

Chebucto News

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J.L. Ilsley one of nine selected pilot sites

J. L. Ilsley, its family of schools and its family community will benefit from \$20,000 in programming annually for the next three

years in a pilot study targeted to increase physical activity among school children, their parents and other community members.



Springvale Elementary School held a tree lighting and carol sing to celebrate the joys of the Christmas Season. These four students were a highlight of the carol sing, leading the way for adults and fellow students alike.

Called "Active Kids Healthy Kids" the program came out of the provincial government's Physical Activity Strategy For Children and Youth created by a working group of government and non-government organizations. That report discovered that by grade 11, only 8.7% of boys and 5.1% of girls were benefiting from 60 minutes or more of moderate or vigorous physical activity each day. The report challenges nine pilot sites to create a three year vision, strategy, action plan and budget aimed at encouraging and generating more physical activity among children and adults in the community served by the J.L. Ilsley family of schools.

In late December, 15 community members were gathered together to brainstorm impediments to increased physical activity and opportunities to increase activity by children and residents alike. Committee Member Mary Russell of the Chebucto West Community Health Board, said once the information has been gained the committee is obligated to prepare a three year action plan to access the funding and undertake programs to encourage activity. The funding will be provided by the Nova Scotia Sport and Recreation Commission, the Nova Scotia Department of Public Health Services and the Department of Education, English Program Services.

Russell said the concept is to create a "vision" of the province "we would like to see in place by the year 2010. That vision, she says, includes a "Nova Scotia that has experienced a shift in its support for active, healthy lifestyles for children and youth." She said "the vision is for a Nova Scotia that is a province where a culture of physical activity for young people flourishes. A culture in which children, youth and their families have rediscovered and renewed the joy and fun that comes from being physically active every day."

In an effort to accomplish that vision, Russell said the committee has been holding brainstorming sessions to gather information about what impediments there are to physical activity and what ideas people might have to help develop a strategy to encourage physical activity.

She said some principles of the strategy include a child's right to structured and unstructured opportunities to participate in physical activity; quality leadership and fair and safe play. She said the goal is to create an "active school community" for families, schools and community organizations to work collaboratively to increase opportunities for children and youth to become more physically active.

She said an active school community is defined as one in which all citizens work together to create physical and social environments supporting active, healthy lifestyles.

The committee is challenged to prepare its report and vision in time for January 10. The plan is expected to include activities to achieve goals, lead organizations, time frames for implementation and a budget for each activity. Those attending the December meeting included Andrea Cochrane and Mary Russell from the Chebucto West Community Health Board; Terry Bobbitt, Royal Canadian Legion President; Bonnie Conrad, Michelle Murton and Helen Fraser from Public Health; Darrell Wentzell, Spryfield Lions Club; Jenny Powell from Healthy Kidz; Reg Horner, District 18 Business Association; Kristi Walker, Chebucto Boys and Girls Club; Wendy Miller, Spryfield Residents Association; Peter Greechen, St. Paul's Family Resource Centre; Marjorie Willison, Crabapple Mapping Project; Sheila Lane, Teen Health Centre; Barbara Soreski, Single Parent Centre and Chris Savis, Reach Out.

Scholarship Auction unprecedented success

By Laura Pelerine, Staff

When there were more people than chairs in J.L. Ilsley cafeteria at the Annual Scholarship Auction, the parents, teachers and community members knew that they wanted to make a difference. And what a difference they made. The auction raised \$13,600.

Sandy Clark, the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee says it was their best year ever. "We blew the others right out of the water," he said of the auction which always occurs on the last Saturday of November, and this year marked its tenth anniversary.

Clark, who has been involved with the auction since its beginning, has been Chairman for the last five years. He says that planning for the event starts the first of

September when the committee sends letters to past contributors to remind them of the upcoming event. Local and municipal businesses, parents, and even individual community members all donate items.

Out of the hundreds of items, some of the favourites included world junior hockey championship passes, a teddy bear quilt, antique Elvis lunchbox, Rawlins Cross CDs, crafts, restaurant certificates, a handcrafted wooden train, gift baskets, and a painting by Liz Wilcox. "The Liz Wilcox painting is a favourite," says Clark, "it's always our top selling item." This year the painting went for close to \$500.

Clark says the J.L. staff purchase evenings at hotels, offer their services or make crafts to sell at the auction. "The J.L. staff is always a good and major contributor," says Clark, adding, "they do it because they

care."

Past Ilsley staff even come out to help. Bill Fougere, the original chairman, is always present, and Glen McInnis, who taught at J.L. three years ago, annually returns, fully dressed in his kilt, to take up his role as auctioneer. "The teachers come back to help because of the Ilsley spirit," says Clark.

The money raised will be a major contribution to the expected \$55,000-\$60,000 in scholarships given out at the graduation ceremony in June. "No other school in Nova Scotia comes close to raising as much money for their students," Clark says.

A lot of the auction's success is due to the support it receives from the parents and community members Clark says. "The generosity of the people, both with their donations and the way they spend their money, just amazes me every year," he says.

"Tin Town" creates another successful food donation

By Laura Pellerine,
Staff

At lunch time on December 19th, half of J.L. Ilsley's cafeteria is operating as usual. People are hanging around, eating food and talking. The other half of the cafeteria however, is empty of tables and chairs. In their place instead stand landmark buildings from around the country. All were made using more than 2000 cans of food.

Each year J.L. Ilsley holds "Tin Town," an in-school competition where students are

divided into teams and are given the morning to create small replicas of familiar landmarks. The school's theme this year was Canada. The ultimate aim of the event is to collect as much food for the Spryfield food bank as possible for families at Christmas.

Laura Martin, a grade 12 student, is Head of Community Affairs on Ilsley's students council. She says that planning for the event started at the beginning of November. The students' council sent letters to businesses around Spryfield asking them for support. Many stores donated food, money and even

prizes. This year some of the prizes for award winning creations were free meal coupons donated by McDonalds, crafts and little trinkets such as candy bracelets.

Martin says students enjoy tackling the project. "A lot of the students had fun building," Martin says, adding "and best of all they got to help out their community."

When contestants are finished building their creations are judged. This year some of the winners were: Best Overall to a Confederation Bridge replica; Most Realistic to a Skydome miniature where students actually created the inside with bleachers and

people playing baseball; Wackiest Design to a creation of Randy's Pizza, Best Effort to a Bluenose recreation; Most Creative to a replica of a Parliament building, and Most International to some innovative students who chose to build Germany as their project. Martin says she likes seeing how proud students are of their creations.

As the day wears on, students start putting the cans of food, Kraft Dinner and other food products into boxes. This year the donations are going to St. Paul's United Church. "I'm excited to bring it all to the food bank," Martin says.



The Fortress Louisburg was only one of many creations of "Tin Town," an annual food bank drive by students at J. L. Ilsley High School. Judge and School Board Member Carolyn MacFarlane reviewed the Fortress made by Jacquelyn Holley; Bryan Reinhardt, Andrew Arsenault, Stephen Darrigan, Terri Ordinelli, Laura Martin, Community Affairs Head; Leo Fares, Student Council Co-President; and Joan Marshall.

Streetscape study expense in budget

City Council will deliberate this spring to determine if the city can spend \$50,000 on a streetscape planning study for Herring Cove Road.

Councillors Linda Mosher and Stephen Adams were forceful in their presentation to city council in December and succeeded in having the expense included in this spring's budget debate.

The councillors' push came following the

public meeting held by People Around Communities Everyday in early November to discuss possible improvements to the community's main street.

Both Adams and Mosher were annoyed that a previous staff report request almost two years ago had not surfaced. Council must approve the expense in budget deliberations this spring if the study is to go forward.

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Hardy set for 8th Annual "Polar Dip"

Herring Cove - There are about 50 or so brave and hardy souls who will show up, some costumed, some "primed," to jump into the expected near freezing waters of Herring Cove for the 8th Annual Polar Dip.

Chair Gary Sullivan said the brave will gather at 6 Brackett Court at 11:30 a.m. January 1st to start ringing in the new year with what he calls a "pre-jump pump." At about ten minutes to one, led by a bagpiper, the brave will head for the government wharf in Herring Cove. At 1 p.m., jumpers are expected to be splashing feet first into the cold Atlantic Ocean.

As always, said Sullivan, safety will be a top priority. The local fire department will co-ordinate the event, he said, managing crowds and providing a rescue van and divers in the water as people jump in.

Sullivan said the event usually draws between 50 and 60 jumpers and a crowd in excess of 200 people. Following the jump there will

be a New Year's Levee at the Herring Cove Volunteer Fire Department on the Ketch Harbour Road. Everyone is asked to bring a gift for the local food bank.



The Spryfield Lions Club held a road toll to raise money for the Canadian Diabetes Society. The Club raised more than \$1,200 for the Society in their last effort. Lion Victor Eisen presented the cheque to Tina Crew of the Society at the Canadian Diabetes offices on Young Street.

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DISCOVERING OUR PAST

Winter weather and rocky coastline create havoc for ships

by Iris V. Shea, Historian
Mainland South Heritage Society

Entering and leaving Halifax Harbour required great navigational skills during the days of sail when the combination of rough winter weather and our rocky coastline played havoc with ships of all sizes. Residents along the shore were often forced to stand by helplessly while small schooners were dashed against the rocks during gale-force winds and heavy seas.

At 6 o'clock on the morning of November 6, 1894, William Johnson of Bear Cove saw a vessel off Herring Cove attempting to fight the heavy seas in torrential rain. As the schooner, Annie M. Pride, came within about eighty feet of the shore, Mr. Johnson reported "she was fairly lifted from the water and dashed against the rocks with such force that she was broken in two and immediately went over and sunk." There was no sign of any crew. Johnson walked to Camperdown to send news of the accident to the Marine and Fisheries Department in Halifax. A number of empty casks and a few fish were washed ashore, part of the Annie M. Pride's cargo that she was carrying from Mabou, Cape Breton and delivering to Boak and Bennet in Halifax.

There were five people aboard the Annie M. Pride, all of whom drowned. The Herring Cove life-boat searched the area for twenty-four hours when John Dempsey, from the life-saving station, sent word to the Marine and Fisheries Department that four bodies had been recovered that morning on the shore near "Crawley's Point," two by the life-saving crew and two by Mr. William Brackett. The captain of the Annie M. Pride, forty-one year old James Gaspard Pride, was among them. The body of his eleven-year-old son, Thomas Bernard Pride, was never found. Captain Pride's thirty-seven year old wife, Annie Melvina, after whom the schooner was named, had died in February that same year. The Prides lived on Cornwallis Street in Halifax but had come from Sonora, Guysborough County.

Another accident, this one off Chebucto Head at just before noon on January 12, 1913, ended happily for the 900 passengers and crew aboard the S.S. Uranium. The 420-foot steamer was bound from Rotterdam to New York with a stopover in Halifax when, in thick fog, it missed the buoy between Egg Island and Chebucto Head and ran straight on towards Chebucto Head light. The passengers, accustomed to the pounding of heavy seas since leaving Rotterdam on December 28th, thought they had landed in Halifax and began collecting their suitcases to disembark. They soon discovered they were stuck on the rocks just north of Chebucto Head. As a precautionary measure, the passengers and many of the crew were lowered over the side to the tugs Bridgewater, Scotsman and Togo and transferred to the Lady Laurier which carried them to Halifax.

On January 14th, the Halifax Herald announced that their reporters had reached Chebucto Head "in the first automobile ever seen there... it was a terrific ride over awful roads. Sightseers in automobiles went down by car and there was quite a family party at the lighthouse last night. Lightkeeper Captain

Holland and his family have thrown open their home to all who care to make use of it for shelter and are tireless in their efforts toward supplying bodily comforts on behalf of those whose duties demand that they shall be at the scene."

The first man on the scene was lighthouse keeper Captain Richard Holland. The Duncan Cove lifeboat crew arrived at the scene within the hour and later assisted with the transfer of passengers. The Herring Cove lifeboat arrived

"after a hard five-mile row against a stiff head wind." With a registered weight of 5683 tons and a general cargo of 1400 tons, the Uranium was stuck fast. Her crossbeams were apparently hooked over the boulders. Several tugboats made the effort over a period of four days. Finally, at 2:15 AM on January 17th, the steamer was freed from the rocks by the Rappahanock, using a stout steel cable which snapped as the steamer jumped off the ledge into deep water. By daylight the Uranium was

safely berthed at Furness Withy wharf in Halifax. In the meantime, the passengers were taken to New York via the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad.

Newspapers of the day were full of such stories, many of which, like the Annie M. Pride, ended tragically. Local residents were often involved in heroic rescue measures, risking their own lives to save others.



SS Uranium on Rocks at Chebucto Head, Jan. 12, 1913



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Winners Name



Rockingstone Heights School held its annual Christmas Dinner in late December. Main contributors to the effort included Michele Murphy, secretary of the Parent Teachers Association; Justin Murphy, "stair climber;" Crystal Vinneau, PTA President; Alicia MacLean, Chef's Assistant; Mekila Collier, Treasurer; Brittany Beaver, Chef's Assistant and Nekita Evans, Chef's Assistant.

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Liberal Leader Graham speaks to Atlantic Liberals

Spryfield - Nearly 40 members of the Halifax Atlantic Liberal Association gathered at the Golden Age Centre to hear provincial party leader Danny Graham make a presentation.

In his first unofficial duty as potential candidate McKinnon introduced Party Leader Graham, himself fresh from a successful nomination bid the night before in Halifax Citadel, the riding now held by former Education Minister Jane Purves.

"Nova Scotia has the highest per capita debt in the country and the lowest state of

health and wellbeing," Graham told the audience. "It is time to step up, not to give up," he told the audience suggesting that "if I had one message for the people in this room it would be that Halifax Atlantic can - and should - and will be a Liberal riding after the next provincial election."

Graham came out in support of Sunday shopping. He said "the protections we would put in place for the province will see Nova Scotians embrace our concepts." The party leader said the Sunday shopping issue "is a symbol of whether or not Nova Scotia is going

to move forward in tune with the rest of the world or if we will decide to retreat."

He said politics is "the ultimate team sport and I know that more than anyone else because I have been supported by Liberals everywhere in my travels. We will unite together to make sure this riding is a Liberal riding. This is a wide open seat for us to win."

Ian McKinnon, who grew up in the Fleming Park area and attended J.W. MacLeod Elementary, Cunard Junior High and J. L. Ilsley High School, announced his interest in carrying the Liberal banner in the next election.

McKinnon, an honours graduate from St. Francis Xavier University who went on to achieve a masters from Memorial University in Newfoundland, is a founder of the popular


Celtic rock group Rawlins Cross who release six albums, won seven East Coast Music Awards and two Juno Award nominations.

Later McKinnon took the role of being the band's business manager which led to the formation of "Ground Swell Records, an innovative music management company promoting Rawlins Cross and other Atlantic Canadian artists. His latest triumph is "MacKinnon's Brook Suite" which premiered with Symphony Nova Scotia before traveling across the country. His most recent accomplishment was co-chairing for the "Great Big Gig" IWK Health Centre fundraiser.

A devoted husband and father Ian is married to physician Catherine Craig. They have two children, Aiden, 6, and Mairi, 5.



The Halifax Atlantic Liberals held an annual general meeting in December. Among those attending included Ian McKinnon, who hopes to be the candidate in the next election; Leader Danny Graham; President Darren Watts; Mr. McKinnon's Father Alex McKinnon, and Roma Aiken.




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Come Ride the Fitness Wave

There's much to do in this community - Let's Get Active!

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

With the holiday season over and the long, cold days upon us it takes more determination to get out and get active. In the community we are fortunate to have a lot of different activities for individuals, children and youth, and families. The following are just a sampling of some

places to contact about social and recreational programs.

The Spryfield Multi-Service Roundtable is again sponsoring the Community Health Fair at the South Centre Mall. This year the Fair will be on Wednesday, January 29 from 10:30 am - 2 pm. This is an opportunity to see displays from more than 20 local and regional organizations offering youth programs, counselling services,

health information, employment services, and other health related information.

HRM's Recreation Department has issued the new Winter/Spring 2003 catalogue program which is available on-line at <http://www.region.halifax.ns.ca> or at the Pool Desk in the Captain Spry Community Centre. At the end of January there are Youth Drop-in Nights at Cunard Junior High School, Rockingstone Heights School and Herring Cove Junior High.

The Captain Spry Library also produces a Library Guide that lists all their programs. Among the programs are puppet shows for the kids and a book discussion group for adults. They are also on-line at www.halifax.library.ns.ca

The Wave Pool in the Captain Spry Community Centre offers a variety of swimming programs including Family Swims, Water Exercise, Swimming Lessons and Open Swims. Flyers with program and times are available at the Wave Pool Desk.

The Spryfield Lions Rink on Drysdale Road has special skates for Parent & Tots on Wednesday mornings, for Seniors on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, and a Public Skate on Friday afternoons.

The Chebucto Boys & Girls Club located at

the Lions Rink has Parents' Night on Mondays as well as programs such as Sports Night and TGIF (Thank Goodness I'm Female). Call 477-9840 for more information.

Healthy Kidz in Greystone offers a variety of programs for children, youth and parents. For a listing of programs call 446-3020.

C@P sites: learn how to use computers at St. Paul's Family Resources Institute (479-1015), the Single Parent Centre (479-3031), Greystone Tenants' Association (446-3130), Spryfield Seniors Centre (477-0208), or the Captain Spry Library (490-5818).

Single Parent Centre on Sylvia Avenue offers many programs including a Fitness Program, Family Wellness series, and a Parenting program. Call 479-3031 for information or drop in to pick up their monthly calendar. Also, check out Hand In Hand (477-7744) for programs as well as the many volunteer groups in our community.

Especially for Seniors. YMCA Elderobics at Emmanuel Church is held Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10-11 am. For more information call Jean Shaw at 423-9622.

Young at Heart Seniors Club at 212 Herring Cove Road. Activities include card games, bingo, darts and singing. Call the Club at 477-0837 for more information.

Spryfield Seniors Centre is now located on the lower level of the South Centre Mall (next to Bowllarama). They have community computers and organize card games and have music. Call 477-5658 for more information.

More programs and services are listed in the Captain Spry Community Directory. The Directory is available online at www.sprycenre.ns.ca then click on Resources.



The Sambro Ketch Harbour Parent Teacher Association organized its Annual Christmas Craft Fair and Breakfast in mid December. Lynn Grey purchased tickets on a gift basket organized by students Abby Hart, Ellen Henneberry, Caitlyn Sabine, April Chesnutt, Cara Reyno and Kaleigh Gibson.

The Future of Healthcare... in Halifax West

Romanow and Kirby have had their say: Now it's your turn

I will be hosting four Let's Talk meetings around Halifax West this month to hear what you think should be done to protect healthcare.

I will pass the results on to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Finance before the next budget.



Let's Talk... about the future of Healthcare in Spryfield and area

Let's Talk #50: Spryfield
Captain William Spry Community Centre
10 Kidston Road
Thursday, January 23, 2003, 7-9 p.m.

If you cannot attend this meeting, I will be hosting three others across Halifax West:

Let's Talk #47: Bedford
Fire House Youth Centre
1247 Bedford Highway
Monday, January 20, 2003, 7-9 p.m.

Let's Talk #48: Clayton Park
Keshen Goodman Library
330 Lacewood Drive
Tuesday, January 31, 2003, 7-9 p.m.

Let's Talk #49: Tantallon
Tantallon Library Hubley Centre
4 Westwood Boulevard
Wednesday, January 22, 2003, 7-9 p.m.

For more information on these meetings please feel free to contact my office at:

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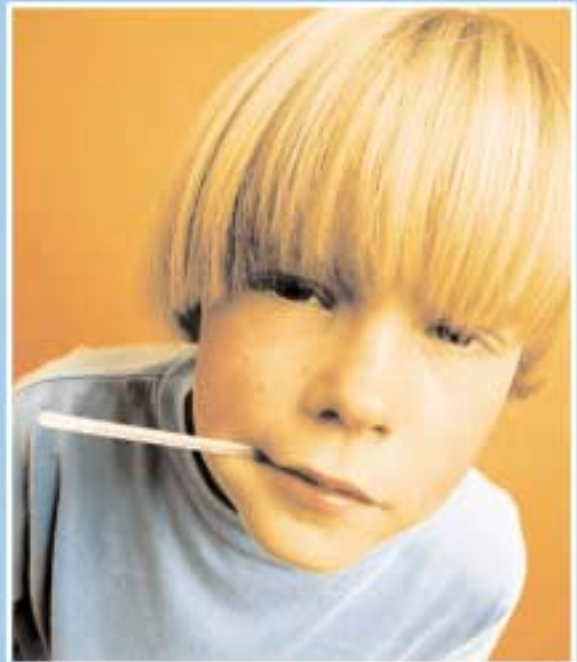
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MP seeks input for expected health system debates

By Geoff Regan, Halifax West MP

Happy New Year! I hope you enjoyed the holiday season as much as I did. It is once again time to get back to work, and 2003 will prove to be a challenging year in Canada.

One of the issues that will certainly dominate the agenda is healthcare. Last fall, a Senate committee chaired by Senator Michael Kirby and former Premier Roy Romanow both tabled their visions of what the future of health care in Canada should be. In his statement after releasing his report "Building on Values," Commissioner Romanow said the following: - "My recommendations are premised on three overarching themes. First, that we require strong leadership and improved governance to keep Medicare a national asset. Second, that we need

to make the system more responsive and efficient as well as more accountable to Canadians. And third, that we need to make strategic investments over the short-term to address priority concerns, as well as over the long-term to place the system on a more sustainable footing."

Building on those themes, Romanow says that governments should stop fighting about which level is responsible for what and just get on with fixing the system. To that end, Romanow has recommended several, specific priorities to ensure the sustainability of our public health care system. Targeted funds (for things like rural care, diagnostics, primary care, home care and a catastrophic drug fund), a minimum level of funding from Ottawa, and bodies to ensure a greater level of ongoing input from Canadians, are some of the suggestions.

The Kirby Report has provided us with a different vision of delivery models, but the result is essentially the same: an increase in the amount of money in our health care system. However, the Senate report was preemptively critical of Mr. Romanow's approach: The Kirby Report suggested "anyone proposing to reform and renew the health care system has an obligation to say how their plan of reform will be paid for. The only way Canadians can develop an informed opinion on the merits of a proposed plan of reform is if they can clearly understand the benefits that will result from the plan, and what it will cost them to have the plan implemented."

The difference between Kirby and Romanow is the source of that funding.

Romanow maintains that the entire system must remain publicly funded in order to ensure its sustainability and equality of access. Kirby argues just as vigorously that the system must have some private services if we are to maintain the public system in the future.

What do you think the answers are? I want to be able to represent your views as this debate unfolds in Ottawa. That's why I'm holding a series of "Let's Talk" meetings the week of January 20th dedicated to health care in Bedford, Clayton Park, Tantallon and Spryfield respectively. For details of where and when the meeting nearest you will take place you can call my office (426-2217), visit my website (www.geoffregan.com) or watch the local papers for details.

New Halifax West School worth celebrating

By Graham Steele, Halifax Fairview MLA

The new Halifax West High School is open. After the old high school was shut down in August 2000 because of environmental concerns, the students and staff moved to J.L. Ilesley High School and then to the Bell Annex in Cole Harbour. Trying to keep school spirit strong in the midst of such change has been a challenge, but everyone has pulled through. I toured the new school in September and it is beautiful.

I'd like to thank the J.L. Ilesley community - students, staff and parents - for sharing their school with Halifax West for the first 18 months of their odyssey. I'm the only MLA whose constituency spans both the J.L. Ilesley and Halifax West catchment areas, so I'm well aware of how much it meant to both schools.

You may be thinking, if you live in the Chebucto News circulation area, that the new school doesn't concern you. But it does. First, if you live in the Fairmount subdivision, the existing choice among high schools is likely to disappear. Fairmount has always been in a "grey zone." Students coming out of Fairmount have been able to choose between Halifax West, St. Pat's and QEH.

Second, everyone in the J.L. Ilesley community should be aware that a review of the Halifax West boundaries will necessarily affect Ilesley's boundaries too. The two schools currently share a boundary running along the St' Margaret's Bay Road.

In mid-December the Halifax Regional School Board announced that public hearings on the new high school's boundaries will be held in January and February. If you have any concerns about the boundary between J.L. Ilesley and Halifax West, or about which school Fairmount students should go to, this is your opportunity to have your voice heard.

More broadly, the Halifax West story is of interest to anyone concerned about the health of our schools. For years prior to Halifax West's closure, staff and students had been complaining about ill health. It took a determined, persistent and well-organized group of parents to get the provincial government to accept that the school was too sick to be saved. That same group of parents then worked doggedly to make the new school a reality.

There are too many other sick schools. The Department of Education's own analysis shows that it will take \$500 million to bring our schools back to an acceptable maintenance standard. It's another example of how old-style provincial politicians liked to build, build, build, while forgetting that whatever is built (roads, bridges, schools) has to be maintained. Now our roads are potholed, our bridges are falling down, and our schools are making students and teachers sick.

The new Halifax West High School is, more than anything, an example of how a community working together can get their government to do the right thing. And that's worth celebrating.



Graham Steele, MLA Halifax Fairview

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Clip and Save for Future Reference

What to expect for the year 2003 - Mosher

By Linda Mosher, Councillor District 17

It has been a very busy year in District 17. Some projects that I initiated this year are starting to take shape. This month I would like to update you on the progress on just a few.

Last month I described the request that Councillor Stephen Adams and I made to Regional Council for monies to conduct a Streetscape Design Study of the Herring Cove Road. In response to my request, HRM's Planning & Development Services prepared an information report to Council. This report recommended \$50,000 be allocated in next year's Capital Budget for this project.

The initial phase of the Herring Cove Road project will focus on urban design research and analysis. This requires HRM to retain the services of a consultant with this type of expertise. Pending Council's final approval, this phase will commence after April 1, 2003, with a completion of Phase One in the fall of 2003.

As previously indicated, the Herring Cove Road Streetscape Design Study will provide the District 18 Business and Development Association (D18BDA) with valuable information to allow them to develop their strategic plan and effectively allocate resources when they become a Business Commission.

The Phase One study lays the groundwork for the Second Phase of the project. The Second phase will involve a substantial amount of HRM staff time to develop amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law. As well, there will be consultation with various stake holders such as the D18BDA, Community Groups, and the public

at large.

My request to revise the Blasting By-Law is nearing completion. We anticipate the final draft of the new By-Law to be ready and public hearings to be held in early March. I will post a notice of this hearing in The Chebuco News.

The request I brought forward to designate Sir Sandford Fleming Park a National Historic Site is proceeding. On behalf of HRM, Dr. Brian Cuthbertson is currently researching this issue and will prepare a report. The goal is to have a report submitted to the National Historic Sites & Monuments Board of Canada for review in the Spring of 2003.

Everyone probably remembers the traffic "fiasco" when South End roads were blocked off from Quinpool Road. Recently, there have been more residents in this, and other areas, wanting street closures. As HRM roads are owned by all taxpayers, I do not feel that a petition signed by a few residents is justification to have their streets blocked off to the general public. I brought this contentious issue to Council last month, and had the following motion passed: "That staff be made aware that it is the view of Regional Council that no street closures or intersection turning movement prohibitions be implemented outside of the Neighbourhood Short-cutting Policy except in the following circumstances: 1. Where a specific intersection safety hazard has been demonstrated, 2. Where street operation will be improved, 3. Where impacts from new roadway projects or developments are being mitigated." The motion, seconded by Councillor Adams, passed 18-6.

As well, I would like to inform the resi-

dents, the following are Council Committees on which I currently serve: Harbour Solutions Advisory Committee, Chair of Appeals Committee, CAO Review Committee, Vice-Chair of Sable Gas Committee, Solid

Waste/Resource Advisory Committee, Deadman's Island Committee, Chair of Chebuco Community Council.

I wish everyone a very Happy New Year, all the best in 2003!

"Looking out for each other" is the spirit to be celebrated

By Robert Chisholm, Halifax Atlantic MLA

This is the time of year when our attention is on family. It is a time we take away from regular activities to be together, often rejoining with an extended family that we see together only at this time of the year. In the Atlantic region the term "home for the holidays" is especially poignant. Displaced Nova Scotians from the rest of the country, and from around the world, do all they can to keep the promise to somehow be home for Christmas.

Not all of us can do it. This can also be a sad time of year, for families who can't be together for a variety of reasons, and for those who don't feel much a part of anyone's family, or celebration, at all.

So it is an important time of year to remember how broadly defined families really are. Family members are all those we remember not to forget this holiday. Family members

are also those that reach out to us this season. It is always important to remember that the ability to accept assistance is a gift in itself.

One of the founders of the NDP, J.S. Woodsworth said it best, "what we desire for ourselves, we wish for all." The simple process of looking out for each other is the spirit to be celebrated.

So on behalf of all those in Halifax Atlantic who have received so much this year from the community, I want to say thank you. Thank you to people like Queen's Jubilee Medal recipients Henry Martell and Michelle Raymond, and thank you to all the many volunteers and neighbours that make Halifax Atlantic such a strong community, and such a strong family.

Once again it has been my privilege to represent you. All the best for the holidays and a wonderful new year.

New tax structure a break for residents

By Stephen Adams, Councillor District 18

The past four months have been very busy, especially for our staff in finance and our tax structure committee. They have held numerous public meetings in October and November and have spent endless hours compiling information and developing a new tax rate for residents of HRM.

Some of the highlights include a blending of fire rates into the general rate, which significantly reduces taxes in rural areas. As well, debt attributed to fire departments may be absorbed by the general rate after surpluses are applied to existing departmental debt. This will have a net positive effect on the departments, and the residents of those areas.

One aspect of the old system that has been

eliminated is a five cent "subsidy" that was provided to the rural areas from the urban areas. In essence, this was in the form of a transfer payment to help in providing some relief.

The savings for residents can be broken down by the following - based on a \$100,000 assessment, some residents in Herring Cove may be paying an additional \$98 because of transit. Thanks to a favourable oversight, residents of Herring Cove have been paying far less for transit than the actual costs for the past seven years. Residents of Portuguese Cove, Duncan's Cove and Ketch Harbour, will be paying \$46 less. Sambro residents, and those living in the Pennants, will save \$116 and Williamswood Harrietsfield residents save

see "New tax" pg. 12



Robert Chisholm, MLA
Halifax Atlantic

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New tax structure a break for residents

continued from pg. 11

approximately \$121. To summarize this information, District 18, on average, will enjoy the

greatest in savings. In November the Executive of the Herring Cove Ratepayers Association held its annual

meeting with many issues being discussed. As a result of this meeting, I have put through a number of requests to our staff. One prominent issue dealt with the infilling of the property near Roach's Pond and the possible affect on the McIntosh Run. Our By-Law staff and the Department of Environment were notified immediately of these concerns. Speeding concerns were raised and addressed by the RCMP. Bus traffic was also raised and brought to the attention of Metro Transit.

In the next month I will be forming a new committee in Herring Cove to deal specifically with Harbour Clean-up and municipal sewer

and water. I have taken this initiative because of the importance of these issues and the need for complete focus. Should you wish to serve on this committee, please contact me.

In the next six weeks I will be publishing a newsletter outlining in detail the new tax structure and other issues affecting our communities.

Unfortunately I must end this column on a sad note, recognizing the passing of Gerry Anthony, the founding owner of Halifax Countrywide Furniture. He will be sadly missed. Our condolences to his family.

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Letter To The Editor

Thank-you for emergency help

Dear Editor:

The members of the Halifax Regional Search and Rescue team would like to thank the folks, who showed they are their spirit in our Chebucto Community for their giving during the December 1 tragedy on Ragged Lake in West Pennant.

Help and resources came unsolicited in support of our efforts and those of the police, fire and emergency services. It came from all sectors of greater Chebucto and in many forms. They provided food,

drink, transportation, local knowledge and much more.

It was a strong showing of community love and concern for those involved and a reminder to us all that we don't face adversity alone.

We didn't want to miss anyone in sending out our heart felt thanks.

Tony Rodgers, Search Manager
Chris Hubley, Logistics Chief
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Antifreeze Poisoning - a Warning for Pet Owners

One of the most common fatal poisonings known to affect companion animals is ethylene glycol toxicity. Winter weather and resultant ice and snow make this potential hazard even more likely. Ethylene glycol is the main ingredient in automobile antifreeze but it is also found in color film processing chemicals and as a solvent in detergents, polishes,



lacquers and paints. It is an odorless, colorless, sweet-tasting water-soluble liquid. If antifreeze happens to leak or spill onto the driveway, garage or workshop floor, or is left uncovered in a container, dogs and cats may be attracted to it because of its sweet taste. The resulting poisoning is severe and usually fatal. For a small pet, even a few licks can lead to death. Why is antifreeze so lethal? Ethylene

glycol is a nephrotoxin, which means it is a chemical which damages kidney cells. It also damages the lungs as well as tissues in the brain. Prompt treatment is essential within minutes of ingestion as ethylene glycol acts quickly to cause permanent and often irreversible kidney damage.

If you see your dog or cat drinking it, or if you suspect that they may have gotten into it, don't wait for signs of poisoning to appear. Rush the pet to the nearest veterinarian. The symptoms of antifreeze poisoning are initially excessive salivation, vomiting, and depression - but symptoms may not appear until 30 minutes after the poison has been ingested. By that time, much damage has already occurred. Some pets may also experience weakness, instability when walking, tremors and convulsions. As time progresses the animal may have difficulty breathing and may slip into a coma.

Once an animal is diagnosed as having ethylene glycol intoxication, prompt hospitalization and intensive treatment are required. Despite aggressive treatment many animals do not survive. The two factors that largely determine the survival rate of an affected animal are the volume of poison ingested and the speed with which the pet is diagnosed and treated. So pass along the word to your neighbours and friends to be aware of this deadly household chemical. People should realize the importance of proper handling and storage of products containing this chemical and the necessity of quickly and thoroughly mopping up any spills, however small.



The Urban Farm Museum held its annual Christmas Dinner at the home of Michelle Raymond. Nearly the full compliment of members turned out, making the home full and cheerful.

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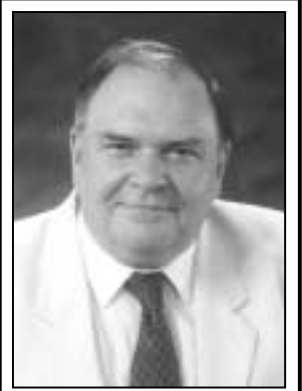


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LOCAL OBITUARIES

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BREMNER, Donald C.R. - 75, Spryfield, died November 23 in the New Halifax Infirmary. Born in Halifax, he was a son of the late Theodore and Lillian (Dixon) Bremner. He worked with CNC Telecommunications for 46 years. He was a lifetime member of the Boy Scouts

of Canada and was also a member of the Salvation Army. He is survived by his wife Alica (Castilloux); daughters Wanda and Dawn, Spryfield; sons Ted and Robert, Spryfield; Gary (Karen), Riverview, NB; brothers Dave Williams (May), Lyonal, Halifax; sisters Jean Parsons, Lillian Coughran (Walter), Shirley (Garth) Langley, Halifax; grandchildren Brian, Jeff, Nicki, Ashley, Jamie and Dominic; great-grandchild Carlie.

ANTHONY, Gerald Trueman "Gerry" - 57, Herring Cove, died December 20 in the QEII Health Sciences Centre. Born in Liverpool, he was a son of the late Gerald Trueman and Dorothy (Cross) Anthony. He was a well-known Spryfield businessman having run Global Eavestrouthing for 12 years and was owner operator of Halifax Countrywide Furniture. He was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was a devoted husband and father. He is survived by his wife of 33 years Anne (LeCouffe); sons Christopher "Chris", Halifax, and Sean, at home; He is survived by brothers Douglas, Sackville; Phillip (Shonna), Stephen (Marilyn), Liverpool; sisters Barbara Wolfe, Chester; Beverly (Paul) Hanley, Timberlea; Jo-Ann (Brian) Doggett, Bridgewater; nieces and nephews.

BLACK, Loretta - 72, Herring Cove Road, Halifax, died November 7, 2002, at home. Born in Africville, she was a daughter of the late Wilfred Carvery (Africville) and Lodie Ella (Downey) Thomas, North Preston. She is survived by daughters, Jacqueline Black, Cythnia (Glen) Barrie, Sylvia Black, Shirlene Black, all of Ontario; Elizabeth Black, Spryfield; sons, Roger (Joanne) Thomas, Saint Margaret's Bay Road; Conrod Black, Prince Edward Island; Anthony Black, Spryfield; brother, Wilfred "Jack" (Yvonne) Carvery; sisters, Louise Izzard, Cora Howe, Jean Vemb all of Halifax; Janet McField, Spryfield; Isabel Wareham, Spryfield; 46 grandchildren; 56 great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews and cousins. She was predeceased by husband, Anthony U. Black; sister, Myrtle Carvery and Irene Thomas; brothers, Charles Dixon, Curtis Thomas, Everett Thomas, Mona Thomas, Minuet Thomas

FOUGERE, Marilyn Frances - 48, Moody Park Drive, Williamswood, passed away suddenly November 10, 2002. Born in Nova Scotia, she was a daughter of Gerald and Helen (Lynaugh) Fougere, Guysborough County. She is survived by common-law partner, Lori Morrison; loving son, Patrick McGrath; brothers, Brian, Halifax; Gerald, Edmonton, Alta.; Norman, Cape Breton; sisters, Shirley (Mrs. James MacFarlane), Antigonish; Joan MacIsaac, Edmonton, Alta. She was predeceased by sisters, Helen and Beverley.

FRASER, Archibald Austin "Archie" - 69, Halifax, passed away November 1, 2002, in the VG Site, QEII. Born in Blue Mountain, he was a son of the late Leslie and Elizabeth (Hull) Fraser. He is survived by his wife, Margaret "Peggy" Fraser, Halifax; daughters, Sandra (Ian) Cousins, Ottawa; Sherry (Steve Algee) Fraser, Sambro Head; grandchildren, Ben and Allison Cousins, Ottawa.

HARNISH, Gladys Muriel - 84, Herring Cove Road, Halifax, passed away November 21, 2002, in the New Halifax Infirmary, QEII. Born in Halifax, she was the daughter of the late Stanley and Hazel (Dauphinee) Pope. Surviving are sons, Reginald (Rose), Ronald (Barb), both of Herring Cove; daughters, Dorothy (Reginald) Gibson, Ketch Harbour; June (Werner) Niederstrasser, Boutillier's Point; Joyce (Tony) Majcan, Spryfield; Diane (Tom) MacKinnon, Herring Cove; brother, Clarence, Halifax; sister, Madeline (John) Barnes Musquodoboit Harbour; 9 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Irvin Harnish; brother, Kenneth; sister, Anita, grandchild, Michele.

CHILDS, Winston Churchill - 61, Lemon Walk, Halifax, passed away November 19, 2002 in the VG Site, QEII. He was born in Newfoundland. He is survived by his wife, the former Victoria (Stacey) Childs; daughters, Tina and Bridget, both at home; stepdaughter, Betty Ann (RCMP Officer); stepsisters, Clarice (Mrs. Harold March), Port au Port, Nfld.; Phoebe, Newfoundland. He was predeceased by two brothers

HENNEBERRY, Dorothy Marion - 72, Sambro, passed away peacefully on November 20, 2002, surrounded by her loving family. Born in Oyster Pond, she was the daughter of the late John and Mary (Arnold) Jennex. She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Alan Henneberry, Sambro; sons, Gary, Spryfield; Bruce (Heather), East Pennant; Paul (Michelle), Williamswood; grandchildren, Trina, Adam, Todd, Mathew, Brent; brothers, Gerald (Sharon) Jennex, John (Marlene) Jennex, all of Oyster Pond; sisters, Frances (Allan) Monk, West Jeddore; Helen Gray,


Sambro; Joan (William) Tough, West Pennant; Donna (Sherman) Marryatt, Williamswood; Sandra Tough, West Pennant; brother-in-law, Norman Henneberry; many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by sisters, Una Pearl in infancy, Avis Henneberry and Amy Garrison; brothers-in-law, Alfred Gray, Patrick Tough and Murray Garrison.

JOHNSON, John "Jack" - 63, Halifax, passed away November 24, 2002, in the VG Site, QEII. Born in Halifax, he was a son of Louise (Austin) Johnson, Dartmouth and the late Fred Johnson.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Rose Marie (Brown) Johnson, Halifax; loving dad to sons, Rick and John, Halifax; daughters, Rosemarie Johnson; Deborah Ring, both of Halifax; brothers, Raymond (Joan), Ottawa; Wayne (Sharon), Toronto; Lawrence (Gloria), Dartmouth; twin sister, Elizabeth "Betty" (Joseph) Simmons, Ontario; Beverley (Patrick) McIntosh, Sackville; Patricia Johnson, Dartmouth; grandchildren, Richard, Darrel, Deborah Michael, Lailah, Jacquelyn, Morgan, Dylan, Johnny; numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by grandson, Christopher.



The Spryfield Lions Rink plays host to the seniors who skate at the facility twice each week. The group celebrates Christmas with a dinner and present Rink Manager Shawn Olsen with a gift in return for his dedication. Members attending the event included Lorraine Levy, Harold Levy, Mr. Olsen and King Lion Darrell Wentzell.



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To have your Community Event listed call or fax us at 479-NEWS or send e-mail to rhorner@ns.sympatico.ca

Steve Kimber to speak

The next meeting of the Mainland South Heritage Society is Thursday, January 30th at 7:30 PM at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. Guest speaker will be Stephen Kimber, author of Sailors, Slackers and Blind Pigs, the story of Halifax at War. All welcome.

10th Anniversary Celebration Winners

Lucky winners of Danielson's Tenth Anniversary Luck Draws included Jean Brewer, David Richardson, Stewart Pye, Lynn Caldwell, Jim Prowse, Paul Smith, Gerrard Gallagher, Gus Claveau. Each Lucky Winner received the Grand Cru Wine Kit of their choice. Many thanks to all of you who helped make our 10th Anniversary Week a real success.

Choir Being Formed

Singers (male and female) wanted. A new community singing group is being formed. If you are interested, please contact Dot Roberts at 479-2764.

TAG offers "Plaza Suite"

To warm the spirit, the Theatre Arts Guild will present Neil Simon's hilarious comedy "Plaza Suite" February 20 to March 8. Directed by Robin Saywood and Co-Produced by Cheryl Theriault and Elaine Casey, there will be performances at 8 p.m. with one Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. on March 2. The Reservation Box Office will open on January 18 for members and January 25 for non-members. Please call 477-2663 (24 hours).

Searching For A Piano

The Captain William Spry Community Centre is looking for a piano put in the community meeting room. If you have a piano in working or repairable condition that you would consider giving to the community, please phone 479-4487. (Purchase of a piano is not an option, unless for a nominal fee.) The Community Centre is also asking for donations to the Piano Fund, for repairs and regular tuning. All gifts and donations are eligible for a charitable tax receipt. One donation has already been received.

5th Community Health Fair

There will be a Community Health Fair at the South Centre Mall on Dentith Road in Spryfield on Wednesday, January 29 from 10:30 am - 2 pm. The purpose of the Health Fair is to provide the community with a wide variety of information on health services and issues. Mental health information, recreation programs, parent information, counselling services, programs for youth, employment services, and substance abuse programs will be among the information and services featured at the Fair.

Reunion Planned

Members of the H.M.C.S. Bonnaventure and Magnificent are planning a reunion June 27 through 29, 2003. There will be a gathering dinner at the Fleet Club during the event. The fee is \$35 per person. For information call (902) 455-2533 extension 8219; fax (902) 429-1710 or visit the website at www.fleetclubatlantic.ca.

Legion News Year's Dance

The Spryfield Legion will hold its New Year's Eve dance beginning with a buffet at 8:30 p.m. followed by dancing to the band 45RPM from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Library Puppet Shows

Captain William Spry Library has Puppet Shows for all

ages Saturdays at 11 am. 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. For group bookings, call Cindy Sampson Fleet at 490-5796. On January 18 the show will be "Rainbow Fish."



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January Events

Healthy Eating Cooking Class
Every Monday Evening in January
Time: 7-9PM. No Charge

Adult Cooking Class-Rent-A-Chef
Every Tuesday Evening in January
Time: 7-9PM. Cost:\$5 Per Class

Childrens Crafts
Saturday January 11th and 25th
Time: 11A.M. to 1PM.
Cost:\$3 Ages:5-9 years

Healthy Weight Program
10 Week Program
Week # 1 Starting Thursday January 16,2002
Time:7-8:30 P.M. No Charge

Beginners Rug Hooking Class
4 Day Class
Starting Wednesday January 8,2002
Time:1-4 P.M. (Please Call For More Info.)

SPACE IS LIMITED FOR ABOVE CLASSES, PLEASE BOOK EARLY

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McIntosh Run Watershed Association

Seeks Joint Management Committee to oversee mandate & develop trail system

Halifax's only urban river, the McIntosh Run, is a 10 kilometer waterway traversing urban developments on its way to natural wilderness areas still left pristine by Nature's caring hands.

Parts of the watercourse suffer from past, and current, urban activities, while other more wilderness sections remain unable to sustain the variety of marine life which propelled the Run into its prominent place in the history of

17th Century Halifax. The watercourse needs attention, preservation and management, and the McIntosh Run Watershed Association (MRWA) is inviting interested parties to help bring the river's spirit back to life.



Legion Jumpstarts Trail Development

In April 1999 the Spryfield Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, donated \$10,000 to a project dedicated to improving, cleaning and restoring "The Runs". From this contribution, the MRWA, a gathering of interested citizens and groups interested in ecological preservation and trail development, was established. Two years later, after securing additional funding, the MRWA tendered for a consultant report to study the Runs for potential trail development. The "McIntosh Run Trail - Draft Report" was delivered to the MRWA by Gordon Ratchliffe Landscape Architects in June 2002.



The Three Phases of Development

The draft report recommended McIntosh Run Trail be constructed in three phases. Phase one includes a "multi-use trail" along an existing service road between Rover Road and Roach Pond. Phase two is a "wilderness hiking trail" through the natural backlands between Roach Pond and Pine Island Ponds. Phase three will include a branch of the wilderness hiking trail stretching from Pine Island Ponds to York Redoubt.



Supporting The MRWA Mandate

The project proposal supports the mandate of the MRWA. Key components of the mandate include: a) the enhancement of viability of the McIntosh Run Watershed area, b) the promotion of public access and appreciation of the resource, and c) the removal of visible and invisible contaminants in the waterway.

Public Input Invitation

The MRWA is anxious to pursue the proposal and see it through the development and construction stages. A team of interested persons, with or without expertise in trail and wilderness development, is the first requirement of the MRWA. The Board of Directors, McIntosh Run Watershed Association, is seeking interested persons to join the organization to help carry the project proposal through to its completion. A meeting has been scheduled for January 21, 2003, at 7 p.m. in the Spryfield Royal Canadian Legion, 7 Sussex Street. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.

For More Information Contact

Terry Bobbitt, MRWA President at (902) 477-4465 or
Brian Dempsey, MRWA Vice-President at (902) 477-7825

Send Written Expressions of Interest to:

MRWA c/o Royal Canadian Legion
P.O. Box 20232
Halifax, NS
B3R 2L1

MCINTOSH RUN WATERSHED ASSOCIATION