Karen Smith, Yard Chairman Don Webster, House Chairman Don Longard and Director of Sail Training Greg Haverstock at this year's New Years Levy.

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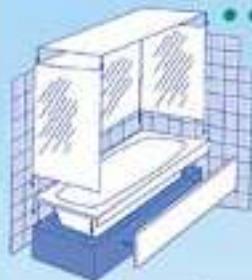
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