

Chebucto News

Vol. 11 • No. 10 • June 2010

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Chebucto Connections makes Pathways to Education a reality

For once, something that sounds too good to be true is actually true. Following months of hard work and building partnerships by staff and volunteers, the vision of the Chebucto Connections Board of Directors and its Executive Director, Marjorie Willison, to dramatically decrease the number of students who do not graduate high school is set to become a reality. The Board of Chebucto Connections, formerly known as the Chebucto Communities Development Association, was officially informed on May 18 that approval had been granted to bring Pathways to Education to the Spryfield area.

The Spryfield area has seen a persistent pattern of youth dropping out of high school for years, with averages hovering around 46% since 2003. The impact this has had

on opportunities for youth and attempts to revitalize the community have been dramatic. But now work will begin to use the groundbreaking program to put in place the "wrap-around" supports that will help to change the future of youth, their families and the community. As David Hughes, president and CEO of Pathways said, "What we do is try to eliminate that sense of despair."

What makes the program successful is that it connects with students early on, and experience from other Pathways sites suggests that very few students drop out of the program once they enrol. Students will receive academic tutoring, group and individual mentoring, engaging and adventuresome learning opportunities, student and family support and advocacy, connections

to employers, weekly meal plans or transit tickets, school supplies, and \$1000.00 a year toward post-secondary education. All of this is totally cost free to students and their families!

Spryfield Pathways is in the process of hiring staff, and programming will begin this September for students who are entering grade 9. Pathways will "stay with them" until they graduate, and even afterwards as graduates find their ways to either post-secondary education opportunities or meaningful careers. The program will expand to include grade 10 students in 2011, grade 11 students in 2012, and grade 12 students in 2013, and is open to every student who lives in the Program Zone catchment area that is along the central core of Spryfield from Green Acres to Cowie Hill (see map here and included postal codes at www.chebuctoconnections.ca under the Pathways to Education menu tab).

Pathways would never have become a

reality without the tremendous support of groups such as Capital Health, CFB Halifax, HRM's three major universities, the Captain William Spry Centre, the Greystone Tenancy Association, and a host of other organizations and individuals. However, much work remains to be done, and we will need the support of the community, including parents / guardians, schools, and community leaders to make the program effective and for it to have a lasting impact on youth. Pathways is about complimenting the tremendous efforts that are already happening for youth in the Spryfield area, and the amazing results the program has realized in other communities cannot happen here unless we all work together for the students. A quick look through www.pathwaystoeducation.ca shows that all the efforts will be well worth it!

see "Chebucto Connections" pg. 2



Carolyn Acker and David Hughes, standing. Seated left to right: Marjorie Willison, Diane LeBlanc (chair of board), Nicholas Langley (vice-chair), David Sampson (treasurer).

Portuguese Cove basketball courts get a 'facelift'

By Carrie Forbes

Blair Blakeney, from HRM Recreation, kindly asked if he could meet with the people of Portuguese Cove at the community hall to talk about the playground court resurfacing project. Local resident Gilles Frenette chuckled, and suggested they meet at his house if the weather was bad; otherwise, the playground was "the community hall".

In fact, you could say that the centre of Portuguese Cove is indeed the playground. Situated at the intersection of Ketch Harbour Road, South Point Road, and Camperdown Road, the Portuguese Cove playground serves as a central location for residents. For a rural community without easy access to sidewalks, walking trails or level paths, the playground is a safe recreational area for both children and adults.

Gilles Frenette became aware of the HRM plan to resurface the 30 year old basketball and tennis courts, and readily saw an opportunity to have a dialogue with the city about improvements to the playground overall. After contacting HRM, Gilles gathered some neighbours to talk with Blair Blakeney about the kinds of things people from Portuguese Cove would like to see in their community playground. Although the current priority is to resurface the basketball and tennis courts, an upgrade for the aging equipment and infrastructure is long overdue.

A quick look at the grass revealed a lot of thatch and spongy moss that holds moisture, making it difficult to play games like soccer. A lack of gravel pathways also means that walking on the grass is necessary to access the existing equipment. Without benches or seating, there are limited options to sit and watch children beyond the low, wooden perimeter of the play equipment.

see "Improving" pg. 2

see "Portuguese Cove" pg. 3

Community Learning Network aims to improve literacy, quality of lives

By Jason Doherty

Imagine not being able to read a recipe or the manual for your DVD player. Imagine not being able to help your child with their homework. For close to 50% of Canadians these are facts of life. In Canada, about 26% of people have difficulty reading more than basic writing while some 22% have trouble reading at all. In Atlantic Canada those numbers are around 27% and 25% respectively.

There are many federal and provincial programs in place to improve literacy in Canada. One such program, to which the Captain Spry Centre plays host for Spryfield, is the Halifax Community Learning Network

(HCLN). Since its inception in 1994, the HCLN sees about 200 learners and 150 volunteer tutors a year dedicate their time to improving literacy skills. In our community alone there were some 40 people entering the program last year.

Those seeking help do so with various goals in mind. Some are looking for assistance in getting their GED. Others have learning disabilities and need more rudimentary tutoring. But what they all have in common is the desire to improve their lives and the strength to act. As Denise Morley, Network Coordinator, points out "The biggest step is making the first call to HCLN, it can be intimidating". If someone is

embarrassed about entering such a program they are free to enroll at a location outside of their community. Linda Oakley, Program Coordinator for Spryfield adds "There was a lady who lived in Fairview and was afraid someone might find out she was being tutored, so she enrolled at the Captain Spry Centre. She has since become a vocal advocate of the program".

To celebrate Volunteer Week (April 19-25) the HCLN held a workshop at the centre for the volunteer tutors. Running from 10 am to 3:30 pm, the workshop discussed topics such as "encouraging learner writing" and

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Chebucto Connections makes Pathways to Education a reality

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The Pathways team has set registrations dates for June 14 and 21, from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at 2 Cranberry Court (Greystone), and on June 17 and 24 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at The Captain William Spry Centre. Parents / guardians, along with their children entering grade 9 next year, are encouraged to come out and register for this unique and life-changing opportunity. Pathways staff will be on site to "walk through" the registration

process with students and their parents / guardians, and to make sure the barbecue keeps turning out hot dogs.

For more information related to the Pathways program and how to register, please visit www.chebuctoconnections.ca

under the Pathways to education menu tab, or contact Kevin Young, the Program Director, at ccda.young@bellaliant.com.

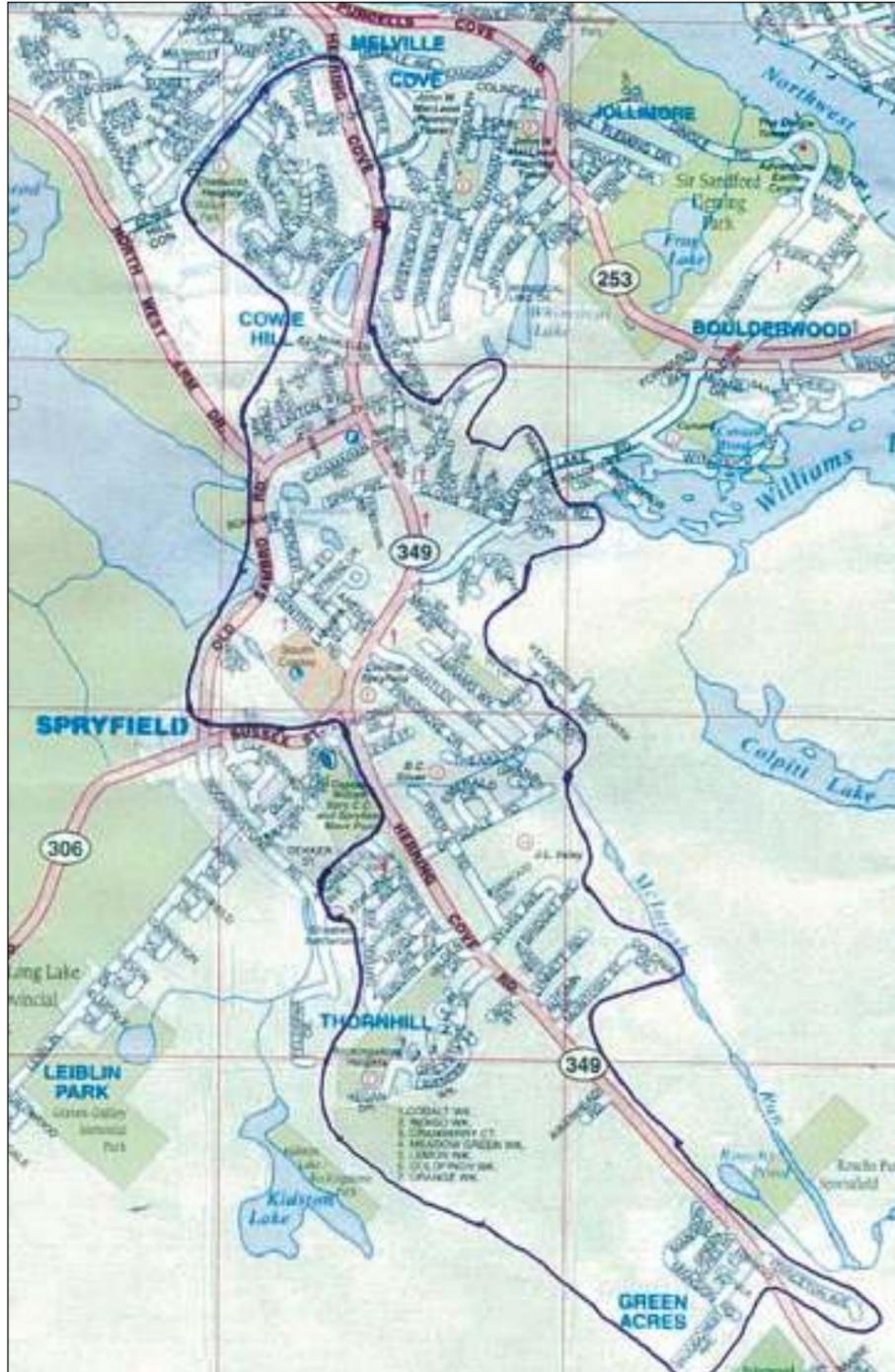
Improving literacy, quality of lives

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"learning disabilities". This workshop is put on to thank the volunteer tutors for their hard work throughout the year and to encourage professional development. Without their efforts the program would not succeed as it has. Although the program is provincially funded as a partner of Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning, the HCLN relies heavily on the support of volunteers and corporate sponsors.

To be eligible for tutoring a person must be 19 or over, out of school for a year or more and not have a high school diploma. To be a volunteer tutor you must have a high school diploma, be able to commit to 6 months of tutoring as well as the training required, and have the patience to teach these essential skills.

The HCLN runs its tutoring from Sept. to June and will be looking for volunteers in early September for the upcoming year. To enroll as a learner or volunteer as a tutor please feel free to call Denise Morley at 422-7648. She will be happy to answer any questions and address any concerns you may have. You can also get information on programs and literacy in Nova Scotia on the HCLN website: www.hcln.ca. For people looking to enroll in Spryfield they can also call Linda Oakley at 490-5715.



Spryfield Pathways is open to every student who lives in the Program Zone catchment area

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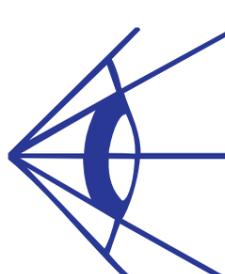
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Portuguese Cove basketball courts get a 'facelift'

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From a safety perspective, the absence of a gate door at the entrance of the park is a concern, as young children could easily run out onto the busy Ketch Harbour Road highway, where the speed limit is 70 km/hr. Also, there is no signage along the highway to indicate children could be playing. This, coupled with a lack of a closeable gate, certainly presents a hazard. For adults, particularly those with mobility challenges, the entrance to the

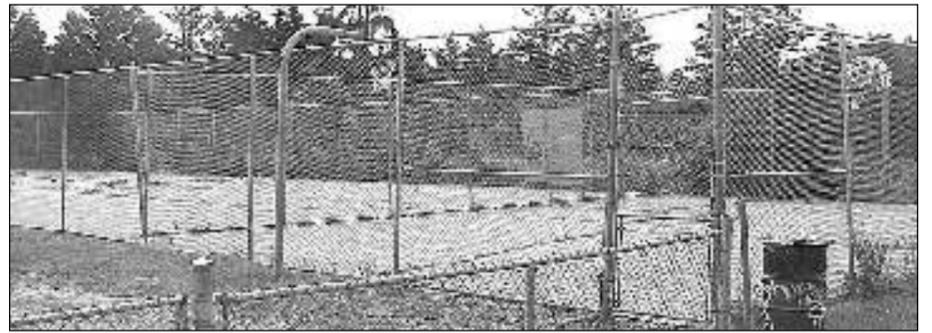
playground is narrow and steep. It might be difficult for a person in a wheelchair to navigate the dirt-surface entrance.

In addition to these enhancements, residents see plenty of potential for community recreation that embraces everyone in the Portuguese Cove area. Simple amenities like benches, tables with shade, and walking paths would provide a greater mix of accessibility and activity for all ages. Not only was the idea of toddler-aged equipment proposed, but exercise equipment for adults

was also raised, such as the kind that has been installed in the outdoor gym on Wyse Road in Dartmouth. It's clear that playgrounds are not strictly for children. In a time when fitness and

recreation are critical for a healthy lifestyle, the community playground is a valued resource.

Work on the basketball and tennis courts will begin sometime near August.



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RYAN BRENNAN

MONTHLY MEMBER PROFILE

Ryan Brennan is a lawyer practicing with the firm of Clyde A. Paul & Associates in Spryfield. A proud Spryfield native, Ryan joined the firm in 2009 after the spending the first four years of his practice with a commercial firm in Halifax. Ryan's practice includes residential and commercial real estate matters, wills and estates matters and business law, such as incorporations and business transactions. Ryan has been active in the community and is a member of several community boards including the Spryfield and District Business Commission, the Spryfield Lions Rink and Recreation Society and the Chebucto Communities Development Association. Ryan is proud to be a member of the Clyde Paul team of lawyers and staff and is available to assist you with your legal matters.

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DISCOVERING OUR PAST

Fleming Park's original plan and design was that of first park superintendent

By Iris V. Shea

The Memorial Tower in Fleming Park has recently opened for the 2010 season following some required maintenance and repairs to make it safe for visitors. Care and maintenance of the tower and the land around it dates back to August 1912, when the tower officially opened and the deed to the surrounding 95 acres of land was turned over to the City of Halifax for a public park. City Council named the park in honour of its donor, Sir Sandford Fleming. That section of the park was called the Dingle and it was not until 1948, and again in the 1960s, that Fleming Park was extended, through purchase, to the size it is today.

In the summer of 1913, City Engineer F.W.W. Doane reported to Council that the condition of the park was appalling. Damage was being done to birch trees and "nearly every person lurching at the park desires to heat a kettle of water, resulting in fires being built wherever it is convenient". Doane reported that the water in the brook was not fit for use without boiling it first and recommended that a well be sunk and a pump provided so that a larger and better supply of water would be available.

In 1914, the year that the two bronze lions were placed at the entrance of the tower, Mayor F. P. Bligh recommended that Fleming Park be managed by the Point Pleasant Park Commission. The acting solicitor, Robert T. MacIlreith, a resident of Jollimore, said this could not happen without legislation. He pointed out that Sir Sandford Fleming, under a certain Chapter and Act of 1908, stipulated that three persons, nominated by Fleming, were to supervise the park at an annual salary of \$750. This amount was to be paid by the city for the maintenance, preservation and improvement of the park. Following Fleming's death in 1915, however, the city appointed Mr. Michael Cochrane, under the control of the Point Pleasant Park Commission, as caretaker of Fleming Park.

On May 1st, 1919, a full time superintendent of Fleming Park was appointed.

Mr. William Topple of Jollimore took over the position. He had 44 years of experience in the work that was involved in planning, maintaining and preserving the park, hiring local men to help him. Topple was paid a salary of \$600, with money allowed for expenditures. His annual salary eventually rose to \$1200. He and his hired workers removed the rocks and spread loads of sand for a beach at Fairy Cove in the summer of 1920. That same year Topple began to build a seawall which would, over a period of a few years, extend from Critchley's stone wharf to Boutilier's Point (the ferry landing). Repairs to the seawall were required almost annually as a result of vandalism and storms. That same summer they built a Pavilion for a Tea Room. Mr. Lorne A. Morash paid an annual fee of \$150 to the City Works Department to lease the Tea Room, and continued to lease it for several years.

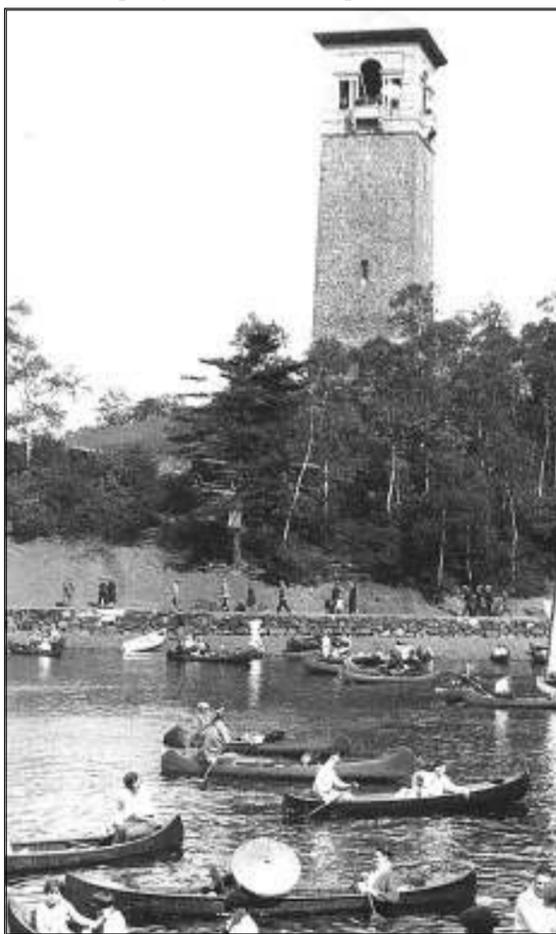
At the end of each summer season, Superintendent Topple provided a written report to City Council on the work he completed that season. Each year vandals would not only destroy parts of the seawall, but cut down trees; especially fir trees at Christmas time. In 1925 he reported "I have practically finished rebuilding the Main Road from the Fleming Gate down around the Tower, with the exception of about 125 yards... we have 5000 feet of Main Road for vehicles and 2200 feet of Shore Road for pedestrians." He terraced in the front and two sides of the tower, planting shrubs and grass on the slopes; built an esplanade in front of the tower; built retaining walls along the Shore Road; and built and installed the Ferry Wharf and Float. He installed

painted signs throughout the park, such as "Keep Right; Park Here; Keep off the Lions;

in the park were popular, and Illumination Nights and Venetian Nights brought crowds of people to the park during the 1920s and 1930s, creating extra work to clean up the following day. In his 1926 report, Topple wrote "We have built a Bandstand at a cost of \$40 which still requires a roof and sub-floor".

Road upgrades and repairs to the Tower were a constant draw on the money allotted by council for maintenance of the park. In 1934 City Council voted to spend \$1500 on repairs to the tower, particularly to the leaking roof, and \$1000 for general purpose maintenance of the park. Topple reported that "after 20 years of water running down as though a hose was being played up above, one would expect during the many winters of saturation and freezing that the walls would be entirely disintegrated". The old Tar and Gravel roof over the concrete on top of the Tower was renewed in 1934. Cracks in windows were plugged and painted. The windows in the tower were panes of glass and could be opened by visitors which often resulted in breakage (no metal bars like there are today). The memorial tablets on the walls were streaked from water damage and needed cleaning. The wall on the south side of the tower was repaired in 1935 and tenders went out to repair the remaining walls; but the roof continued to leak.

In April 1938, Superintendent Topple retired. Applications for his successor were received from F. Bignell, R.B. Salter, J.E. Slauenwhite, A.J. Smeltzer and A.Umlah. The successful candidate was Arthur J. Smeltzer of Jollimore. Superintendent Topple had been a driving force behind the layout and design of Fleming Park, and to this day his building and planning skills continue to be enjoyed by all who visit the park.



Boaters in this undated photo make sure that they keep off the lions at Fleming Park

Do Not Destroy Trees or Shrubs; Do Not Destroy Sea-Walls; Before Making Fires Get Permission from the Superintendent Who Will Show You Where to Build Fires." (The seawall and the retaining walls along the shore are still there but in very poor shape due to budget restraints). Band concerts



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Herring Cove Road lane reduction

By Bruce Holland, Executive Director, Spryfield and District Business Commission

I am writing this letter on behalf of the board of Directors of the Spryfield and District Business Commission in my capacity as Executive Director to bring your attention to proposed changes by Halifax Regional Municipality to the Herring Cove Road.

Let me qualify my comments by first stating that the business commission fully supports "Active Transportation" including bicycle routes, improved transit, park and rides, walking trails, shared transportation and any alternatives to improve health outcomes and the reduction of pollution.

What concerns us is the reduction of the Herring Cove Road from its current four lanes down to two in order to accommodate the installation of a bicycle lane.

While there are virtues to the HRM plan, installing medians with trees, which will

give the street a more boulevard look and the installation of left hand turn lanes, we truly believe that the reduction of the current four lane configuration down to two will dramatically restrict the flow of traffic and cause major traffic back ups.

Much was given up back in the eighties when property was expropriated to develop the current four lane configuration and we believe that the four lane configuration serves the business district along the Herring Cove Road and the general public very well.

We encourage both the business community and the general public to contact local HRM Councilor's Steve Adams and Linda Mosher as well as Mr. Roddy MacIntyre, HRM Transportation and Public works (490-5525) to voice your opinion on this matter.

We welcome your input. Should you require additional information, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Letters To The Editor

Politics — it's all in the name

I enjoyed Michele Raymond's article about distinguishing herself as a representative rather than as a politician. I would suggest that what she considers a misnomer has arisen because constituents in general do not perceive that their member represents them. I think there are several reasons why this is so. It appears to me that:

- Becoming and remaining a representative takes precedence over representing,
- Promises are made as a politician but broken as a representative,
- The perks of office lie outside/beyond how well one represents the constituency,
- The process by which representatives for office are determined is flawed.

People don't choose representatives. Parties do. (Perhaps an argument for everyone being active in a political party? One would think being an active member of society should be enough). But the majority of people see no significant difference between any

of the parties. They're all politicians - who become representatives - but stay politicians. Their goal is power, not representation. Canadians love minority governments because it's a way to balance power. People in Britain who remember the last coalition government (in the 40's) say it was the best government they ever had.

Representative? Politician? It's all democracy. As Winston Churchill once said, "Democracy is the worst form of government except all the others that have been tried." He also said, "The best argument against democracy is a 5 minute conversation with the average voter."

Perhaps if Michelle could convince her fellow representatives to work on modifying any of the realities in the points mentioned above we won't be so eager to perceive her and her cohorts as aliens.

Steve Anderson

From The Editor's Desk

Welcome to the June 2010 issue of the Chebucto News.

As you will notice, we have added a sports page to the paper. We are still looking for more organizations to join this page, so if your organization would like to be a part of the Reg Horner Memorial Sports Page, please email me with your info.

I would like to welcome Carrie Forbes to our staff. Carrie is a long time member of the Chebucto Community and cares a great deal about the issues that concern our readers. She is a Mom who works full time, but has a passion for writing. I look forward to working with her for a long time to come.

I would also like to welcome Lorrie back to work. She has been a great contributor of articles for the paper, but had to take time off recently to deal with some personal issues. On behalf of the staff, Lorrie, we are so glad that things worked out and you are back with us.

Finally, but most importantly, I want to wish my father a Happy Father's Day. Dan Doherty has always been a role model for me. He is hard working and gives his all with everything he does. He taught me about work ethics, financial responsibility, love, humour, the importance of family, and a great many other things over the course of my life. I am proud to be his daughter, and every time I interview someone who knows him, my pride strengthens as they always have a wonderful story to share about the ways in which Dad has touched their lives. Dad, I love you with all my heart, and I'll be raising a pint in your honour on Father's Day.

As always, I look forward to hearing from our readers, so if you have concerns, complaints, compliments or ideas, please email me at tangelene@live.com to share them.

Thank you for reading the Chebucto News. — Tangelene

Something needs to be done (open letter to HRM)

As a resident of Spryfield, I believe that the traffic signals at the intersection of Herring Cove Road and Dentith need to be changed. The numerous accidents at this intersection can attest to this.

People driving towards Herring Cove and also from the other direction are coming to an intersection that is basically a blind crest. People turning left onto Dentith cannot properly gauge the time they have to make the turn before oncoming traffic approaches. I believe to have a solution, after the green arrow for left turns and green light for those going straight towards the roundabout; then make it turn red stopping traffic completely. Then allow the others drivers going

towards Herring Cove a green light, thereby eliminating the left turning vehicle accidents at that intersection. Also another concern with this intersection is pedestrians getting hit on the crosswalk by vehicles turning left onto Herring Cove Road from Dentith. That crosswalk should be removed, or the light changed so that the pedestrians can cross completely and then the cars are given the green light to turn.

I will also be sending a copy of this email to the Chebucto News to be submitted as a Letter to the Editor. Thank you for your time.

Katrina Finigan
Resident of Spryfield

Thanking you for your help in our time of need

My family recently suffered a terrible blow as my spouse, Curtis Gilkie, contracted life threatening bilateral pneumonia and a severe case of sepsis with ensuing complications to his vital organs. It was a terrifying time for us as his life hung in the balance. During his almost 4 week hospitalization I was inundated with offers of assistance, child care, prepared meals, groceries, uplifting emails and phone messages, spiritual support, massage treatments, cards and generous financial assistance from so many co-workers, friends and acquaintances. This greatly eased the financial burden of his extended illness and a sincere thank you to those who took time from their busy lives to organize this, as well as those who so kindly donated.

The outpouring of love and support our children and I received was remarkable. Reverend Keltie van Binsbergen of the St. James United Church was a pillar of strength as she organized people to assist with everything that needed to be done. Prayers were being lifted up all across Canada, the United States and all around the world. People who don't even know Curtis were praying for his safe and healthy return to his family.

My sister Janet flew in from Toronto the

first week-end he was in hospital and made sure my kids were well occupied and having fun. All my coworkers at Sambro Ketch Harbour Elementary School were amazing as everyone pulled together to pick up the slack, and together with Annette Flemming, Jenna Gray and Doug Large at Chimo Taekwondo, made sure our children were well cared for while I was at the hospital. I had many dear friends who drove my kids where they needed to be and took them for sleepovers. Curtis' coworkers provided emotional and financial support, as well as ensuring that the proper paperwork was in place for benefits and offering any assistance they could to the children and I.

We are blessed to live in a place where people still help their neighbours. I could not begin to name the hundreds of people who played a part in helping us get through this horrific time in our lives, and I appreciate them all. I hold each of you in my heart and thank you sincerely.

We are very happy to have Curtis back at home and on the road to recovery, and we are told that he should eventually make a full recovery to good health.

Lorrie Boylen
Sambro, Nova Scotia

A very happy Mom

On behalf of my daughter Robyn and my family, I would like to thank the Chebucto News for choosing me as the Mother's Day contest winner, and I am truly humbled and honoured that I was chosen. I have read Robyn's letter over many times, and am so blessed to have an amazing young lady as my daughter and best friend, and am thankful that my sons and husband are so supportive and truly great guys. I will treasure that letter always, and the day we had together was just wonderful, from beginning to end.

Thanks to Wendall at Overall Limo for driving us into Spryfield and back, and gave us a tour on the way home! We all had a great time chatting with him.

We had a really nice brunch at The Blooming Cafe, and I now have a new "hangout" when I take each of my kids out on our "dates".

The flowers from Bloomin Flowers were

gorgeous, and many are locally grown, which I appreciate. They have lasted almost 2 weeks and have really brightened up our busy days.

Many thanks to Heppy's for the certificate for the pies. I haven't managed to get in there yet, but cannot wait to go in and try some of the pies, which I have heard a lot about.

And many thanks to Natasha, at Moments for a Lifetime for doing our family portrait. That is on the schedule tomorrow, and I know the photos are going to be just amazing.

Thank you to each and every one of you for what you did for me and for my whole family, and for making my Mother's Day so memorable and fun. I hope that readers in our area will support you all in your endeavours and support our local businesses.

Most of all to my daughter Robyn... thanks, sweetie, for being such a treasure and for taking the time to write the letter!

Ellen Hall

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Volunteerism is alive and well in Spryfield

By Carolyn Mont

In 2002, Spryfield won an award for Volunteer Community of the year. I want to tell you that volunteerism is alive and well in Spryfield.

I have written several times about St. Paul's Family Resource Institute and the good work that we do in the community. On Saturday May 15, we had our annual clean-up at the church and were thrilled with the help we had.

There have been several groups of young people associated with Katimivik in Spryfield during the past year. These young people have been assigned to work for various not-for-profit organizations within the community. Their work week is to follow the hours of the group to which they are assigned. However, on Saturday they volunteered on their day off and worked at St. Paul's sweeping gravel off the sidewalk,

filling potholes in our parking lot, digging up roots to improve our path, wheelbarrowing soil, spreading wood chips... I overheard several of them talking and one young woman commented that when her Katimivik year is over she will begin a job in an office. She has seen such immediate results with her volunteerism here in Spryfield and will miss it very much. We accomplished much more than we would have without their participation that day. Many thanks.

The gardeners at our community garden were also out in full force. Some of them worked on the parking areas for the garden, shoveling gravel. Others joined the group working on the trail clearing brush and spreading wood chips. The wood chips were donated by Clarence Talbot of Tree Works; another example of cooperation in this community.

It should not go without mention that many members of the congregation also

worked hard that day. We are located on a busy corner and lots of litter collects in the ditch in front of the church. For the moment, that is cleaned up. The windows

and pews were polished, floors cleaned and a wonderful lunch for all participants was provided by the congregation.

Many thanks to all who participated.



Candace Sutherland runs to feed others

By Jason Doherty

Candace Sutherland is a 17 year old girl of aboriginal descent with an altruistic outlook on life. She was born into poverty in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Growing up relying on food banks to eat and seeing other children suffering became her inspiration rather than an excuse to fail. Since the age of eight she has dedicated her young life to helping people.

Candace's life has since been full of selfless acts and accomplishments. She has been awarded 6 divisional gold medals in the 18 mile run in her home province of Manitoba. She has collected and given out over 150,000 pounds of food to the needy in Winnipeg. Along with donations from a local grocery store, Candace uses the money she earns on her paper route and any money she wins running. Every year she holds a 10 km run in Winnipeg, with all proceeds going to feed the many families living below the poverty line.

Candace's latest project is to run cross-country to raise funds for 4 separate charities: The Salvation Army, The Heart and Stroke Foundation, Canadian Diabetes Association, and the Canadian Cancer Society. She started her run on March 20th and expects to take almost a year to complete the journey. She runs during the day and sleeps in a tent on the side of the road most nights, although many hotels along the way continue to donate rooms for her. In fact, while in Halifax, the Four Points Sheraton gave her a free room for her stay.

Even though she is far from Winnipeg, Candace keeps in touch with family, friends and classmates via the internet mostly. And she has received plenty of support from the different communities she has visited on her trip, especially the aboriginal communities.

And her studies have not suffered during this adventure. As she makes her way across Canada, she has schoolwork sent to her so she can continue high school. As for her plans for the future, she wants to become a nurse.

A website has been set up for people who want to learn more about Candace, track her progress across Canada, or make a donation. People can also e-mail her and get to her Facebook page from this site. The website address is www.candacesutherland.com.

Despite her achievements, Candace remains a quiet, well grounded teen who dismisses any notion of being a role model. Although she doesn't consider herself a role model, if you asked anyone who has

met and talked to her they would agree that she the very definition of one, not just for aboriginal youth but all Canadians.

Adventure Earth Centre creates an Earth Day celebration with meaningful, positive impact

By Jason Doherty

Deep in Fleming Park lies a small stone building. What was once a church has been transformed, recycled even, into a centre for environmental education. It is the home of Adventure Earth Centre; a municipal program focused on environmental education, youth leadership and outdoor recreational activity.

To celebrate Earth Day, Adventure Earth Centre hosted an interactive, educational extravaganza. Inside the old church several displays were set up as well as a table of locally grown and produced foods and beverages. Cheese from Foxhill Farms sat next to an assortment of Heppy's pies and Just Us coffee and chocolates.

The displays focused on ways to live a more environmentally conscious life. There were samples of environmentally friendly household cleaners and re-usable bags on one display. Another tackled the great "Tap or Bottled" water debate.

Outside youth volunteers from HEAT, one of Adventure Earth Centre's youth leadership programs, took visitors on an energetic and interactive tour of nature. Following their philosophy of education through involvement, the volunteers invited visitors participate in various activities within the park designed to be fun as well as educational.

Adventure Earth Centre has educated and guided some 60,000 youth in HRM in its almost 30 year history. And more than 2500 children and 200 youth leaders participate in 1 or 2 day programs every year. They are always looking for new participants and leaders. Anyone from ages 5 thru 15 are welcome to join.

The HRM Adventure Earth Centre can also boast about their achievements nationally. The Centre was nationally recognized for its work in 2003 when they received the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association national award for long-term excellence in service, which is based on a 20 year period. They were also awarded the Canadian Environmental Education and Communication Network award for

excellence in environmental education by a government organization.

For more information please go to their website www.earthed.ns.ca.

No cold feet for J.L. Ilsley's Wedding Singer

By Katrina Campbell

The place? Ridgefield, New Jersey. The year? 1985. Bring on the hair, clothes and outlandish way of life. Better yet, bring on The Wedding Singer. Last month, J.L. Ilsley presented the musical The Wedding Singer. With an all star cast, this musical will be talked about as one of the best ever done by J.L. Ilsley.

When wedding singer Robbie Hart is stood up at his own wedding by his fiancée Linda, he is heart-broken. Heart-broken, that is until he falls for a sweet waitress named Julia Sullivan. This would be the perfect love story except for the fact that Glen Gulia, Julia's Wall Street broker fiancé, may have a problem with that. But by spending more and more time with Robbie while preparing for her wedding, Julia realizes that she loves him more than her own fiancé. Then with a dramatic interruption by Robbie on Julia's Las Vegas wedding, Julia breaks off her engagement with Glen to marry Robbie instead.

Directed by Keri Butler and pit band director Leslie Broomhead, The Wedding Singer was full of hearty laughs, fun songs

and memorable characters. It wouldn't have been such a pleasure to watch without the dancing choreographed by Mara Dieras and Beckie Whitzman. The cast of The Wedding Singer was made up of a fresh group of talented students with a lot of promise in musicals to come.

Grace O'Hara, who played Julia Sullivan, was the only veteran, having been a lead in Godspell, last years musical. Dan Abarbanel played Robbie Hart and was almost a ringer for the original actor, Adam Sandler, in both appearance and voice. Glen Gulia was played by Danny McNamara, who pulled off a great performance having been brought up to the part only two weeks beforehand. Amanda Field had a remarkable show playing Julia's racy best friend Holly. Brittany Cormier had an impressive debut playing Robbie's fiancée Linda while the hilarious duo of Kyle Manzoni and Cameron Rasmussen played Robbie's wacky friends Sammy and George. Robbie's crazy and rapping grandmother was played by Marcia Peters. Accompanied by an enthusiastic chorus and amazing pit band, not to mention a wonderful crew, The Wedding Singer at J.L. Ilsley was huge success.

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IN MEMORIAM



PEPPER, well-known Cat about Town was laid to rest April 23, on his 17th birthday, after a mercifully brief period of declining health. The family of his kittenhood would like to thank all of Pepper's friends and families in Jollimore, (especially Dorothy Jackson and Darren Stafford), for their indulgence of Pepper and their many kindnesses to him. He will be much missed.

Katimavik youth make a difference

By Tangelene Ramsay

If you, or someone you know, is between the ages of 17 and 21, and is looking for a challenging, rewarding and life changing experience, Katimavik wants to hear from you.

Every year, young adults from across Canada leave their homes, families, and friends to join forces for the good of communities all over this country. These people are the backbone of Katimavik. They do volunteer work for places like the Boys and Girls Club; the Lions Club; and the Salvation Army. Over the course of Katimavik's life, the equivalent of 650,000 volunteer work hours have been donated to nonprofit organizations.

For a number of years now, Katimavik has had groups volunteering in the Chebucto area. These participants are currently helping with after school programming for the Boys and Girls club; planting gardens with the Urban Farms Society; and assisting with the running of things like the St. Paul's food bank and the Salvation Army.

Before participants start their volunteer work, they are required to fill out a questionnaire and go through an interview process. This allows all concerned to match the right people with the right jobs. Halfway through their program they complete a second questionnaire, and then a third one after they finish the program. These questionnaires are important for the continuing success of the Katimavik program.

With the Katimavik group, learning is a 24/7 job. During the day, they learn about the different areas of volunteering and the importance of nonprofit societies. At night, they learn about living with people who can be very different from each other. Conflict resolution, respect, privacy, sharing, communicating, and cooperation are just some of the skills these participants learn while living together.

Katimavik can mean the difference between success and failure for those young adults struggling to figure out what kind of future is meant for them. Because of the wide variety of skills learned during their volunteer term, they can springboard into a great many

careers: education, computers, office work, and agriculture to name just a few.

In order for this great organization to continue to do their work in Spryfield, they need a supply of host families, and a home

they can rent for the duration of their stay. If you, or someone you know, can help out; or if you are a young adult who might be interested in joining Katimavik, please go to www.gokatimavik.com for more information.

One Katimavik youth shares her experience

By Sarha Darveau

Young, healthy, energized Canadians we are. Hungry for adventure and devoted to our country full time for 270 days. Nine months of cluttered schedules, busy days and learning plans. Nine months of traveling, group living and volunteering. But above all, nine months of doing, learning and building...one community at a time.

"Katimavik, which means meeting place in the Inuktituk language, was born from the vision of a humanist, Mr. Jacques Hébert, with the help of his friend Pierre Elliot Trudeau, Canada's Prime Minister at the time", as can be read on www.katimavik.org. Financed by the federal government, Canada's youth volunteer service-program has had its share of ups and downs during its 33 years of existence. Fortunately, the near future of the program is assured to be bright, having concluded in October 2009 a three-year funding with the Department of Canadian Heritage. Hébert had always talked about his program as the "school of life". As a current participant of the program, I will call it the adventure of a life-time, nothing less.

I started the program last September with one suitcase and a backpack, both ridiculously full, and a vague idea of what I was getting myself into; I knew I was going to do full-time volunteer work and earn three dollars a day for a living, that I would be living with a Project Leader and ten other teenagers ranging from 17 to 21 years of age from across Canada with one third Francophone

and two thirds Anglophone and, that Vernon BC, Québec QC and Spryfield NS would be my three host communities for the next nine months. I knew it was going to be challenging but I had no idea how effective it would turn out to be.

Katimavik gave me an opportunity that so many Canadian teenagers should also experience. My group became like a second family as I learned to appreciate and work with every single person in it. We're all different and even if it may have seemed like a bad thing to me sometimes, I learned lots from everybody else. Besides, issues are present in every family and that's I think what makes us stronger and wiser.

The different work placements I've been assigned to and the many volunteer opportunities we had added lots to my personal experience. I discovered in myself skills I wasn't aware of possessing; I developed expertise in some areas that I would have never touched otherwise. I learned about my country, its cultural differences and the diverse people that live in it.

Katimavik totally changed my perception of life, opened my eyes to what is really important and helped me on so many levels that no words can fully express it. No, it hasn't been a piece of cake; I had some hard times but the countless memorable moments my group and I shared and the wonderful people I met all across my country made the whole experience absolutely worth it. Katimavik pushed my limits and I'll be forever grateful for it.



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Local painting company brightening lives since 2003

Since its inception in 2003, Finishcoat Painting Ltd. has been providing Halifax with a high-quality local painting contractor. Owned by Dave and Beth Walsh, who live in the Spryfield area, Finishcoat is a full-service professional painting company offering outstanding customer service and craftsmanship. "I really feel that what we do is important" says Beth "we are making people's homes more comfortable, more appealing and more saleable. Your home is your getaway and your investment and we fully recognize that."

Not only does Finishcoat recognize that the final results are important, they also recognize the process is important as well. "We want customers to know that the painters we have coming to their home are true professional tradesmen who are there to make the process as smooth and unobtrusive as possible" says Dave. "It is essential to investigate the company you are hiring to protect yourself and your property, we have safety certifications, worker's compensation, liability insurance and we are a member of the Better Business Bureau." When hiring Finishcoat Painting, you will not only have their professional painters working for you, but also your own project manager and full-time office staff to address any questions or concerns.

Finishcoat has recently introduced two new services to enhance the residential experience: Finishcoat Green, which is an option for customers who are interested in using no VOC paints and environmentally friendly practices. "We're really pleased to be the first company in Halifax to offer this service," says Beth "We are lessening our impact on the environment, and it is great for those with children, the elderly or those who have environmental sensitivities."

Their second new initiative is complimentary colour consulting, offering clients hundreds of colours, in their home, to help them get the exact result they are looking for.

Whether you are looking to paint your exterior now that the warm weather has

arrived, or are looking to spruce-up your home for re-sale, painting is the most cost-effective way to boost the look and the

value of your home. Have a look around your neighbourhood and chances are some of the freshly painted homes have been

touched with Finishcoat's brush — you too can have the Finishcoat experience by calling for a free estimate.



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Congratulations to all
graduating students of 2009/2010.
Best of luck in your future endeavours.

Yours truly, Uncle Bucks and staff.

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Sambro production from the heart

By Lorrie Boylen

St. James United Church in Sambro revived their dinner theatre tradition this year with an original production entitled "From the Heart," written by Reverend Keltie Van Binsbergen with assistance from Eva Mae Gray. It was based on the "From Sambro Beside The Sea" CD, which was available for purchase during all five sold out performances. Also available were prints by John Rae of the tall ship "HMS Tenacious" taken around midnight on July 27, 2004 while it was anchored off Inner Sambro Island, and "The Watch Before the Dawn," which depicts the fishing vessel "The Beverly Faye", originally painted by Jim Duthie, who wrote many of the songs on the CD.

The story tells of a young Sambro man who brings his city-bred girlfriend home for a visit and how, despite initial disdain, the girl comes to love the fishing village and its residents, and they her. The play demonstrates the strong characters that reside in fishing villages like this all over the Atlantic coast, and how they come together in times of trouble.

Coincidentally, this community spirit was demonstrated vividly as Sambro and the surrounding areas suffered a power outage just as they were preparing the dinner for the final night's performance. It was all hands on

deck as this resourceful community ensured that "the show must go on." Phone calls were made and Peter Gray arrived with a welding truck with a 12,000 volt generator belonging to CME, the boatyard in Sambro Head. Peter, Sherman Marryatt and Chris Savard set to work hooking it up to run the kitchen, auxiliary lights, sound, and the water pump so the toilets could be flushed. John Rae brought a case of flashlights to guide the way down staircases and other darker areas of the building. Aronda Garrison and Barb Reyno and their hard working crew kept the kitchen on schedule and aside from the lighting being a little dimmer than usual, the only indication that there was anything amiss was that the meals were served on paper plates and beverages in paper cups.

Copies of From the Heart's CD are still available for \$20 at several local businesses such as Danielson's in Spryfield, Wilson's Gas Stop in Bear Cove, Mishoo's Kwik Way in Sambro and Irving Mainway Gas Station on Old Sambro Road. The above-mentioned prints may be obtained for \$60 by contacting John Rae at 902-868-2916 or email johnr@navnet.net. All proceeds from the CD and prints are split evenly between The Canadian Cancer Society, St. James United Church, and the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society. To date, they have raised just over \$17,000.



The production was the culmination of many months of hard work with 19 actors, as well as many talented musicians, songwriters, sound, lights and stage crew, props people, artisans, donations, food preparation and cooking, setup, cleanup, serving staff, door persons, parking coordinators, general helpers, and of course the overall organization committee who make it look easy and keep it all running smoothly.



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Annual General Meeting

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Chebucto News Sports Page

HRM team to compete at 2010 Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships

Halifax Regional Municipality Aquatic Services have formed a team that will travel to Montreal on the June 5th weekend to compete in the 2010 Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships. The Halifax Guardians include coach Adrian Spencer, Equipment Manager Peter Cameron and 17 lifeguards from Northcliffe Pool and the Wave Pool: Mallary Smith, Lauren Keyes,

Audrey Prayal Brown, Rebecca Watts, Victoria Perron, Caleb Sager, Jesse Clarke, Max Clarke, Roman Soroka, Trevor Waller, Brandon Parson, Blair Mason, Carissa Dempsey, Rachael Betuik, Keith Lamontagne, Ryan Fahie, and Adam Fahie.

In March the Guardians won a provincial series which made it their third win in that series and set their sights for the national pool

competition in Montreal. Through fundraising and donations the team is well on their way in raising the money needed to get them there.

Lifesaving sport is the only sport in the world where participants first learn the skills for a humanitarian purpose and later use them in competition. The Lifesaving Society of Canada promotes competition as a training incentive and showcase for the abilities and professionalism of Canadian lifeguards.

As coach for the Halifax Guardians, Adrian Spencer explains, "not only do these lifesaving sport competitions legitimize our profession as lifeguards, but they help our staff become better guards - it's boosts confidence, helps them stay fit and keeps them training on a regular basis."

Lifesaving events are divided into three types - Surf/Open Water, Pool, and Emergency Response. Within the pool

category are the obstacle swim, manikin carry, rescue medley and lifesaving medley to name a few. All are fast paced and visually exciting events.

"One of the greatest benefits I've seen is the confidence in the guards that participate in these events. Even participating in one event gives them more confidence to handle anything that might come their way when they are on duty. Participating also gives incentive to stay active and more active translates into faster and stronger lifeguards on our pool decks and beaches," says Spencer.

After the national competitions are completed the international competition, Rescue 2010, takes place in Egypt in October and two of our lifeguards, says Spencer, are being watched by the National Selection Committee for that competition.



In March the Guardians won a provincial series which set their sights for the national pool competition in Montreal.

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XPlosion is the only Women's Tackle Football team in Nova Scotia. Their home turf is in Burnside, but these women come from all over Nova Scotia to play. They have home games on June 5th against Fredericton, and on June 12th against Moncton. Games start at 4pm. For more information, please check out their facebook page or their website www.xplosionwomensfootball.com



NOVICE LIGHTNING			
Date	Against	Time	Location
Wed. June 2	Bandits 2	6:30pm	Spryfield Arena
Friday June 4	Cyclones	6:30pm	Spryfield Arena
Sat. June 5	Storm	4:00pm	Spryfield Arena
Wed. June 9	Wolves	7:30pm	Sackville Arena
Sat. June 12	Tornados	12:00pm	Spryfield Arena
Thurs. June 17	Rebels	7:30pm	Spryfield Arena

PEEWEE TORNADO			
Date	Against	Time	Location
Wed. June 2	Rebels	6:30pm	Dalhousie Arena
Mon. June 7	Storm	7:30pm	Dalhousie Arena
Thurs. June 10	Bandits 1	7:30pm	Spryfield Arena
Sat. June 12	Lightning	12:00pm	Spryfield Arena
Thurs. June 17	Cyclones	6:30pm	Spryfield Arena

MIDGET CYCLONE			
Date	Against	Time	Location
Fri. June 4	Lightning	6:30pm	Spryfield Arena
Wed. June 9	Rock	6:30pm	Sackville Arena
Thurs. June 10	Bandits 2	6:30pm	Spryfield Arena
Thurs. June 17	Tornado	6:30pm	Spryfield Arena
Fri. June 18	Wolf Pack	6:30pm	Sackville Arena

Tremendous potential for improving Chocolate Lake Beach

by Linda Mosher,
HRM Councillor - District 17

The Canadian Navy has a rich history in Halifax. They are also one of Halifax's biggest employers. Regional Council has a Partnership Agreement with the navy and we have added new welcome signage to the 100 series highway entrances to HRM that include the phrase "Home of Canada's East Coast Navy". To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Canadian Navy, Maritime Forces Atlantic was granted the Freedom of the City by Mayor Kelly. The event included a parade with 1000's of naval uniformed personnel starting at City Hall and marching through downtown. It was an honour to be able to participate in this historic event. There will be many ceremonies in June including the International Fleet Review where about 30 visiting naval vessels will be in town from June 28-July 2.

Although Council had not yet deliberated the budget, part of the capital budget was advanced and came to Council. I am pleased that Council approved the tender award to re-pave Purcell's Cove Road and to install bike/pedestrian lanes on both sides of the road from civic #326 to the area by 505 Purcell's Cove Road.

We are conducting a needs assessment for Chocolate Lake Beach. This is an extremely well used beach but it requires enhancements to properly serve the needs of residents. On July 6, 2008, a hot summer day, 714 people were at Chocolate Lake. On July 29, 2009, another hot summer day, 760 people were at Chocolate Lake. Preliminary assessment has shown that the entire park area does not suit the number of people who are going to the lake. The parking lot is too small and on busy days it is difficult to get in and out. People park at the entrance and they block access so only one car can enter/exit at a time. In addition, they park on Melwood, sometimes blocking homeowners' driveways. The washroom facilities at this lake are completely inadequate. I have had residents complain consistently over the summer each year. We did have one regular washroom with a broken toilet seat and an un-reliable door lock. The washrooms were only cleaned once per week. Imagine cleaning a washroom only once a week with 500-700 going there each day! This was expanded to twice per week and was still inadequate. Last year we installed two portable toilets. This year we estimate that we will need four with a daily cleaning contract. I have requested permanent washroom facilities and we are first on the priority list, hopefully next year this will be a reality.

Other service changes required are the addition of more waste receptacles and increased frequency to empty them. The emergency beach road is bumpy, grassy and grown over with weeds. This should be cleaned up and surfaced to allow emergency vehicle access. We have had previous complaints about cigarette butts being thrown in the sand. Despite installing several butt stops this has continued. This year signage will be placed and the beach area will be smoke free.

There are safety concerns as sand erodes into the water and exposes rocks where children are playing. The sand also goes into the lake and can affect water clarity. There is a possibility to remove boulders, level this

area and add more sand to accommodate the number of users.

Previously, as part of the Herring Cove Road Streetscape project, I had requested a landscaped park area with benches and amenities in front of the lake on Herring Cove Road. Unfortunately, only minor work was done though this area has great potential to be enlarged and made into a picnic/park area.

Chebucto Update WITH MAYOR PETER KELLY

By Mayor Peter Kelly,
Halifax Regional Municipality

Hello once again. I hope things are going well for you.

Let's start with some encouraging environmental news.

In what we believe is a first for Canada, if not North America, the soft-drinks industry is cooperating with a visionary energy-reducing initiative spearheaded by myself and Regional Council.

Pepsi, Coke and others have agreed to install special devices on 2,000 refrigerated vending machines they have in our area, to reduce the energy they use by up to 25 percent. This lower demand translates into less coal being burned in power stations which, based on our calculations, will keep up to 5,000 tonnes of harmful emissions reaching the atmosphere each year.

Since Council and I are committed to reducing HRM's greenhouse gas emissions to 20% below 1997 levels by the year 2012, we applaud the soft-drinks industry for this kind of social responsibility.

Speaking of saving energy, staff informs me that every traffic light in the metro area will be switched from incandescent lamps to LED ones by the end of this year.

More than half of our 260 traffic signal systems have already been converted to the more efficient kind, resulting in an 85-per-cent reduction in energy costs. Part of the funding for the switch-over has come from Conserve Nova Scotia and Nova Scotia Power Inc.

Problems we encountered with build-ups of snow and ice on the new, cooler LED traffic lights have been solved by retrofitting special globe lenses. (Let's hope we don't need to worry about that kind of weather for a while!)

I'm sure you're aware that Regional Council has given the green light to a new, \$55-million central library in our community by the year 2014. It'll be built downtown at the corner of Spring Garden Road and Queen



Staff have also indicated we could consider a canteen. It was also determined that the retaining wall and bank area could be fixed up and another sitting area could be established.

There is tremendous potential to improve usability and aesthetics at the beach area. In addition, we are looking at the future of the Chocolate Lake Recreation Centre and the possibility of creating a new, vibrant centre,

focusing on existing programs and services and including other activities such as canoeing.

Not only will the expanded life guard program continue at Chocolate Lake and Cunard Beach, we are planning on opening the Dingle Beach area as soon as the environmental results confirm that the plant is fully operational and conforms to Canadian standards.

Street and will be a great asset for the entire municipality, thanks to the many resources it will contain and the services it will offer.

Now, here's the thing: since this is going to be your library, it must meet your expectations which means we'll need your input, and soon. The project is entering the design phase and the architectural team of Fowler Bauld & Mitchell and Schmidt Hammer Lassen wants to hear from you.

Starting next month, representatives will be hosting a series of public meetings and I encourage you to watch for announcements telling you where and when you can have your say. I also recommend you keep tabs on www.halifaxcentrallibrary.ca for more news about this important project.

Let's make our new library an asset for which generations to come will thank us.

And finally, here's a question: are you a gardener with nowhere to grow?

As someone who enjoys gardening, I can appreciate just how frustrating it must be for if you have a green thumb but no patch of dirt to call your own. Perhaps you live in an apartment or a condo or somewhere where the soil just isn't fit for planting.

Well, here's something you may not know: HRM encourages residents to get involved with community gardens – those small plots on municipal land where you can grow your own food, plants or flowers.

Community gardens are a marvellous idea which Council and I have been promoting for some years now. Not only do these plots help beautify neighbourhoods and get residents interacting with each other, they

promote an active lifestyle and environmental sustainability. They're also a great opportunity for young gardening enthusiasts to learn from the older generation.

There are a few rules, of course. Community gardens have to be small-scale, non-commercial and must comply with HRM's bylaws.

You'll be pleased to know that we've streamlined the application process for anyone wishing to start such a project. If you're interested, there are several ways to go about it. You can log onto www.halifax.ca and enter Community Gardens in the search box on the left-hand side. Or you can phone the HRM Call Centre at 490-4000 (1-800-835-6428) and one of our staff will be pleased to help you.

I'm a part-time gardener myself (well, trying to be), however my schedule often keeps me so busy here at City Hall that I don't get home until it's too late to get my hands dirty, even on weekends.

I was thinking about that the other day as I looked out my office window at the Grand Parade. That's when I got the idea: why not start my own community garden, right here!

The Parade has several out-of-the-way places where my green thumb could be put to satisfying use, planting vegetables that could then be donated to local food banks at the end of the season.

No, seriously...

Reach me at kellyp@halifax.ca or on my personal website www.peterkelly.ca or by phoning 490-4010. You're also most welcome to join me on my Facebook or Twitter pages.

MICHÈLE RAYMOND

MLA for Halifax Atlantic

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Despite a tight Provincial budget, positive changes are underway

by Michèle Raymond,
MLA for Halifax Atlantic

After a challenging but productive session of the House, it's good to look back and see that there was real progress made in matters provincial and local, despite a budget which has had to incorporate a variety of measures to keep the provincial debt from growing into a chronic, incurable "structural" deficit.

That budget has been designed, after wide and unprecedented consultations by the Minister of Finance, to bring the debt back under control within four years, so the province will no longer be haunted by a debt whose interest must be paid every year at all costs, but at unpredictable rates dependent on the vagaries of the world economy.

To eliminate this debt, the province will begin by reversing the two-per-cent HST cut by the federal government, and government departments have been asked to find savings in their existing budgets. Over the next four years, every dollar of increased provincial revenue will be matched by three dollars of provincial savings. It won't be painless, but at the end of it, we in NS will be masters of our own destiny in a way that's been impossible for a long time.

In the meantime, there are obligations, but also opportunities. The budget supports an Innovation Fund to help government departments take advantage of technology to save money and energy; this is the kind of investment that will pay dividends long into the future.

Despite the constraints imposed by being one of the most debt-ridden provinces in Canada, NS has made real legislative progress. I am pleased to be part of the government which has finally established a public process for establishing and administering the expenses of representation. The legislature's Internal Economy Board has been replaced by a new and more transparent Management Board, and the public will finally know how, and why, money is spent running the legislative process. I hope it means Nova Scotians can feel a renewed sense of ownership, and pride, in the governing of this province.

I'm also proud to be part of the government which has finally banned the cosmetic use of pesticides. A ban has been long debated, in the face of overwhelming evidence that pesticides damage not only dandelions, but human beings. (Most recently, there is even a suggestion that pesticide exposure may be related to an apparent epidemic of attention deficit disorder in young children). The ban on sale and use of non-essential pesticides (on lawns and ornamental plants) will be phased in beginning next year.

The province has also announced aggressive new targets for renewable energy, requiring 40 per cent of electricity to come from non-fossil fuel sources by 2020, and is working on a broad portfolio of energy sources: wind, tidal, biomass, solar and geothermal.

One of the most interesting initiatives, from my point of view, is the provincial commitment to help South Korea's Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering turn the huge, abandoned TrentonWorks factory into Daewoo's North American base for producing wind turbine parts. This puts our province at the heart of wind energy production on this continent.

Further, the \$25-million Manufacturing and Processing Investment Credit should serve to foster innovation and productivity all

around the province. (And I hope that our own Brenton Gray's boatyard, recently purchased by Canadian Marine Engineering, will be a big part of a renewed emphasis on manufacturing here).

NS has taken advantage of federal infrastructure money (the 'economic stimulus' package designed to create work in a time of recession), in a variety of ways. A \$710-million investment should produce about 7000 person-years of work, and \$300 million in new tax revenue, but equally important, these projects will build and repair roads, bridges, ferries, schools, hospitals and housing, and enhance energy efficiency in many existing provincial government buildings.

I was delighted last week that Halifax Atlantic was the scene of an announcement of \$14 million joint provincial-federal investment

\$1 invested returns \$25 with Pathways program

by Megan Leslie, MP, Halifax

This week I had the pleasure of attending a reception for like-minded individuals interested in bringing the "Pathways to Education" program to Halifax. We heard from Sam Duboc, Pathways Canada Chairman and David Hughes, Pathways Canada President about this interesting and innovative program for youth. And, perhaps more importantly, we heard from our own Murray Coolican who led a team of local volunteers in working to get a Pathways project started in Spryfield. I am happy to write that Spryfield will be the 9th community in Canada to work with Pathways.

Pathways to Education is a Federally funded Canadian program that aims to lower high school dropout rates and increase access to post-secondary education as a way of combating poverty and improving the lives of disadvantaged youth in Canada. Started in Regent Park, Toronto, Pathways provides programming that provides academic, social, financial and advocacy support in order to ensure high school graduation, with an aim to foster youth towards post-secondary programs and career development. This includes tutoring; group and career mentoring; free bus tickets and bursary programs; as well as Student-Parent Support Workers who help teens and their parents build relationships with teachers, schools and community agencies.

The results that Pathways has achieved are remarkable. For example, the dropout rate in Regent Park was reduced from 56% in September 2001 to 10% in 2010 and 95% of the eligible high school age youth in the Regent Park community are enrolled in the Pathways program. The program has proven that it is getting youth back into the classroom by reducing absenteeism by 50% and has even increased the college/university enrolment of graduates from 20% to 80%.

Why are programs like Pathways so effective at making a difference? Any society that makes serious attempts to better the education of its youth will reap benefits because education means better involvement in community and in the economy. Fighting poverty makes financial sense, which is a message that we do not hear nearly enough. Pathways even conducted a study to highlight that very point. The Boston Consulting Group concluded that the Return on Investment today for every \$1 invested in Pathways

for affordable housing in HRM. Out of this, \$3 million will build a new Ida Mae Marriott manor on Lyons Avenue, with 18 units for low-income seniors and three for persons with disabilities, while another \$5.9 million is being spent on improving roofs, siding, windows, doors and kitchens for the 246 units at Greystone. (The remaining \$5 million will be spent on 950 other units around HRM).

Broader initiatives include an Affordable Living Tax Credit, of \$53 million this year alone, eliminating provincial income tax for 18,000 lower-income seniors receiving the Guaranteed Income Supplement, and a poverty reduction credit to help about 15,000 low-income Nova Scotians. And, although HST may be higher, it's on a narrower range of items; there is no provincial HST on

necessities like children's clothing, shoes, diapers and feminine hygiene products, and of course, home heating.

Like the province as a whole, the Public Service Superannuation Plan has been threatened by its indebtedness. There are 7 retired pensioners for every 10 employees currently paying into the plan, and that ratio is dropping steadily, with 2000 people now eligible to retire, and 4000 more by 2015. That means the plan can only pay 69% of its obligations, and borrows to pay the rest, at about \$100 million/year interest. By stabilizing indexing for the next five years, at a guaranteed 1.5%, whether or not inflation occurs (as it did not last year), the plan can secure better borrowing rates and, with limits to future pension plans, should return to fully funded status this year.

programming brings a financial benefit to a community of \$25. That is incredible and doesn't even begin to take into account the benefits to a youth's everyday well-being, health, family and their ability to give back to their community through their actions.

To say that I am excited that Pathways to Education has come to Spryfield is an understatement. This is an incredible opportunity to invest in the youth in this

community and to invest in the very meaning of community itself. You can read more about Pathways at www.pathwaystoeducation.ca. The Spryfield program will have its first enrolment evening, limited to Grade 9 students in the catchment area, on June 14, 2010 and the tutoring and mentoring will begin in September 2010.

Congratulations to everyone involved in bringing this program to Spryfield!

A new city budget, clarified

by Stephen Adams,
HRM Councillor, District 18

Over the past month, there has been a great deal of discussion pertaining to our budget, and ways to deal with the over \$30 million shortfall. As I write this article, Council is deliberating possible cuts to services, programs and staff.

One of the items that continuously arises is that of our two discretionary accounts. One of these accounts is for \$3,000.00. This account is used for contributions to school fairs, community organizations, sports teams and fundraisers.

The other amount has approximately \$65,000.00 available. These monies are used to enhance playgrounds, small parks, community facilities and other projects whereby structures are necessary.

If these funds were cut, many of the new playground structures would not have been installed. Upgrades to the rink such as bleacher heaters could not have been made possible. The Urban Farm would have had to find alternate sources of funding for some of their projects, and other improvements would not have been possible.

As always, I have posted these expenditures on my website for your perusal. Should you find any of these unclear, please call me.

Since I had shoulder surgery in April I have been recovering and not able to attend all of the community functions that I would have liked to attend. However, I have been able to address many concerns through written correspondence.

One of the issues I have been trying to address is that of ATV access to trails and camps in the Sambro/Williamstown area. Those that have travelled these trails for years have never been prohibited from accessing certain

paths because of land designations. Although I appreciate that areas must be protected, the existing trails can actually prevent damage as no new trails need to be made. We will continue to seek solutions to this issue.

Chebucto Head Road and Duncan's Cove Road are also issues that I have been discussing with the Minister of Transportation. The provincial government will not help with the maintenance or snow removal, stating that it is a federally owned road. I have sent a letter to our MP for her to action on Chebucto Head Road, as it is still owned by the Federal government.

Duncan's Cove Road has been an issue for many years with respect to its eligibility for financial assistance from the Province. At my request, our staff tried to add this road to the list, but provincial staff would not accept the application. However, through correspondence with the Minister of Transportation, he has suggested that it may now be eligible. We have started the process for inclusion of Duncan's Cove Road in the Provincial Paving Program.

In May, I met with a few community members to discuss an exciting proposal for Spryfield and surrounding areas. This piqued my interest and, if successful, will surely be popular.

As some of you may recall, the Spryfield Silver and Black Attack was a minor junior hockey team from the 1980's and 90's. We formed this team so that players coming out of midget had somewhere to play.

We are now in the planning stages of developing a Junior "B" franchise in Spryfield. I will be making a presentation to the Nova Scotia Executive for entrance into the league. By the time you read this article, we will know if we were successful.

In my next column, I will make sure you are updated. I am extremely excited about the possibilities this will bring.

Megan Leslie, MP

For information or assistance contact:

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Halifax, NS, B3K 3B5 Email - leslim1@parl.gc.ca

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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

Dahlia Society of Nova Scotia

The Dahlia Society of Nova Scotia will have its monthly meeting on June 9th at 7:00pm in the Captain William Spry Center, Spryfield. The program will be a photo presentation from the American Dahlia Society on the giant dinnerplate dahlias called "Biggies". Everyone welcome, come and enjoy beautiful photos of dahlias and information on how to grow these great flowers. For further information call (902) 668-2838.

Lobster Supper

St. James Anglican Church in Herring Cove is having a Lobster Supper on Saturday, June 12 from 3:00pm - 6:00pm. You have a choice of lobster, scallops or 1/2 lobster and 1/2 scallops. For those who do not like seafood, we will be offering a ham dinner as an alternate. All our meals include mussels, salads, dessert and beverage. For ticket information, please call 446-8168 or 477-1051

CCDA Seeks Volunteers

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

Seeking House for Rent

Do you know of a 4 to 5 bedroom house, with a kitchen, dining room and living room, in Spryfield, that would be available for rent? Spryfield has benefitted enormously from having Katimavik Volunteers contributing their skills to groups over the last two years. In order for them to return to Spryfield in September for another year, they need to find another house to live in. If so, please reply to Eva George at egeorge@katimavik-atl.org

Urban Farm Meeting

The Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield will meet on Monday, June 14th, 2010, 7pm at the Capt. Wm. Spry Community Centre. Volunteers and new members welcome. For further information please contact Pat @ 477-6087 or e mail jamac@ns.sympatico.ca

Come Grow With Us

Come Grow With Us are programs that teach children and people of all ages the benefits of growing their own food and provide participants with valuable how-to skills. Each person will gain new skills in gardening, meet new people and bring home fresh, nutritious produce each week. Urban Farm/Greystone Garden-Tuesdays from 3pm to 5pm. Urban Farm off Rockingstone Rd-Tuesdays from 6pm to 8pm. For more info call Heather @ 877-7765 or Pat @ 477-6087

Keep the UCW Tradition Going

The UCW (United Church Women) at St. James United Church in Sambro is looking for women who like to socialize and help others. If you are interested, please call 868-2791.

Elderobics

Elderobics, sponsored by the YMCA, is an exercise program for older adults. Participants are encouraged to exercise at their own pace. Classes are held many HRM locations, including Emmanuel Church Hall, St. Phillip's Anglican Church Hall, St. Matthias Church Hall, and Bethany United Church Gym. Fee is \$3 per class plus an annual fee of \$5; free to Y members. Sessions are led by qualified YMCA fitness instructors and set to lively music.

Each class includes a warm-up, low-impact aerobics and muscular strength exercises, followed by stretching and relaxation. Come join the fun...and get fit! For more information call Susan Theriault at 423-9622 Ext.253.

Auction 45 Cards

Come join us for an evening of fun every Monday at 7pm in St. James Church hall, Sambro, playing cards. Admission \$2.50. Merchandise prizes. Light lunch included. For information call Eva Mae at 346-2075

Legion Events

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

Coffee House

Quarter Note Singers will be hosting a Coffee House on Sunday, June 6, 2010 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. Light refreshments will be served. Donations accepted.

Father's Day Halibut Supper

June 19, 2010 from 4-6 p.m. at St. James United Church in Sambro. \$12.50 for adults, \$7 for children. Includes halibut, mashed potatoes, vegetables, cole slaw, rolls, tea, coffee, dessert.

Grosvenor Wentworth School Spring Fair

Come and enjoy the spring fair on Saturday June 12th 11am - 2pm at the school, located at 4 Downing Street. Lots of stuff for everyone: children's games, Glow parties inflatables, Bistro, cake walk, BBQ. There will also be a silent auction, plant sale and new to you table. This is our school's major fundraiser so we are looking for your support! check out our web site egwps.ednet.ns.ca

LOCAL OBITUARIES

Courtesy of J. Albert Walker Funeral Homes Ltd.

COOPER, Doris Pauline "Dolly" — 78, Spryfield, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 5, 2010 in Drummond Hall. Born in Halifax, she was a daughter of the late Charles and Audrey (Wilneff) Lowe. Dolly enjoyed crocheting, knitting and beadwork. She loved her dogs and was a longtime member of St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church. She will be lovingly remembered and never forgotten by daughter, Janet (Dave Downing), Bedford; sister, Margaret Gaudet, Clayton Park; nieces, Nancy Casey and Louise Blades; nephew, Joey Lowe. She was predeceased by husband, Doug; brother, Harold Lowe; nephew, Charles "Chuckie" Lowe. Arrangements are under the care of J. A. Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Road, Spryfield (477-5601). In keeping with Dolly's wishes, there will be no visitation. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, May 8 at 10 AM from St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Fr. Rob Arseneault as celebrant. Interment to follow in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Lower Sackville. Family flowers only, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Society or the Lung Association of Nova Scotia.

FRANKE, Stephanie — 93, Halifax, passed away on Sunday, May 16, 2010 at Melville Lodge, Halifax, NS. Born in Connecticut, from where she emigrated in the 70's, she was a daughter of the late Stanley and Katherine (Lempart) Rybarz. Throughout her career, Stephanie was a practical nurse, from which she retired. She is survived by sisters, Irene (Nicholas) Wengloski, Connecticut, and Ethel Cholawa, Connecticut, one brother, Stanley (Mae) Rybarz, of Connecticut, and her former daughter-in-law, Mary Grover (Alex), Dartmouth, NS. Stephanie was predeceased by her husband, Walter Richard Franke, her only child, Walter Stefan Franke, sister, Helen and brother, Edward. The family wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of the nurses and doctors of Melville Lodge for all of the care and compassion shown to Stephanie while in their care. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 from 7-9 PM from JA Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Road, Halifax, NS (477.5601). Funeral service will be held on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 2 PM from the funeral home chapel. Interment will take place in Sunrise Park Inter-Faith Cemetery, Hatchet Lake. In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to the charity of one's choice. Words of comfort may be sent to the family by visiting www.walkerfh.com

SLAUNWHITE, Dorothy C. "Dolly" — 64, Halifax. After a brief but brave battle with cancer, Dolly passed away peacefully at home, on Sunday, May 16, 2010 surrounded by her loving family. Born in Halifax, she was a daughter of the late Albert and Gladys (Oakley) Connors. Dolly worked at the Queen Elizabeth High School for 23 years. She was a loving mother and grandmother who loved her grand-doggies. She will be lovingly remembered and never forgotten by her children, Terry (Lorna), Halifax; Tammy (Jim Jean), Beaverbank; Clint (Cathy), Lower Sackville; grandsons, Brandon, Mitchell

and David; brothers, Charles, Danny, Howard and Graham; sister, Heather; several nieces and nephews; many friends. She was predeceased by son, Roger Jr.; sister, Gladys. Arrangements are under the direction of J. A. Walker Funeral Home (2005) Ltd., 149 Herring Cove Road, Spryfield (477-5601), where visitation will be held on Wednesday, May 19 from 2-4 and 6-8 PM. A service of remembrance will be held on Thursday, May 20 at 10 AM from the funeral home chapel. Interment will follow in Mount Olivet Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in Dolly's memory may be made to the Canadian

Cancer Society. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting: www.walkerfh.com

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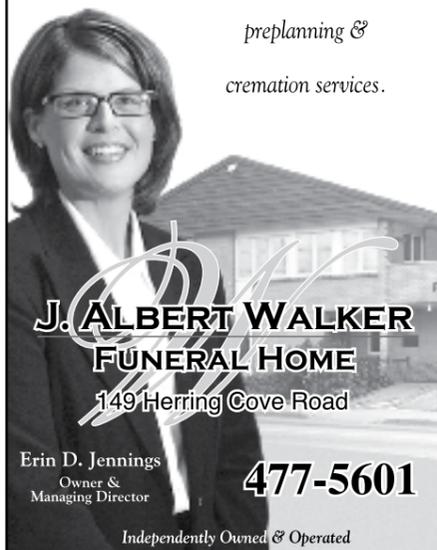
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Give Me a Call!
Dan Doherty
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THIS MONTH'S FEATURED HOME:
 This wonderful semi is situated on a dead-end street in a child-friendly neighbourhood. This truly is a MUST SEE. The list of renovations completed last summer is pages long and includes all new doors, windows, flooring, bathroom fixtures, kitchen cabinets, fridge, stove, dishwasher and combination microwave range hood. Plus it is freshly painted inside and out and boasts a just paved driveway, new steps to the back yard and new patio doors in the unfinished walk-out basement. COME HAVE A LOOK!!



23 HILDEN DRIVE — \$159,900 # 00283507



10 Rocklyn Road, Purcells Cove – \$279,900

Wow - count them SIX BEDROOMS plus two bathrooms - a great home for a growing family. Or alternately three bedrooms and bath for you plus space for the inlaws on the lower level which is a self contained unit with its own electric meter. (This is not currently a legal apartment as zoning has changed to H from the original R2). This home is located on a quiet dead end street in a beautiful area of Purcells Cove, just past the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron, give Dan a call today to arrange a private viewing of this home.



Dan Doherty 478-4023
www.dandoherty.ca



Limited Time Offer \$5,000 Builder's Rebate



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Check Out 45 Inspector Court in Silver Estates, a new subdivision on the site of the former B.C. Silver School. This subdivision is set on a quiet cul-de sac with single family 2 storey homes. This three bedroom home boasts a large master with bay, walk-in closet, and ensuite plus 2 additional good sized bedrooms and main bath. It features a large open concept kitchen/dining area with patio doors to a spacious 10 x 12 deck, a main floor powder room, large living room and a covered verandah on the front. All this and located only 5 minutes from the Armdale round a bout and major arteries. Come choose your colors, cabinets and flooring. The unfinished basement has space for an additional bedroom, family room, laundry/ storage as well as a full bath and storage area. These lots border on the nature reserve of MacIntosh Run and walking trails. Close to nature yet walking distance to schools, community center with swimming, churches and shopping. A great place to call home.



The serenity of a nature preserve. This quiet, cul-de-sac community is in the neighborhood of Pine Grove and Theakston, bordering on the nature preserve and trails of Macintosh Run. City serviced lots characterize this family community with caché. It's close to nature, yet walking distance of schools, retail services, churches and a community centre.



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18w x 36h \$109 (#1836SH)	32w x 36h \$169 (#3236SH)	38w x 38h \$179* (#3838SH)
20w x 36h \$119 (#2036SH)	32w x 44h \$169 (#3244SH)	38w x 44h \$189* (#3844SH)
24w x 36h \$139 (#2436SH)	32w x 48h \$179 (#3248SH)	38w x 48h \$189* (#3848SH)
24w x 44h \$149 (#2444SH)	32w x 52h \$179 (#3252SH)	38w x 56h \$199* (#3856SH)
24w x 48h \$159 (#2448SH)	32w x 54h \$189 (#3254SH)	38w x 60h \$219* (#3860SH)
28w x 36h \$159 (#2836SH)	32w x 60h \$199 (#3260SH)	40w x 36h \$189* (#4036SH)
28w x 44h \$169 (#2844SH)	36w x 36h \$179 (#3636SH)	40w x 44h \$199* (#4044SH)
28w x 48h \$169 (#2848SH)	36w x 38h \$179 (#3638SH)	40w x 48h \$199* (#4048SH)
28w x 56h \$179 (#2856SH)	36w x 40h \$189 (#3640SH)	40w x 56h \$219* (#4056SH)
30w x 36h \$159 (#3036SH)	36w x 44h \$189 (#3644SH)	40w x 60h \$229* (#4060SH)
30w x 38h \$159 (#3038SH)	36w x 48h \$199* (#3648SH)	44w x 36h \$209* (#4436SH)
30w x 40h \$169 (#3040SH)	36w x 52h \$199* (#3648SH)	44w x 44h \$219* (#4444SH)
30w x 44h \$169 (#3044SH)	36w x 55h \$209* (#3655SH)	44w x 48h \$219* (#4448SH)
30w x 48h \$179 (#3048SH)	36w x 60h \$219* (#3660SH)	44w x 56h \$219* (#4456SH)
30w x 52h \$189 (#3052SH)	38w x 36h \$179* (#3836SH)	44w x 60h \$239* (#4460SH)
30w x 56h \$189 (#3056SH)		

* Denotes E-Gress size



DOUBLE BANKED SINGLE HUNG

59w x 55h† \$369 (#6056SH-SH)
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71w x 55h† \$449* (#7256SH-SH)

† Shipped from alternate warehouse, next day.



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24w x 24h \$128 (#2424OF)	36w x 36h \$168 (#3636OF)
30w x 20h \$148 (#3020OF)	48w x 20h \$168 (#4820OF)
30w x 24h \$158 (#3024OF)	48w x 24h \$178 (#4824OF)
30w x 30h \$168 (#3030OF)	48w x 30h \$188 (#4830OF)
36w x 20h \$148 (#3620OF)	48w x 36h \$198* (#4836OF)

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63w x 48h \$449 (#6448SH-P-SH)	95w x 48h \$549 (#9648SH-P-SH)
79w x 36h \$449 (#8036SH-P-SH)	95w x 56h \$549 (#9656SH-P-SH)
79w x 48h \$499 (#8048SH-P-SH)	95w x 60h \$599 (#9660SH-P-SH)

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20x24	\$3697	\$4297	\$5497	\$6897
24x24	\$4197	\$4897	\$5997	\$7997
24x30	\$4597	\$5497	\$6697	\$8997
30x30	\$5797	\$6597	\$7997	\$10,697
30x36	\$6197	\$7197	\$8797	\$11,797
30x40	\$6597	\$7597	\$9297	\$12,497

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