

Chebuucto News

Vol. 11 • No. 11 • July 2010

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Redevelopment of Birchlee Estates brings welcome changes

Birchlee Estates in Harrietsfield is getting a "makeover". When Killam Properties Inc. first purchased the 40-plus year old manufactured home community in early 2007, the property was tired and the infrastructure in need of renewal. Killam knew the redevelopment of Birchlee could only be successful with the combined efforts of the residents and Killam working together. The first priority was to address

the curb appeal of the common areas and any unsightly or derelict homes. Building on these improvements, Killam then knew it could invest in the expansion of the community and use this as a catalyst to further improve the existing roads, entrances and water and waste water systems. The implementation of Killam's community standards and tenants investing in their own homes and lots is for the benefit of

all. A critical element in the repositioning of Birchlee has been the establishment of a satellite police office within the community itself. The police have been working diligently with Killam to create a safe and secure environment for residents. In addition, a new entrance was created off the Old Sambro Road; a beautiful stone sign was installed at this new entrance to the community; paving of some of the streets has been completed; and a new children's playground is being ordered and is expected to be on site by early August.

Residents are appreciating the changes as well, notes Gordon Smith of Birchlee Estates, "My wife and I have lived in Birchlee Estates for the past 6 years. When we first moved in, prior to Killam purchasing the park, the roads, water and sewer system and general condition of the park and several of the

homes was poor. When there were serious issues such as water outages the previous owners were very slow to respond. Since Killam has taken over the park we have seen many improvements. A good portion of the roads have been properly repaved; upgrades have been made to the water and sewer system; many of the homes that were previously in disrepair have been forced to upgrade to the park's standards or have been replaced with new homes. Perhaps most important to our family with a new baby is the fact that Killam attempts to rectify serious situations such as water outages in a timely manner. Realistically, there is still work to be done. For example the road we live on is still in need of re-paving. But looking over the past few years since Killam has acquired the

see "Redevelopment" pg. 2



Kaitan, Liam and Gordon Smith pose with a Killam Property Representative Kevin Arbuckle by the entrance to the new section of Birchlee Estates.

Chimo's 2010 'Olympic Challenge' challenged and rewarded its athletes

Chimo Taekwondo Club recently held their fourth annual Summer Olympic Challenge, much to the delight of their young members. 44 participants of all belt levels, ranged in age from 6 to 15, were divided into teams. They worked hard to train for the event, and their enthusiasm showed.

Each athlete was awarded a trophy and most importantly, had fun and made new friends. As an added bonus, everyone present was treated to a performance by the club's Demo Team. A draw was made for a basket of goodies which was donated by the grandfather of one of the members.

Master Doug Large announced that evening that the club will be offering self defense classes beginning Thursday, July 8 from 5:45-6:30 for children and 6:30-7:30 for adults. Free for full members of the club, these classes will also be open to non-club members for a fee of \$99 for the summer. The program is expected to continue in the fall, expanding to two classes per week.

Tai-Jitsu, which strives for the highest effectiveness with minimum efforts in any situation, is currently used by many police forces throughout the world. This program will integrate Tai-Jitsu and Taekwondo while tailoring the techniques to the student, and offering a wide variety of defence options. The training will be suitable for people of all ages and abilities and will focus on technique rather than fitness.

Chimo will also be offering a summer day camp during the week of August 9-13th.

For more information or to register, contact Doug Large at 477-0538 or email doug.chimotkd@gmail.com.

see "Fish fence" pg. 2

Artist and students collaborate to build a fish fence worth bragging about

By Lorrie Boylen

The students at Sambro Ketch Harbour Elementary School recently collaborated with Halifax artist Kyle Jackson to create a wonderfully unique piece of outdoor folk art. The fish fence is the second one Jackson has helped create. The other one is in Louisbourg, Cape Breton. His dream is for every coastal school to have their own fish fence.

Kyle and his son Jasper were at the school for five days assisting the children create their masterpiece out of oil pastels and wood. Each child prepared several wood shingles individually which were used for fish scales, and each class worked as a team on their own coastal scene to create this three dimensional

colourful mosaic out of local materials, which is both individualized and collaborative. Grade 6 students assisted with the building of the fence and adding the final touches. As the fence evolved, a head and moveable tail were added, as well as eyes made from mirrors to reflect the community. The wood will weather over time, ever changing just as the people and area that surround it.

The land itself dictated the location of the fence, as the original holes could not be dug deep enough due to rock. The subsequent slope of the fish has given it a more animated quality. It has quickly become a meeting place as students clamor around it, proud to show off their artistic contribution to the community.

The project was spearheaded by Grade

One teacher Sandy Potter, who contacted the Professional Artists in Schools (PAINTS) program to arrange for the school to work with a visiting artist. The cost of the artist fee is covered 50/50 between the school and Visual Arts Nova Scotia (VANS). VANS also contributed an additional \$100 to cover supplies. Primary teacher Kathy Walters obtained an additional grant from the Nova Scotia Teachers' Union County Local under the Curriculum Development Assistance Fund which covered the building supplies of shingles, plywood, nails, etc.

Ms. Potter liked the idea of the fish fence and submitted a proposal illustrating how

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Redevelopment of Birchlee Estates brings welcome changes

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park, the improvements made give my family confidence that Killam will continue in its efforts to bring the park up to the same high standards of many other similar properties they have acquired.”

That’s not all that has changed in Birchlee. Killam has expanded the community and is now selling brand new Prestige homes in the new section of the park. Even with all the new residential developments being

constructed in HRM, it is still difficult for some to find a home that suits their budget and lifestyle, but Birchlee Estates is solving that problem. Killam offers new and affordable manufactured homes, with paved driveways, situated on spacious lots. Just 25 minutes from downtown, and with a newly launched Metro Transit bus service, this is country living in the City. This is an ideal location for a young family or retired empty nesters and at press time, less than 40 new lots were remaining.

Killam has not yet finished the work in

Birchlee. Privately owned water and sewer systems service the community and, while the Killam completed a \$600,000 upgrade to the waste water treatment plant this past winter, the water system is still a work in progress. The well water in the community is potable and tastes fine, but work to repair and replace sections of the older water lines and infrastructure will continue for the next couple of years.

So if you haven’t already viewed the improvements to Birchlee, take a drive

through, and drop in to see the model home; the Open House hours are every Sunday from 2-4pm. It’s worth the visit!

A fish fence worth bragging about

continued from page 1

the project ties in with school curriculum outcomes. She felt that the experience would broaden the students’ view of art, its meaning and purposes, and students would develop a better understanding of the relationship between art, culture, community and environment. Kyle was selected as the visiting artist for his colourful work, as well as his reputation for working well with children.

Kyle has lived in Halifax for over 25 years and is well known for his still life, landscape and cityscape pieces. He was part of the team that built the boat playground in downtown Halifax near the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. He is participating in the Nova Scotia Folk Art Festival in Lunenburg on Sunday, August 1st, and has

submitted a proposal for Nocturne: Art at Night in Halifax in October. In addition to pursuing his passion for art, he also cooks at Gus’ Pub in Halifax.

Kyle had a great week and is thankful to the community of Sambro and everyone at the school for making this a wonderful experience

with great lasting memories. During the final unveiling assembly, the school gifted him and Jasper with school T-shirts and pewter Sambro Lighthouse ornaments.

For further information on this program or Kyle’s work, contact VANS or www.kjackson.ca.

Bridge partners win world

“We have been holding our breath, but now it’s official! Thanks to the remarkable efforts of Joe Currie and Virginia Giza, Halifax Bridge World has just received confirmation that this pair has placed first in the 24th World Wide Bridge Game held on Saturday, June 5th,” said Linda Tuff, Managing Director of Halifax Bridge World

Sponsored by the World Bridge Federation, this event had 4894 pairs representing 240 participating clubs from 28 countries. Currie and Giza played at Halifax Bridge World in an eleven table game and placed first with a 74% game, a well above average score. Scores from each participating club were electronically submitted to Ecatsbridge in England, the official scorer, who then re-calculated all scores to produce overall winners.

Joe Currie is a 94 year old retired Chief Petty Officer. Joe learned to play bridge sixty years ago while in the navy. He has been enjoying the game ever since and credits it for keeping his mind sharp. Virginia Giza learned to play bridge in the early 1960’s. While working as a nurse at the University of California Medical Center, Virginia took lessons from Frank Jackson. “The challenge of bridge has always held an appeal for me, and I really enjoy the social aspects of the game,” she said.

“We couldn’t be happier for Joe and Virginia. Imagine, coming first out of 4894 pairs! This win will certainly put Halifax on the map,” said Linda Tuff.

Halifax Bridge World, a not for profit bridge club, has ten regular games a week and a full schedule of lessons. The club is approaching its 30th anniversary. Schedules and results can be found at www.hbw.ns.ca.



Sambro Ketch Harbour Elementary School's fish fence.

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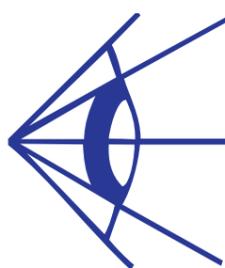
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Geocaching in the Loop, fun for locals, a draw for avid hobbyists

By Carrie Forbes

If you are looking for a new way to have summer fun around the loop, you may want to go on a “techno-treasure hunt”, known as geocaching. A geocache is an outdoor hunt for a container which has been hidden. Typical caches are waterproof, like a plastic food container, and hold a logbook for the finders to sign. Many caches contain small trinkets for finders to take, although geocache etiquette asks that a small treasure is left in return. Geocaches are found by using a GPS, or Global Positioning System, to find the

coordinates of the cache location. Now that GPS systems are widely available, geocaching has become popular all around the world. As of June 2010, there were over 1.1 million caches in 100 countries, and all seven continents.

To get started, you need a GPS device. Newer cell phones, such as iPhones or Android phones, come with GPS capability built in. GPS systems can also be purchased at a variety of price points, and are getting less expensive each year. Also, you must register with a geocache listing website to find cache locations and coordinates. The largest of these sites is geocaching.com, run

by Groundspeak. This site can also be used to list caches you may have hidden, and track the number of visitors to the cache. Listings often contain ratings of how difficult the cache is to find, how tough the surrounding terrain is to navigate, and a few clues to help find the cache. Coordinates can be sent from this site to your phone or GPS for easy tracking, but you can also log them with a pen and paper.

Geocaching is so popular around the Chebucto Loop, there are well over 1500 caches available to find. Using the Captain William Spry Centre as a starting point, you can access 400 caches within a ten kilometer radius. That’s a lot of treasure! It’s no surprise that geocaching is popular in Nova Scotia; we are home to the very first geocache site

in Canada. This site, known as GCBBA, has been in place for 10 years – almost as long as geocaching’s official start date on May 2, 2000. A celebration is being planned to recognize this very cache on June 28th.

Because of the wide number of caches available, anyone can get started. Newcomers and enthusiasts can find caches in locations that suit their fitness and experience levels, making geocaching an ideal family activity. Parents can feel good about having the kids active in the great outdoors, while kids enjoy the thrill of hunting for treasure. Much of the joy comes from reading the log books, including the stories of worldwide travellers who have also found the same geocache as you.

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ANGELA WELSH

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I am the owner of Welsh’s Travel Services and a proud community member of District 18, specifically Williamswood. I have been providing travel counselling for 12 years and enjoy helping people fulfill their travel dreams. I absolutely enjoy my travels to every corner of the world, if not in person, then at least vicariously through my valued clients. I treat every inquiry with the same quality and respect, whether it be a cruise or a one-way flight on Westjet.

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DISCOVERING OUR PAST

The road to Purcell's Cove took nearly 100 years to complete.

By Iris Shea
Mainland South Heritage Society

On the last week-end of July, the community of Purcell's Cove will hold its second reunion. It promises to be a very happy gathering of people with ties to Purcell's Cove who will be sharing their memories with old friends (see this newspaper for further details). Purcell's Cove was first settled by the Purcell family in 1828 and descendants of that same family continue to live there.

Samuel Purcell, after whom the cove received its name, purchased 300 acres of land in 1828, including the cove and a 10-acre island (now Spectacle Island) from the Elizabeth Pernette, daughter and heir of William Russell. The island, called Pernette's Island and, before that, Russell's Island, soon became known as Purcell's Island.

Baptized at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Halifax in 1771, Samuel Purcell was born in Portuguese Cove, the son of Samuel and Catherine (Withrow) Purcell. When Samuel, the younger, settled on William Russell's grant, he and his wife Mary (Verge) had five sons and five daughters, all born in Portuguese Cove. With four of his sons, Joseph, James, Benjamin and Samuel, he established a lucrative fishing business at their island cove, drying their nets and building their fish stages on Purcell's Island.

The Purcell's transported their fish by boat to the Halifax market as the road from Halifax ended at Melville Island. This early section of the road was built by French prisoners of war who were captured by the British during the Napoleonic Wars, brought to Halifax, and placed in buildings on Melville Island as early as 1803. These same prisoners also built sections of the road to Ketch Harbour.

Adjoining the Purcell land was a thriving granite quarry which the Imperial government opened in 1826, using some of

the roads already prepared by quarry man, John Trider, to transport the granite to the water's edge. The stone reinforced the fortresses in and around Halifax and

was carried by boat or barge across the water. A road south of Purcell's land, in Ferguson's Cove, beginning at what we know as Devil's Hill Road, had already been established across Pine Island Runs to the Herring Cove Road. Fishermen in Ferguson's Cove used this road in winter or when the water was too rough to transport their fish to the Halifax market. It would be more than 60 years before the Royal Engineers built their military road from the Queen's Quarry to York Redoubt.

In 1831 Samuel Purcell divided his inherited land in Portuguese Cove between his daughter, Hannah, wife of William Cartile, and his eldest son, John. That same year, the Lawson family leased the grist mill at the foot of the stream leading from Williams Lake to the Northwest Arm and a road was built from the Herring Cove Road to the mill (now the location of the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron). This road, called Lawson's Mill Road, later became Williams Lake Road and part of the Purcell's Cove Road. It did not yet connect, however, to Purcell's Cove.

In 1845 Samuel Purcell divided his 300 acres plus Purcell's Island among his four youngest sons. The community name of Purcell's Cove shows up as early as 1842 when Samuel Purcell's grandchildren were

baptized at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Halifax. The name Island Cove was also used in the records for that time period. Samuel Purcell's son, Joseph,

leading to his Dingle lands and, to access the cottage by land, he used prisoners from Melville Island and paid the Army to help in the construction of the road.

County Council, in 1885, announced their plan to complete the road from Fleming's Gates to Ferguson's Cove. By 1886, some land owners along the way wanted to be paid for the use of their property as a road. This was not acceptable to Council since the land was deemed barren and useless for anything but a road and caused further delay in completing the road. In 1887, ninety-nine petitioners, property owners from Ferguson's Cove, Purcell's Cove and the west side of the North West Arm (later called Jollimore) requested aid to build the road through their lands at no charge. The cost of the road was



In this 1910 photo, the Wainwrights of Halifax, having travelled to Purcell's Cove by ferry, are shown enjoying an afternoon picnic in the cove. In the background is a section of the Purcell's Cove Road.

established a ferry service in 1853 between Purcell's Cove and Point Pleasant Park. Quarry workers and members of the military at York Redoubt were regular passengers, as were residents of Ferguson's Cove and Herring Cove. When a later generation of Purcells, Samuel and William, operated the ferry in 1892, they reported to Council that 2,275 paying passengers travelled between Point Pleasant and Purcell's Cove "and 350 blanks or deadheads". Their earnings that year were \$159. Members of the Purcell family operated the ferry service for 120 years.

In the 1870s another section of the road to Purcell's Cove was built, from Melville Island to Sandford Fleming's Dingle Gates. Fleming built his cottage on the road

estimated at \$130 with an additional \$65 for fences, but only the section between Fleming's Gates and Lawson's Mill Road was completed with this money. In the meantime, the Royal Engineers built their military road from the Queen's Quarries to York Redoubt.

It was not until April 1898 that Council gave approval for the completion of that final section of the road, from Lawson's Mill to Purcell's Cove, a stretch of 1½ miles. Council voted to spend \$600, stating "This has been a long talked of, and much-desired connection, and so near a large aggregation of population that is worthy of consideration from their Council." The Purcell's Cove Road was finally completed in 1898.

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Chebucto News Sports Page

Emerging local women's youth hockey league producing major players

Women's hockey has been around for a long time, but until recent years it wasn't taken seriously. Then, in 1998, the world watched their first Women's Hockey

tournament as part of the Winter Olympics. Since then, more and more people have become interested in watching girls on ice with sticks and helmets, instead of tutus. But

they still have a long way to go.

On the local level, hockey for girls is still in its infancy. There are few options for star female athletes. In fact, once girls finish Minor Hockey, there are only four teams in the province that they can try out for. The Midget Female AAA League is only two seasons old and was created to help provide a high level of play for elite players. The Halifax team, which won gold in this season's playoffs, consists of players from all over the HRM and as far away as Bridgewater. With one team covering such a large area, it is nothing short of amazing to realize that four young women from J.L. Ilsley have made the cut. Emma Crawley, Lindsay and Carly Gray, and Kaitrin Harnish are all teammates and schoolmates.

Unfortunately, three of these four ladies will be unable to continue to play together due to the cut-off age restrictions in place. The problem with the Midget Female AAA League is that its cut-off date is different from that of the school system; which means that there are girls, like Kaitrin, going into grade 12 with no league to play in this fall.

The cut-off age for Midget Female AAA is 17 by the end of the calendar year, but the cut-off date for starting school, when these girls were in Primary, was October 1st. This means that those girls whose birthdays were after October 1st will be 18 before the end of the calendar year. This also means that girls who may have been held back at some point in their lives can't play either.

One year off may not seem like such a big deal to some people, but for women whose passion and possible future is on the ice, one year can make the difference between going for the gold and never playing serious hockey again. Who knows, with the right support here at home, someday the gold medal goal could be scored by a talented young woman from the Chebucto area.

In the meantime, Kaitrin has been awarded a scholarship to a preparatory school in Winchendon, Massachusetts. As much as she doesn't want to leave her family and friends, she is willing to do so for the chance to continue playing competitively challenging hockey.



Lindsay Gray, Kaitrin Harnish, Emma Crawley and Carly Gray. Photo by Roy Smith.



The Mainland South Express Midget Girls team, Division Four, Provincial Champions, April 2010. Back row: Assistant Coach Craig Robarts, Nicole Weston, Jenna Ellis, Emily MacIsaac, Ashley Lawrence, Krysten Mannette, Alyssa Umlah, Lauren Murphy, Coach Todd Umlah. Front row: Ashley Prescott, Allie Flinn, Sara Robarts, Jordan Lawless

Minor basketball alive and well

Mainland South Express Minor Basketball Association was formed in September 2007 to fill a void in the sport of basketball in Mainland South. Its founders, Todd Umlah and Gary Kirby, started with two competitive teams in the Halifax Metro Minor Basketball League that year, Mini Boys and Mini Girls, plus a House League. In 2008 three more teams, Bantam Boys, Bantam Girls and Midget Girls, were added. In the non-competitive category of Small Ball and House League, ages 5 to 11, boys and girls learn basketball and team skills while having fun. Sponsorship came from McDonalds Restaurants for the first two years. The fundraising efforts and sponsorships by parents, coaches and team members now help

support the expanding association. Midget Boys and a second Bantam Boys team were added in 2009. Practices are held in local school gymnasiums in Spryfield and Herring Cove. Watch for updates on their website: www.mainlandsouthexpress.net

Todd Umlah and Gary Kirby and their volunteer coaches are to be commended for their dedication to this growing organization. They are building a great basketball program and have seen their teams take on the best in the league, winning division championships and going on to win Provincial championships each year. The 2010-2011 basketball season is approaching and if you wish further information on how to register, give Todd a call at 852-5468, or email: tcumlah@eastlink.ca.



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Experts' Corner

Question and Answer with
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Question:

I have vinyl siding on my home but it is really showing its age and I would like to change the color. I really don't want the cost of replacing it, is this something that can be painted?

Answer:

Yes absolutely, you can paint vinyl siding, and you'll be happy to know it is usually only 30-40% of the cost of totally replacing it. Vinyl siding is in fact an ideal surface to paint as the grooves in the siding and the nature of the product allow latex paint to bond with it extremely well with little chance of it ever peeling. The first step in painting vinyl siding is to ensure a clean work surface, free of dirt and mildew. Washing with a solution of TSP and bleach, either by hand or with a pressure washer, should get rid of any grime that prevents the paint from adhering. After the siding is dry you can apply two coats of a 100% acrylic latex paint, bearing in mind that other surfaces such as wood or metal shutters or doors will require different applications. The other important factor in choosing to paint vinyl siding is colour selection. You cannot choose a shade that is darker than your existing siding. Siding is rated to withstand a particular amount of UV light and darkening the shade will attract more light and may cause your siding to warp. New products on the market are now being approved as safe for all vinyl shades and you can get more information on these from your local paint dealer. So in the end, painting your vinyl siding is an easy and cost effective way to update your exterior and boost your home's curb appeal.

If you would like to paint your home, but can't bear the thought of hauling out your ladders, I would love the opportunity to give you a free estimate, please give us a call at 406-3066.

Yours Truly, Dave

Question:

I am looking to change the colour of my home's exterior but I just can't seem to decide on what would look good, do you have any advice on how to pick the perfect color?

Answer:

Choosing a paint colour for your exterior is a daunting task because it is a big job and is something you don't want to get sick of in a year or two. There are several factors to consider that may help to narrow down your choices:

Consider the fixed elements around your home including brick, stone walls or walkways, vinyl windows and the colour of your roof shingles. Choosing a colour that is complimentary to these elements is important as these are unlikely to change, and with thousands of paint colours it is much easier to find a colour that goes with your brick than vice versa.

Consider the era, architecture and neighborhood of your home. If you have a Victorian home you may want to look to a more historical colour collection, with multiple colors to highlight the intricate woodwork, whereas a modern home's striking architecture may be highlighted with a dark and bold colour scheme. A good reference is the book House Colors: Exterior color by

style of architecture by Susan Hershman. Alternatively, your local paint dealer can provide you with a range of color-matched pamphlets specific to your style of home.

Realize that the way a colour looks on a small swatch may be different than how it will look on your house. Testing a small area with a sample of select choices may give you a better idea as to the final results.

If you want to play it safe with a neutral colour for your siding and trim, consider a bolder choice for smaller elements such as doors, shutters, or architectural mouldings. These small, easily changed features are great areas to experiment with colours such as black, deep purple or red.

In the end the most important factor is to choose a colour you love! Take some pictures of houses that appeal to you or go to the paint suppliers websites to virtually 'test' what various colors would look like on your home. Go with your gut and try not to over think your decision, often your first choice is the right one.

The best way to make your colour of choice really stand out is with a professional paint application that will stand the test of time. Please give us a call if you would like some help with your exterior decorating!

Yours Truly, Beth

Sou'Wester Days promise fun for all... rain or shine

By Lorrie Boylen

The community of Sambro is hoping that hurricane season doesn't put a damper on their Sou'Wester Days festival again this year. Last year several events had to be cancelled due to Hurricane Bill's untimely arrival. The festival is widely attended by local residents, former residents, and friends from away.

HRM Council approved a \$12,500 festivals grant for this event which is scheduled at various venues throughout the community for the week-end of August 13, 14 and 15. The schedule includes a dance,

parade, baseball tournament, washer toss, children's carnival, beer tent, Sambro light tours, rubber duck race, church supper, ceilidh, and fireworks.

The planning committee meets at St. James United Church every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. An event like this takes a tremendous amount of volunteer assistance. Individuals interested in helping out are encouraged to attend the meeting or phone Leslie Harnish at 868-2553 or email harnish@hfx.eastlink.ca. For more current updates, check out the Facebook group entitled "Sambro Sou'Wester Days".

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Strategy for development must consider city's historical significance

by Michèle Raymond,
MLA, Halifax Atlantic

Summer has come, and with it, thousands of visitors to our shores. Many, like Nova Scotians themselves, rejoicing in the chance to spend time literally at our beautiful coast, and in the historic communities clustered in its coves and bays.

Nova Scotia is one of the first landfalls on the Atlantic shore of North America. Our peninsula, with its 13,000 kilometers of complex coast, torn millions of years ago from the African continent, faces the storms of the North Atlantic, offers shelter to arriving ships, and acts as a haven for fishermen. Its length is widely varied; from granite barrens and bogs like Duncan's Cove, through beaches like Crystal Crescent, ocean-flooded river valleys like the Northwest Arm, to the coastal wetlands of the Eastern shore, the Fundy dykelands and the erosion-prone, fossil-laden cliffs of the Parrsboro and Northumberland shore.

Because of its position as a North American frontier, Nova Scotia has been a beacon for European settlement since the 17th century, when fishermen, traders and military forces first began to occupy our shores and to use them as the staging area for some of the battles which determined the political shape of the continent. Farming, lumbering and mining developed further inland, but even today, some 70 per cent of us live in coastal communities.

Geology tells us that the province has changed dramatically over millennia, and experience tells us that it continues to change; our homes, wharves and port structures, perched on a dynamic frontier, are more or less vulnerable, according to their distance from, and height above, the shore. Yet we continue to build ever closer, and as development density increases in some communities, so does the pressure on the shoreline, and, in some areas, the difficulty of getting public access to the shore.

Halifax Atlantic is no exception. We're close to the business and government heart of the province on the Halifax peninsula, but not as densely populated; we have been closely allied, though, ever since Captain William Spry developed a farming community to feed the garrison city as the rocky peninsula could not. Today, the value of peninsula land is growing exponentially and with it, the value of nearby property, particularly coastal. It's encouraging not only denser and denser building along the coast, but even the "creation" of more land, by filling in the sea with rocks and soil. This not only eradicates the marine life of the intertidal zone, but can make neighbouring properties more vulnerable to storm surge. I have long argued against this practice, as violating existing federal and provincial environmental laws, no matter whether the ownership of the seabottom is private or not.

Halifax Atlantic lies along one entire shore of the magnificent harbour which first attracted the attention of Samuel de Champlain in 1604. Since then it has been settled and fortified intensively, and has become a crucial postPanamax port on the Eastern Seaboard. None of this would have been possible, however, without the two lighthouses which have so long guided and protected ships in the harbour roads.

Sambro Island light, built by act of the first session of the first representative assembly in Canada, is the oldest continuously operating light in North America. Its distinctive outline has been known for more than 250 years to ships entering the magnificent Halifax Harbour. It is important not only locally, but nationally as an Historic Site, and I believe it is arguably the oldest publicly funded building in Canada, since the act establishing it allowed for the collection of duties on 'spirituous liquors'. Those duties funded both the lighthouse and the Halifax poorhouse; the poorhouse is no longer with us, but Sambro Island light remains.

Chebucto Head light is a favourite vantage point for watching ships entering the harbour; standing on land which, as far as I can tell, was 'lent' to the federal government in 1987 for as long as it would be needed for a lighthouse; it has now been listed for divestiture by the federal government. I am working to find out the actual legal status of

this land, as it may now be ready to revert to the province. This would also allow final settlement of the longstanding question of ownership and maintenance of the road to the lighthouse.

Lighthouses are iconic throughout the province, each being distinct, and all occupying prominent sites along the shore. They also present a particularly interesting situation in the heritage context; they are important, not only for their buildings, but for the area they light. In the United States and the United Kingdom, many historic properties include a protected "viewshed" — the area overlooking the property, and the view which has historically been seen from the property. This is almost directly captured in the fact that the deed transferring the 'administration and control' of the Chebucto Head property to the federal government also creates an easement over other lands; preventing the province from allowing construction of anything which might obstruct the view of, and from, the lighthouse, for as long as the

lighthouse functions.

Coastline challenges are as complex as the coast itself, but for human, environmental and economic security, they must be faced and some coherent strategy developed. The earliest settlers had strategies for dealing with the protection of their settled shoreline, and of their fisheries; we must learn from these, adapt them and update them as necessary, if we are to adapt successfully to our ever-changing shores.

The province of Nova Scotia has prepared a detailed "State of the coast" report and a series of discussion questions, which are available online at www.gov.ns.ca/coast. This report, and comments, will form the basis of strategy for coastal development. Public meetings have been held in several locations throughout the province, and consultations officially end June 30, but I will also be holding a discussion meeting on July 19, focusing on the specific issues of Halifax Atlantic. Please contact the office for details, and please come out for discussion.

Chebucto Update WITH MAYOR PETER KELLY

By Mayor Peter Kelly,
Halifax Regional Municipality

Hello everyone. I hope you and your family enjoyed a terrific Canada Day.

There are so many significant events and celebrations happening in our community these days that it's difficult to know just where to start, but here goes:

First, I'd like to give a special salute to the Captain William Spry Community Centre because (drum roll please), this terrific HRM resource is celebrating its silver anniversary.

It was 25 years ago June that the visiting Prince Andrew officially opened the Captain Spry Centre, as it's affectionately known, and it went on to become a focal point for the community. Today, after a major upgrading program, it's even more popular, especially with young people.

In addition to the library and wave pool, the centre now has an attractive fitness centre, new weight rooms and youth facilities.

And speaking of youth, the new 550 sq. metre outdoor skate park is being very well used. I'm glad to say local youngsters have made it their own.

Another addition getting rave reviews is the pedestrian bridge built across nearby MacIntosh Run. It has greatly improved accessibility.

That being said, however, I'm reminded that, like any building, the Captain Spry Centre is only bricks and mortar. It's the people who had the vision to create it, along with the people who use it and run it, who make it something worth celebrating. My hat is off to everyone in the community who has been involved over the years, including District 18 Councillor Steve Adams, who helped make the recent refurbishment a reality.

Happy anniversary and congratulations to all of you at the Captain Spry Centre.

There's another celebration coming up soon; this one is for the rededication of the venerable Dingle Memorial Tower in Sir Sanford Fleming Park.

It's going to happen August 2, during the third annual Dingle Natal Day Party, as District 17 Councillor Linda Mosher tells you in her column, elsewhere in the Chebucto News.

And speaking of my colleague, Councillor Mosher is to be commended for the successful campaign she waged to have the Tower declared a National Historic Site. Thanks to that special designation, some serious federal funds have been made available — and matched by HRM — for the Tower's refurbishment.

I'm happy to report that I've finally got my garden going, (or should I say, growing), in the Grand Parade.

In my last column, I mentioned how I like gardening but never seem to find the time to do it at home. So why not do it somewhere more convenient? So that's what I've done, created a garden right here outside City Hall in the Grand Parade!

I got the idea from HRM's Community Gardens program (<http://www.halifax.ca/> and link to Community Gardens or phone 490-4000). What better way to help promote a great community initiative than by the Mayor getting involved.

Actually, this isn't 'my' garden; it's 'our' garden. Two-dozen kiddies from nearby St. Joseph's Children Centre are participating in this horticultural happening and they're visiting regularly to get their little hands dirty. It promises to be a fun summer adventure, not to mention a great learning experience - for me as well as them!

So far, we have a crop of tomatoes, green peppers, green beans and potatoes sprouting, right in the heart of downtown, (urban farming doesn't get much more urban than this!) Come fall, we plan to donate everything to the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank because it's hard for them to come by fresh produce for their clients.

I hope you've had a chance to enjoy the International Fleet Review which has been happening on our doorstep, these last few days.

More than 20 warships and 5,000 sailors

see "Chebucto" pg. 9



Linda Mosher

HRM Councillor, District 17
Purcell's Cove - Armdale

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Region takes next steps toward getting 'permanent ice time'

By Stephen Adams,
HRM Councillor, District 18

As I mentioned in my last article, I made a presentation to the membership of the Nova Scotia Junior "B" Hockey League. The presentation was to make application for a franchise in Spryfield. Unfortunately, we were denied. I had asked why we were refused and was given two reasons; unofficially. The first was the lack of showers and toilet facilities in the dressing rooms. The second reason was due to the extra travel required by teams from Cape Breton and the Antigonish area. One extra trip could cost in the vicinity of \$4,000.00.

The issue of showers had been discussed over the past years, with financing the biggest obstacle. As well, this installation had logistical problems. I have met with our staff and we will look at cost and the possibilities. Regardless of the sources, or lack thereof, of our application, showers would help to upgrade our rink and could produce additional rental hours.

Although we have no control over these costs of travel there is a good possibility that another franchise may be admitted to the League. This may negate an additional trip through scheduling.

I don't see this delay in our franchise as a completely negative issue. I see this as an opportunity to gain sponsors and strengthen our position for next year.

On June 15th, Council discussed a policy as proposed by our staff to book ice time at the new 4-Pad arena in Bedford. After reading the report I raised a number of concerns with respect to what was brought forward.

The first issue of concern is that of ice allocation. The initial suggestion was to allow Bedford Minor hockey to book the majority of prime time ice on all four surfaces. This is not fair as the 4-Pad is a regional facility; in essence it was built for the use of HRM residents. To give almost exclusive use to one group or organization does not make sense. The policy also suggests that user groups be expected to include but not be committed to ringette, female hockey, sledge hockey, figure skating and speed skating. Although I agree with this strategy in principle, it should not negatively impact traditional users.

The second issue which causes concern is that our staff has suggested that the ice time allocation policy, could in time, be applied to all HRM owned facilities, which includes our rink in Spryfield. For years, local and some outside organizations have used our rink. It would not be fair to alter these arrangements in any significant manner.

By the time you read this article, I am hopeful these issues will be resolved. I assure

you that I will do whatever I can to ensure the 4-Pad remains a regional facility, with fair ice time allotment.

Our local rink board has been meeting to conclude the transition of the Lions rink operation to the Community Board. We are assessing the Lease Agreement for a final time and hope to have it signed within a few months.

As you drive past Roaches Pond you will notice some excavation. Permits have

been issued for the construction of 12 semi-detached buildings or 24 units in total. These will abut Herring Cove Road. This is part of a development that will total 239 units and will be a mix of semi-detached and single family homes.

In closing, I want to extend my sincerest congratulations to all students who will be graduating, whatever the case may be. You should be very proud of yourself.

Federal Conservatives overlook 2008 promise

By Megan Leslie, MP for Halifax

I'm proud to represent a small geographic riding that has so many lighthouses. These sturdy beacons of light and hope served as guiding lights to seafarers of the past, and serve as a symbol of maritime pride today. Whether you're at the harbour looking across at George's Island, passing Chebucto Head lighthouse on a hike through Duncan's Cove, or participating in Sambro Sou'Wester Days honouring the Sambro lighthouse, you know that the lighthouse is an important part of our coastal communities.

Now we're left wondering if future generations will know the lighthouse at all.

In a cowardly move to avoid controversy, the government slyly made an announcement at the end of May of this year, tucked away on the Department of Fisheries and Oceans website, that they had named nearly 1000 lighthouses in Canada as surplus.

After working so hard with communities to develop and enact the Lighthouse Protection Act, the government made this unilateral decision without consultation with communities or stakeholders, without announcement, and without regret. Now, these communities who worked with the government in good faith are the very people who are now being asked to take over the surplus lighthouses and the costs of maintaining them. It is now individuals, municipalities and community-based non-profits who will be obligated to preserve an incredibly important part of Canadian seafaring history and culture, or face seeing these lighthouses disappear.

The reality of the situation is that maintaining these properties is simply going to be too expensive for most communities and with many lighthouses located in treacherous locations the voluntary maintenance workforces could be put in danger. How can the residents of the small community of Duncan's Cove take on this cost? And while Sambro is a bigger community, we all know that the location of the lighthouse on a rocky island at the ledges poses a safety concern for maintenance.

This decision amounts to economic blackmail: pay up, or lose a piece your history, a part of your community, and an essential part of the landscape.

The Conservatives made a promise in 2008 that light stations and personnel would be maintained and protected. They have broken this commitment. What the Conservatives have done instead is build a fake lighthouse in Toronto for journalists to

meander past at the G-8 and G-20 conferences this June, in an attempt to promote tourism to Canada. It's ironic that the actual lighthouses the government seeks to promote are in danger of being lost.

Canada's citizens should be afforded the opportunity to have a say in what becomes of their historical buildings. My Federal NDP Atlantic Caucus colleagues, Peter Stoffer (Sackville-Eastern Shore, NS), Yvon Godin (Acadie-Bathurst, NB), Jack Harris (St. John's-East, NL) and I have been quick to speak out against this decision, and have written to the Minister demanding that this decision be reversed.

The Conservatives think that by making this announcement so close to the summer, that Canadians will forget about this misdeed by the fall, but together we can prevent that from happening. Our lighthouses are a symbol of the relationship between our communities and the sea, and they are worth protecting.

Chebucto Update

continued from page 8

from other countries have been in port to help the Canadian Navy celebrate its 100th birthday. Many of the vessels have been open to the public so perhaps you and your family were able to go aboard to meet the crews and have tours.

By the time the ships leave, I'm sure they'll carry with them happy memories of our HRM hospitality.

And no doubt The Queen and Prince

Philip, too, have gone away with very favourable impressions of their recent three-day stay in our midst. (As you probably remember, her last visit with us was in 1994.)

And finally, I wanted to let you know that I've started a blog. I'm excited about it because it means you and I now have another direct, speedy way to communicate with each other, in addition to my Facebook Page, Twitter site and e-mail.

My best wishes to you and your family and I hope you have a safe and happy summer.

Stephen Adams

HRM Councillor, District 18

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Chebucto News Community Events

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

Gospel Day Camp

Gospel Light Baptist Church Kids Daycamp
July 19-23, 9:30-Noon daily. Ages Preschool-Grade 6.
For more details visit www.gospellight.ca. To register call 479-3322 or email pastor@gospellight.ca

Natal Day Kickoff Concert

Thursday, July 29, 7 PM to 9 PM at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. Wear your dancing shoes and enjoy the music of the Philae Temple Smoothies,

Graham Bowser director. All welcome.

Purcell's Cove Reunion

Celebrate the history of Purcell's Cove and share memories with old friends. This three day event will be held at the Purcell's Cove Social Club and will be of interest to anyone who has ties to the community.
July 30 to August 1.
Friday evening, 6 PM to 10 PM, Happy Hour, followed by a meet and greet.
Saturday: 1PM to 5 PM, Heritage Family Ties:

Tea and Talks, Displays of Old Photos. 7PM to 8 PM, Happy Hour; 9 PM - 1 AM, Dance to the live music of Cove Banned.

Sunday: 9 AM, Church Service at St. Philips; 1 PM to 5 PM, an afternoon picnic, games for children, free hotdogs and corn on the cob. Join in the fun. For further information contact Judy: 477-6124

Fundraiser for Elite Hockey Player

Seventeen year old Sambro native, Kaitrin Harnish, has been awarded a hockey scholarship to The Winchendon

School in Massachusetts. This fundraiser is to help cover the expenses not covered by the scholarship. The cost is \$30/person and can be paid to Leslie Harnish, 1734 Ketch Harbour Road, White's Transit will provide transportation to/from the Crawl for those living around the Loop. Pick-up locations will be Harrietsfield Community Centre, Williamswood Sports Field, Mishoo's Store in Sambro, Ketch Harbour Fire Hall, a stop in Portuguese Cove or Herring Cove if needed, and one in Spryfield. Please call 868-2553 for a full list of pubs and times.

Join the Board

The Chebucto Communities Development Association (CCDA) is looking for community minded people who live in the area from Armdale right around the Sambro Loop and might be interested in joining our board. We meet the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. CCDA works on helping to connect neighbours to neighbours, residents to community groups and partnering with community groups, agencies, businesses, institutions and governments to improve the quality of our community. If you are interested or want to check us out, please call Diane LeBlanc, the chair, at 209-3219 or email at diane.leblanc@yahoo.com. Our website is www.chebuctoconnections.ca

Legion Events

Legion Bingo every Sunday at 1P.M. Mini Bingo at 6 P.M. and Superstat Bingo at 7 P.M

LOCAL OBITUARIES

Courtesy of J. Albert Walker Funeral Homes Ltd.

HIGDON, Marion Isabelle — 82, Spryfield, passed away peacefully in the VG site, QEII on Thursday, June 17, 2010 with her loving family by her side. Born in Trenton, she was a daughter of the late Bert and Isabelle (MacKay). She will be lovingly remembered and never forgotten by her children, Sharon, Christine (Graham), Keith (Loretta), Randall, Mark (Joanie) and Darren; grandchildren, Rhonda, David, Holly, Ashley and Corey, all of Halifax; brother, Donald Laffin, New Glasgow; many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by husband, Ralph; sister, Ethel; brothers, Earl and Doug. Arrangements are under the direction of J. A. Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd. 149 Herring Cove Road, Spryfield (477-5601). In keeping with Marion's wishes, there will be no visitation. A service of remembrance will be held on Tuesday, June 22 at 1PM from the funeral home chapel; private family interment to follow in Fairview Lawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in Marion's memory may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society.

MACDONALD, Rosemarie Ruth — 67, of Halifax, passed away June 5, 2010, in the VG Site, QEII, surrounded by her loving family. Rosemarie's hand has now been taken by her late husband Edward John, and now walk hand in hand together again. Born in Halifax, she was a daughter of the late Charles and Pearl (Craig) Mosher. Rosemarie loved to camp at River Land, and she was a member of Spryfield Legion where she spent most of her time dancing with her friends. Rosemarie will be sadly missed by her family, sons, John (Joan), Fairview; Joseph (Tabatha), Williamswood; James (Stephanie), Toronto, Ont.; daughters, Rosemarie MacDonald Greenwood, Halifax; Crystal Little (Mark), Elmsdale; beloved son-in-law, Gregory Greenwood, Brookfield; brother, Craig; sisters, Colleen Myra (Fred), Cathy, Jane; grandchildren, Sarah Somers (Cory), Dustin Greenwood, Michael and Mitchell Curran-MacDonald, Chrystal and Justine MacDonald, Caleb and Abigail MacDonald, Mackenzie and Marcus Little; great-grandchildren, Ethan, Trinity and Lucas Somers, McKenna Little (Chrystal). She was predeceased by brothers, Albert, Tom, Charles "Moe", Earl. Arrangements are under the care of J.A. Walker Funeral Home (2005), 149 Herring Cove Rd. (477-5601) where visitation will be held 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Tuesday. Funeral service to take place 1 p.m. Thursday from the funeral home chapel with interment to follow in St. John's Anglican Cemetery with her husband Edward. Donations may be made in memory of to a charity of choice.

WOURNELL, Mary Eileen — 93, Williamswood, passed away peacefully at home on June 2, 2010, surrounded by her family. Born in Halifax. She had worked at Province House for 58 years. Mary is survived by sons, Stanley, Edward, Paul, all of Halifax; David, Herring Cove; Wayne, Shad Bay; daughters, Susie White, Calgary; Brenda (Arthur), Williamswood, where Mary had resided; brother, Ralph, Chester; many grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, Thomas Joseph; son, Thomas "Sonny"; sisters, Margaret, Nora. Arrangements are under the care of J.A. Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Rd. (477-5601) where visitation will be 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Friday with funeral service 10 a.m. Saturday. Interment will take place in Gate Of Heaven Cemetery, Lower Sackville. Donations in memory may be made to Heart and Stroke Foundation of Nova Scotia. The family would like to extend a special thanks to Northwood Home Care, Dr. Cheah and Dr. S. Hickcox (8.2 Halifax Infirmary)

GRAY, Lloyd Leonard John — 64, Halifax, passed away peacefully on May 27, 2010, surrounded by his loving family after a courageous battle with cancer. Born in Ferguson's Cove,

NS on April 9, 1946, he was the son of the late Howard and Laura (Hanlon). He retired from Irving Oil in 2004 after 26 years of loyal service. He was a gunnery sergeant with the First Field Regiment Royal Canadian Artillery reserve and operated a health food store in Vancouver, BC, for four years. He enjoyed vegetable gardening, cooking, country music, poetry, travel, and a variety of sports, including playing pool. He was a member of the Purcell's Cove Social Club and pool league, Dooly's Fun League, and Brewster's of the Metro Pool League. Some of his most fond memories were travels to the Caribbean, Hawaii, Alaska, and Europe. He had many proud moments throughout his life which included being honoured with the 2007-2008 Senior Award in the Metro Pool League and the birth of his granddaughter, Madison Hope, whom he cherished. He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Loretta (Algee), son, Trevor (Rebecca), Hammonds Plains, daughter, Tammy Lynn, Cole Harbour, step-grandchildren, Nic and Jessica, granddaughter, Madison, Aunt Edna Purcell, and several cousins, nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, brother, Howard (Heather), and an infant brother, Peter. Arrangements are under the care of JA Walker Funeral Home, 149 Herring Cove Road, Halifax, NS (477.5601). No visitation will take place as per Lloyd's request. Let him be remembered for his sense of humour, quick wit and as a faith-

ful friend, who was not beyond a good argument. A celebration of life service will be held on Saturday, June 5, 2010 at 11 AM from St. Michael's Catholic Church, Herring Cove Road, with Fr. Rob as celebrant. Burial to take place in Ferguson's Cove Cemetery. Family flowers only, donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society.

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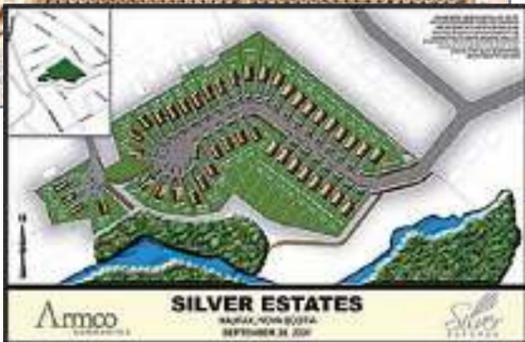
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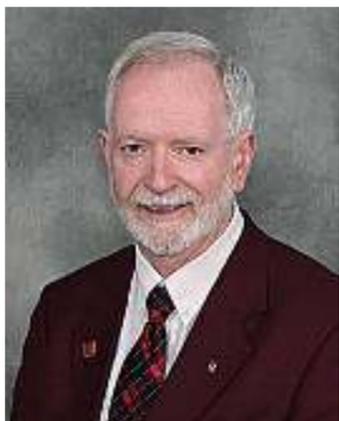
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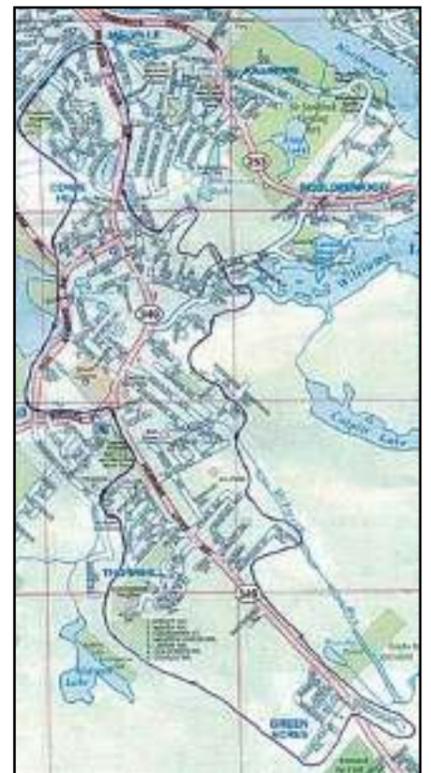
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