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## Sambro Island tours coming this Spring



The Sambro Island Lighthouse has been in operation continuously since 1760. This spring Crystal Crescent Charters, owned and operated by Dennis and Nadine Garrison of Sambro, will be providing tours around the island on their boat Witchy Woman. More photos on page 11. PHOTO: SANDRA DeMONT



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## Sammy says

The Sambro Area Community Association (SACA) has been fundraising and hosting events for awhile now in support of a future community centre in Sambro, as well as a mobility accessible fishing wharf and picnic area at Grand Lake. You may be wondering what happens to all that money.

SACA's biggest event of the year, the annual Sou'Wester Days Festival, brought in \$49,213 in 2023. That money came from sources such as the community tent \$18,525; breakfast \$1,218; washer toss tournament \$730; baseball tournament and shirts \$5,430, as well as the proceeds of our Rafflebox draw, rubber duck race and 50/50 tickets.

That sounds like a lot of money, right? But expenses were \$40,473, meaning SACA is left with \$8,740, which is earmarked for our future community centre. There have been years in the past that we cleared less than \$1,000.

What type of expenses do we have? Things like: inflatables for kids carnival \$2,108; fireworks \$8,625; policing \$3,223; portable toilets \$1,190, liquor liability insurance \$1,683; security \$1,370; Liquor \$3,286; community tent setup and takedown \$2,300; ball gear \$1,236; electrical supplies \$891; fencing \$655; memorial wreath for Blessing of the Fleet \$401; trophies \$421; chair rentals \$648; parade prizes \$300; sound equipment rental \$89; food supplies \$724; gift card honorarium \$150; Rafflebox fees \$393; parade float supplies \$225; Alcohol and Gaming \$52, among others.

Some of our other expenses throughout the year include permit fees, Joint Stock Exchange fees, professional consulting fees, and the supplies for the Lieutenant Governor Reception we hosted when Sambro won the Community Spirit Award.

Our other major annual event is the 2023 Shay & MacKay Memorial Fishing Derby, which brought in \$9,730 in 2023. Derby expenses were \$6,355, leaving us with \$3,374, which is earmarked for the wharf and picnic area at Grand Lake.

Community member Brandy Reyno has been running various fundraising activities and has donated over \$7,000 to SACA towards Sambro's future community centre.

Within SACA's bank accounts, there is over \$10,000 set aside for the Grand Lake project, and over \$49,000 for the community centre.

A detailed accounting of funds is always available at SACA's Annual General Meeting and a date will be announced soon for our next AGM.

Sammy Sambro is SACA's mischievous mascot. You can follow him on X and Facebook.

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## Build Nova Scotia investigates Williams Lake dam

by Cathy Vaughan

Public Works Minister Kim Masland is delivering on her promise to save Williams Lake by fixing the aging and leaky dam. If you've been to the Shaw Wilderness Park lately, you will have noticed the public service announcement posters taped to several trees next to the dam, the over-flowing spillway, and along the trail. These notices are from Build Nova Scotia and announce their investigative activities at the Williams Lake dam. This is good news!

Minister Masland asked Build Nova Scotia to oversee the geotechnical team that drilled several boreholes in the vicinity of the dam to check on the permeability of the soil and depth of the bedrock. These core samples provide important details for the new design of the outdated Williams Lake dam.

The track-mounted drill rig plus two operator-technicians, as well as two engineers and an archeologist, worked at the dam in the Shaw Wilderness Park in mid-December to collect details and data of the area to report their findings to Build Nova Scotia.

"We supplied Build Nova Scotia with documents, reports, as well as lake level and water quality data that



Geotechnical team investigated soil permeability and depth of bedrock next to the Williams Lake dam in the Shaw Wilderness Park

PHOTO: CATHY VAUGHAN, DECEMBER 18, 2023

our directors have been collecting for 20 years. This recent exploratory geotechnical procedure at the dam is an important and welcomed step to saving this important lake," stated Murray Coolican, president of the Williams Lake Conservation Company.

With the alarming effects of humancaused climate change so evident in our province, Masland's commitment to renewing this ineffectual and outdated infrastructure is timely. A properly functioning dam will stop the yearly drastic drop in lake levels, prevent uncontrolled flooding of residential properties downstream and protect the Purcells Cove Road from potential wash-out. The consistent lake water levels will preserve the many complex ecosystems of Williams Lake and protect the rare and sensitive wildlife habitats in the Williams Lake watershed. The new dam will hold the lake waters to safe and healthy levels for everyone to enjoy Williams Lake all year.

This is dam good news!!

### Chebacto Neas

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Email to: "The Editor" chebuctoeditor@gmail.com

#### Advertising Inquiries:

Dan Doherty 902-478-4023 dandoherty12@gmail.com

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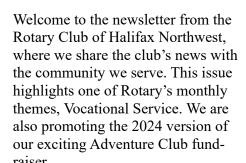
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## **A Rotary moment**

## From The Rotary Club of Halifax North West



But first: Happy 2024! We hope you had a Happy Christmas and that you are ready to meet the New Year. Let's hope this year is an improvement over 2023. That said, Rotarians tend to look on the bright side of things. We get lots of satisfaction from the good works we do in our communities, both local and global. The world keeps getting smaller, and conditions abroad are increasingly affecting us here at home. The World is a village!



Vocational service calls on us to foster high ethical standards in everything we do. Every member is encouraged and

expected to live by the Four-Way-Test as part of their commitment to Service Above Self. In everything Rotarians

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Rotary membership is made up of ordinary people doing extraordinary things in their communities, both local and internationally. Rotarians around the world are fellow workers, neighbours and friends who generally keep a low profile, which masks their passion for giving of themselves for the greater good. Rotarians bring to Rotary the benefit of knowledge and experience, and a will to put these assets to good use. And younger members can also benefit from older members through mentorship and leadership.

By including working or retired men and women from diverse professions and backgrounds, Rotary recognizes the importance of all skills and occupations and encourages our members to leverage their skills and expertise to enhance communities.



We have embarked on our third year with our very successful fundraiser

- The Rotary Adventure Club. For a \$100 yearly membership, members get to win trips and we get to give

back to deserving charities in our communities. The first of 6 draws for fabulous trips in 2024 is in early March, along with 4 draws for \$100 consolation prizes each month in addition to the major prize. This year's trips include Orlando, Las Vegas, Costa Rica, Spain, Portugal and Iceland!

For more information, go to https//rotaryadventureclub.ca

Our Rotary Club of Halifax Northwest welcomes everyone to explore community service with us! We pride ourselves on being diverse and inclusive – and we're friendly! We currently meet virtually every Tuesday from 1145 to 1 pm. at Smitty's at 362 Lacewood Drive. For more information contact Roger Chiasson at rogerchiasson305@gmail.com or 782 234 9408.

## **Forever Young Gift Card Winner**



The Forever Young Senior's Club (FYSC) wishes to announce the winner of the "Forever Young Senior's Club" gift card picture frame fall 2023 valued at \$500.00.

The winner is Rick Tanner of Uncle Buck's Pizza Spryfield. Shown in the Picture is Rick Tanner with his win and in the second picture is the presentation of the gift card picture frame.

President Findlay (president of the FYSC) and club members wish to thank Spryfield and it's surrounding areas for their support of our raffle. Special thanks to Dylan Dunbar and No Frills for allow our club members sell tickets at No Frills entrance.

Proceeds from the raffle help support the programs for our seniors.

Thank you, Spryfield and surrounding areas.

Left: Rick Tanner

Below, left to right, Dennis Findlay (president of the Forever Young Senior's Club), Katelyn Chapman (Rick's Tanner's daughter), and Deb Thompson (entertainment committee co-ordinator of the Forever Young Senior's Club).

Share your thoughts and opinions with us:

chebuctoeditor@gmail. com



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#### DISCOVERING OUR PAST



### History of Ferguson's Cove School

by Iris Shea A petition of the inhabitants of Ferguson's Cove, dated 20 February 1837 showed an interest in schooling for the children of that community. The petition, located at the Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management reads as follows:

To the Honourable, the House of Assembly, the Inhabitants of Ferguson's Cove

Humbly sheweth that your petitioners are extremely anxious that their children should enjoy the benefits of education, but that they are quite unable themselves to support a school master among them and would therefore respectfully by this

Honourable House, to consider their peculiar circumstances and extend such assistance toward them for the appointment of a teacher as this House in its wisdom may be peasant to afford ... and as in duty bound...

Your petitioners will ever pray as:

Conrad Smith John Keefe William Brooks Charles Glazebrook William Stone David Smith J.W. Turner Thomas Stone Samuel (X) Glazebrook William Smith William Beverly Francis Hanrion William Conway Nicholas Power George Runner

The first official record found for schooling in Ferguson's Cove was in 1839 when a list of pupils and their parents was submitted to the School Board of the Western Region of Halifax County. At that time, no reference was made of an existing school building. In 1846, however, the school report for Ferguson's Cove, then called District No. 64, referred to the state of the schoolhouse as "a new building" and school was kept since 18 February 1843. One might assume that a private home was used prior to this date.

In October 1859, however, the Board noted that the school consisted of an 18x20 frame, and was in "bad" condition. The pupils, 25 females and 13 males, were being taught by Sarah A. Smith. The trustees were William Smith and William McLellan.

In his article, The History of Education in Nova Scotia, Ronald MacDonald reported that, as a result of the Free School Act of 1864 and



The photo of Ferguson's Cove School class courtesy private collection and Mainland South Heritage

the subsequent legislation which required all ratepayers in a school section to pay school taxes, some schools were set on fire. Paying for the education of other people's children was not a popular idea and in 1867 the schoolhouse in Ferguson's Cove was destroyed by fire (NS Archives, RG 14, vol. 25). It was not long after the incident that the trustees of Ferguson's Cove were preparing to build a new schoolhouse.

The Minutes of the School Commissioners of November 1869 recorded a request from eight ratepayers in Ferguson's Cove to have James Conway appointed trustee in place of Thomas Beazley whose term of office had expired. In May 1871, the trustees for Ferguson's Cove, District number 30, were Richard Hanrahan, Joseph White and Patrick Keefe. In May 1874, the school district was placed on the "Poor and Scattered" list for one year, an indication that the parents required a financial subsidy from the Board of School Commissioners in order to pay for the teacher and to help pay for building a new school.

In May 1876, the Board of School Commissioners remarked "If the Ferguson's Cove schoolhouse, District Number 30, be in a fair state of advancement at the end of six months from this date, the section shall draw their provincial aid for the term." A comment in the School Commissioners' minutes of November 1876 showed that a large schoolhouse had been erected in Ferguson's Cove, District Number 30, and while it was finished outside, it would be impossible to complete it during the term. The schoolhouse was situated in a valley between Purcell's Cove and Ferguson's Cove, high on a hill, with Fort Connaught

Battery on one side and York Redoubt on the other.

A request by the ratepayers of Ferguson's Cove in November 1883 to have the boundaries of District Number 30 defined, prompted this response from the Board of Commissioners: "This section, Number 30, begins at the north boundary of Herring Cove, Number 29 and runs along the shore of the North West Arm northerly to a point one-half mile above Lawson's Mill (ed. note: now Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron) with a width of one mile from the shore." By 1886, the Board ordered the Inspector to "notify the

trustees of Ferguson's Cove Section Number 30 that unless suitable furniture for their schoolhouse was provided after the present term, all Counties and Government monies will be withheld." Since no further complaint was made by the Commissioners, one would assume that the trustees were able to comply with the ultimatum. This schoolhouse, completed in 1876, became known as Falkland Village School in the early 1900s, combining Ferguson's Cove and Purcell's Cove into one school district.

William White and James Purcell were appointed trustees in November 1887. In 1910 Fergu-

son's Cove School Section, Number 30, was again placed on the "poor and scattered list."

A new three-room school opened in Purcell's Cove, Section 31, for the 1942-43 school year to accommodate the growing population of Purcell's Cove, but the children of Ferguson's Cove continued to attend their old school until 1966 when they were transferred to Dalhousie School in Purcell's Cove.

The one room schoolhouse with its pot-bellied stove and outdoor toilet had served the community well. One year, 112 pupils, representing 10 grades, were taught by one teacher.



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## **Christmas at St. Paul's Family Resources Institute**

by Carolyn Mont

So many times, things just go right. One question we might ask at such times is, "Why did this go so right? Who made it happen?" I think of this every year at Christmas when I see the work done by St. Paul's Family Resources Institute (FRI). The work I am referring to is the Christmas program where hampers of food are prepared and distributed to 160 families in our community.

FRI has a staff of two; Kristen Hollery, the Community Ministry Director at FRI is the first to say that the work of this program could not be done without the help of many hands. Both she and the part time Food Bank coordinator, Rena Eldershaw, rely heavily on outside help.

Before they can begin to prepare the hampers, they must first acquire the food that goes into them. Feed Nova Scotia, of course, supplies a lot of the food but it is truly amazing to see what comes in to supplement what the "food truck" brings every Tuesday. On a regular basis, a team from Stella Maris Roman Catholic Church volunteer to help unload the truck and they also bring a lot of extra food with them.

At Christmas, there are many individuals and organizations that step up to supplement the program. The congregation of St. Paul's make special donations of food and money at this time. Beyond our own church walls, we have tremendous donations from other groups such as Elizabeth Sutherland School, Fire Station 62, Stella Maris Church and St. James United Church in Sambro. A number of apartment buildings organize food drives in their buildings.

The Christmas hampers are not just about food. A group called Santas for Seniors prepared and donated Cheer Bags for seniors and these are added to the hampers. Lawton's Warehouse donated two pallets of hygiene products. Fire Station 62 also collected and donated most of the toys in our Toy Store. The Toy Store is really just that, a store where parents can look around and choose age-appropriate toys for their children. The toys are, of course, free to them.

That's all about the things that fill the hampers, but the hampers don't fill themselves. We have very dedicated volunteers who come weekly to fill the bags for Food Bank clients. However, the Christmas program is on an entirely different scale. Not only do we build hampers rather than fill bags, there are many more clients to be provided with help at this time of year. The regular volunteers continue to help, and members of the St. Paul's congregation step up but we also have tremendous help from the greater community. Volunteers from the DND, from JL Ilsley football team, and other students show up to help with this.

With the large hampers plus toys, it would be a challenge for folks to get home on the bus. FRI was happy to be able to provide drives for clients at this time and thank Sambro Loop Taxi





for dedicating two cabs to assist in this. As we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, we hope to see some of you at Soup's On, our free lunch program, starting again on Tuesday, January 9. The meal is not necessarily soup as some of you know. The last meal served in December was a hot, open faced turkey sandwich with stuffing, cranberry sauce and mashed potatoes, a delicious meal prepared and served by volunteers. If you wish to stay after for a game of cards, we would enjoy that.

If you have read this and thought you would like to be part of the volunteer community, look through the Chebucto News, check out local churches and organizations. It is a great way to get to know your community and the wonderful people who are living near you.



#### **DISTRICT 11**

311

Spryfield - Sambro Loop -Prospect Road

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ΗΛLIFΛX

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## What's Happening at the Urban Farm

by Janet Kidston

As the year 2023 is coming to a close, the Urban Farm folk have covered the garden beds with straw, stored rain barrels along with our rainwater catchment unit in our farm shed. Because squirrels stay the winter and are tempted to chew on anything they choose, we have stored our important items in storage containers with tightly fitting lids. Garden tools have been cleaned, and now there is just a bit of paperwork to finish up.

However, we still have to maintain the red tape at the top of all of our gardens. That tape keeps the deer away from our growing vegetables in the summer and reminds them to keep out during the winter, as the tape works as a visible barrier. We learned long ago that we had to teach our resident deer that the gardens areas are off limits all year. If not, they try each growing season to munch on our new veggies.

We still see pheasants looking for berries that have fallen to the ground. The pheasants are hard to see when they are being still, except for the male who has beautiful feathers. This past week I have seen one male and 5 females. We first spotted them in 1998, and it is nice to see them each year.

We have had a challenge with all the rain this past summer, and our summer student needed rain gear to complete his gardening chores in between showers.

Our interpretive panel was installed this summer. Lots of folks who walk their dogs have paused to read what the Urban Farm is all about, along with others who come to our



Dragonfly visiting

yearly events.

This year we found an expert tree trimmer, who checked our wooded areas, and who has agreed to keep the trees safely trimmed spring and fall, and after any windstorms. Josh Tanner lives nearby and this gives us a chance to have a permanent expert to work on the trails we hope to maintain for the public to walk on, visit with deer, watch a few birds, and see the beautiful ferns, mushrooms and other woodsy stuff.

A special thanks goes out to our volunteers. It was a pleasure working with them for our yearly events, and to repair our gardens; and just to weed, weed, weed. Our Come Grow With Us garden repairs are completed. The raised gardens have been replaced with new raised garden beds. Our main garden has new garden plots but is still a work in progress. Hopefully we will finish repairs for the 2024 growing season.

Our fairy door trail had new additions this past year. We hope for more fairy doors in 2024 and some chipped wood to walk on, to cover some of the tree roots. The deer seemed to really like this trail. The fairy doors have been gathered up and stored for the winter

I had a good time this summer meeting people who walked through and said, "I didn't know this farm garden was here", and of course to pet and chat with their dogs. Some of these nice people helped out "on the spot" with our chores. Thank you, hope to see you again.

Merry Christmas everyone, and a happy, interesting New Year!





Can anyone name this flower?

Ocean and Rachel enjoy the farm.

## Healthcare Improvement Challenge voting opens

Nova Scotians can now vote on ideas submitted to the Healthcare Improvement Challenge.

The contest, launched in October, received more than 2,200 ideas from healthcare providers and people in jobs linked to healthcare in Nova Scotia. The ideas have been narrowed down to a shortlist of 20 to be voted on by the public.

"The number of ideas received shows there are many commonsense, low cost and easy to implement improvements that will make a difference in the lives of patients, families and those working in healthcare," said Premier Tim Houston. "I thank everyone who took the time to submit an idea."

The top 10 ideas will be considered priorities, and the government will work with health-system partners to implement them, where feasible. Even those that do not make the top 10 will be considered if they have potential.

Nova Scotians can vote for their three favourite ideas from the list posted at: https://www.novascotia.ca/healthcare-challenge

Voting began on December 20, 2023 and runs until Monday, January 8. Results from public voting

will be announced by the end of January.

#### Quick Facts:

- the Healthcare Improvement Challenge ran from October 23 to November 22
- ideas were reviewed for cost and operational implications, the ability to implement them across the healthcare system, as well as the impact on patient care and experience, or facility and workflow
- the deadline for voting is 11:59 p.m. on January 8

Additional Resources: News release – Province Launches Healthcare Improvement Challenge: https://novascotia.ca/news/ release/?id=20231023001 If you have comments on this or any other article, send us your letters!

Write to: chebuctoeditor@gmail.com

### **OBITUARIES**

(continued from page 10)
playing baritone ukulele at church
services and concerts. His was the
smiling face above the uke. He loved
music and the chance it provided to
connect and have fun with others. He
was a good friend to many, including his family who often sought his
wisdom and gentle counsel. He felt
blessed to have been her husband
to Sally and traveled with her as far as
he could on her journey with dementia, caring for her with love and compassion.

#### **Lorne Anthony Dempsey**

It is with deep sadness that we announce the death of our eldest brother, Lorne Dempsey, age 72. He passed away unexpectedly on November 28th, during a brief stay at the QE11 hospital, in Halifax NS. A lifetime resident of Herring Cove, NS, Lorne was born on March 21, 1951, to the late Gerald and Frances Dempsey. He was predeceased by a brother Phillip Dempsey (Doreen) of Moncton, NB, and his beloved maternal Grandmother, Dora Dempsey.

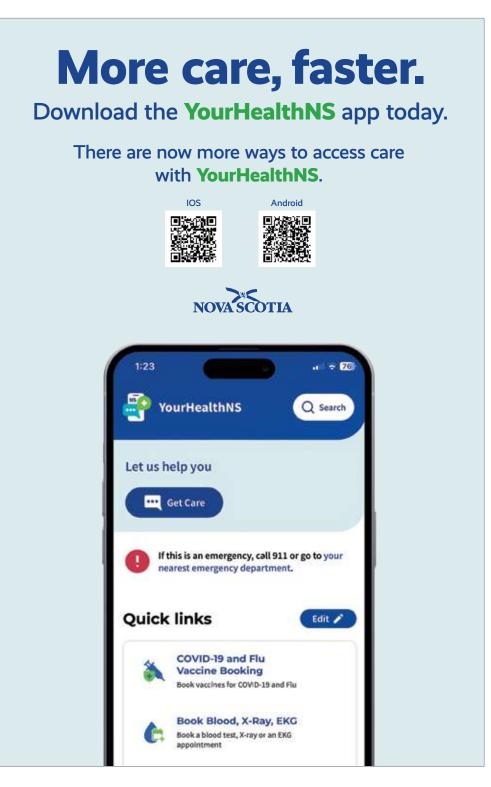
Lorne will be lovingly remembered by his siblings and their families. His brother Phil's sons: Jason Dempsey, (Lee) and Adam Dempsey (Becca); brother Stuart Dempsey (Heather) and family: Sara Knowles (Jason); Emily Beaver (Dave); Meghan Henneberry (Billy) and Kyle Dempsey; brother Greg Dempsey, housemate extraordinaire; sister Brenda Dempsey and family: Miranda Corbett (Matt), Kate McGee (Shawn) and lastly his sister Peggy Wheaton (David) and family Connor Wheaton (Lauren).

As a retired civil servant, Lorne had many career accomplishments; but beyond these, Lorne will be most remembered for his thoughtfulness, strong faith, and service to others. While he was able, Lorne took on many volunteer roles and as such, became a respected member of his home community of Herring Cove.

Those lucky enough to have known Lorne, and been a guest at his table, knew his culinary skills were unmatched. He was also an avid landscaper, a DIY home design warrior, and took great pride in his home and garden.

Affectionately known as "Nunk", to his many grandnieces and nephews, Lorne treasured the times he spent with them and celebrated their developmental milestones.





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## **Cuttell Community Update**

by Patty Cuttell, HRM Councillor, District 11, Spryfield-Sambro Loop-Prospect Road

I would like to wish all residents of Spryfield and Sambro Loop a Happy New Year. I sincerely hope 2024 brings you peace and happiness. I know these times are difficult for many and I encourage everyone to be kind and think about our neighbors. Even the smallest gesture can make a real difference.

January is when Council starts to dig deep into the HRM annual budget process. The annual budget is very important for the operation of our municipality as it funds all costs associated with servicing our municipality each year. Our budget ensures our roads are plowed during a snowstorm, that we have recreational facilities to enjoy, that our garbage gets picked up and so much more. The municipality's 2024/25 Budget and Business Planning process will continue until into the spring of 2024. Over the winter, municipal business units present plans to Regional Council with their intentions for the upcoming year. During this process, Regional Council will ask questions, discuss, debate, and consider each department's proposed priorities and budget. This can result in revisions to budget plans along the way. You can review the proposed schedule of budget presentations, learn about the budget process, and keep up to date on upcoming milestones, as they become available at www.halifax. ca/budget. During every budget meeting, members of the public also have an opportunity to share their views on any aspect of the proposed municipal budget. Time will be set aside for the public to provide insight and comments. If you wish to make any presentations before HRM Council about the municipal budget, please contact the Municipal Clerks Office at clerks@halifax.ca or call 902-490-4210. Written submissions are also welcomed. You can also speak directly to me as your Regional Councillor about budget priorities.

In preparation for the budget, Council is presented with a Budget Direction Report. One of the key highlights from the budget report was about population and growth, a theme familiar to those living in District 11 as it relates to increased traffic, the housing crisis, and high demand for services. The municipality's population is expected to surpass 500,000 residents in the upcoming fiscal year. This represents an over 3% increase, which will be the eighth year in a row in which population growth has outpaced housing growth in HRM. The gap represents an increasing demand for services provided by the municipality, while the base on which tax is levied is not growing at the same pace. Essentially, growth is not paying for growth or inflation.

Population growth, often a symbol of progress and vitality, brings with it an array of opportunities and challenges. As the municipality attracts new residents, the strain on public services, infrastructure, and resources becomes increasingly evident. It is a difficult position to be in. Throughout this budget process, I will be keeping residents and the financial pressures we all face top of mind. I will be focusing on the necessities and asking that 'nice-to-haves'

and non-essential projects be pushed for consideration at another time. I will also be keeping my eye on projects for our District that are essential for supporting the growth that is happening here. I am very proud of much of the work the municipality has been able to do over the past three years despite the challenges of COVID, fires, floods, and housing. We have moved some important projects forward related to diversity and inclusion, climate action, and traffic safety. Also, we have seen new investment in our park and recreation facili-

ties, with more to come. There are some things that we cannot afford to delay, such as investment in infrastructure and updating our regional, suburban, and rural plans. These items are critical to our sustainable future, protection of the environment, and quality of life. This is where my efforts will be focused. Ensuring we have the infrastructure to support the needs of our growing population.

Some other items important to our community:

North West Arm Infill: There will be Public Hearing on January 9th at City Hall to consider amendments to municipal planning strategies and land use by-laws to restrict water lot infilling on the Northwest Arm. This work has been on-going for three years, and I am pleased to see it finally coming to Regional Council to protect the Arm from anymore infill.

Marie Ave: An application has been received to rezone an existing 8.75 acre vacant lot at 2 Marie Avenue, to allow for the construction of a Shared Housing with Special Care facility. A public hearing will be held January 16 at Halifax and West Community Council.

If you have any questions about things happening in the community, please call or email. I'm always happy to hear from residents, and I'm honoured to be your municipal representative. Patty.cuttell@halifax.com or (902) 221-6893

## **Premier's Year-End Message**

by Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia



Premier Tim Houston

My motto for healthcare – and my message to leaders in the sector – is more, faster.

Do more. Go faster. That's what Nova Scotians deserve.

We knew fixing healthcare wasn't going to be easy and that it wouldn't happen overnight, but that didn't stop us. People are right to expect their leaders to run towards the big challenges, not away from them.

As the year closes, I'm excited to share some of the progress we've made.

People tell me every day that we should hire more doctors and nurses. Unfortunately, a global shortage of healthcare providers and excessive red tape have made that easier said than done. But in the past year, our government has made recruiting much easier.

The Patient Access to Care Act is making it quicker for healthcare providers to practise here. It means less red tape and faster licensing.

Since passing this law in the spring, we've had over 19,000 nurses apply to work here!

We also signed new labour agreements with doctors, nurses, paramedics and health administrators, making our province an even more attractive place to work.

And we're training more. We've created new nursing programs, invested in a new medical school in Cape Breton and increased medical residency spaces.

We've increased access points – new and growing family clinics, virtual care for everyone, mobile clinics and pharmacy clinics across the province mean Nova Scotians have more ways to get care now than ever before.

Speaking of pharmacy clinics, we've increased the scope of practice for pharmacists. Now they can do some tests and prescriptions on-site at your local pharmacy.

And you can get it all in the palm of your hands with our new app — YourHealthNS. It helps Nova Scotians navigate the system, find the closest health services, book appointments and find information easier and faster, no matter where you are in the province.

In August, we launched our new LifeFlight plane. Transporting non-critical patients from Yarmouth or Sydney to Halifax, LifeFlight has saved more than 3,600 hours of ground ambulance time. Nova Scotia is leading the country in healthcare innovation with ground-breaking technologies that will revolutionize the way we treat cancer. Starting in January, cancer patients in Nova Scotia will experience the first-in-the-world Ethos radiotherapy system with Hyper-Sight imaging, which will decrease the average number of treatments from 20 to five.

We got a lot done in 2023. My message for 2024 is the same. Let's do more. Let's go faster. And let's do it together.

Wishing you all the best in the New Year!

Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia

## The Maguire Report

by Brendan Maguire, MLA for Halifax Atlantic

Welcoming 2024 with optimism and energy!

The Williams Lake Dam project is underway, and I eagerly anticipate its completion this year.

Advocating for better healthcare remains a priority as 20% of our community lacks a family doctor—an issue that must be addressed.

I'll persist in the fight for affordable housing and support for the homeless, believing that in our prosperous country and province, no one should go without.

Despite challenges, our community

is the best, and I'm proud to represent it, raise my children here, and grow old in its embrace.

In the face of an office attack, my dedicated assistant, Kelly Gomes, is recovering, taking extra time off for the holidays. Grateful for the support received

Thanks to all who joined our Christmas dinner, donated, and volunteered. Here's to a fantastic New Year – proud to be your MLA!

MLA Brendan Maguire 902-444-0147 349 Herring Cove Road

## Legion Poppy Campaign a success

The Earl Francis Spryfield Memorial Legion extends its appreciation and thanks to area residents, businesses, schools, and organizations who helped the 2023 Poppy Campaign raise more than \$32,000. Special thanks go to Poppy Campaign Coordinator, Connie Bambury, and her dedicated team of volunteers.

As previously noted, money raised in each campaign is placed In Trust and is used primarily to provide assistance to veterans, their families, and descendants.

In addition, the Poppy Fund awards monetary prizes to winning

entries in the Royal Canadian legion's annual Poster and Literacy Contest.

This contest is based on the theme of Remembrance and this year's contest had 56 entries from students in the area.

This is a substantial increase over previous years and is a tribute to dedicated teachers fostering the spirit of Remembrance in their students.

In closing, the Earl Francis Spryfield Memorial Legion, Br. 152, wishes to send warm wishes to the Spryfield community for a safe holiday season and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

## **The Jason Doherty Memorial** COMMUNITY EVENTS PAGE



#### **COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR JANUARY** Food Banks:

- St. Paul's Family Resource Institute (173 Old Sambro Rd). Food Bank clients call the Food Bank line, 902-477-5090, on Monday and leave a message. Those messages are answered on Tuesday and then the food orders are filled with pickup on Wed. between 9 am and 10 am
- Chebucto Family Centre (3 Sylvia Ave) has an Emergency Food Cupboard which can be accessed every two weeks.
- Emmanuel Food Bank: Reopens for the new year on January 9th. If you would like help with food, please call 902-477-1954 and leave a message. Our volunteers will call you back on Tuesday. Pick up time is Wednesday, 9:00-10 am, at the lower church hall behind the church.

If you would like to donate food, please drop it off on Tuesday morning before 10:30 or Sunday morning at the church.

#### Free meals for those in need:

- Salvation Army offers Breakfast To-Go Bags Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00am-10:00am
- Twelve Baskets, Stella Maris Parish outreach ministry, will provide a free, light take-out meal every Friday evening, between 5:30 and 6:30 PM, out of the St Michael's Church Hall site. (while supplies last).

#### **Spryfield Legion Events:**

- Bingo Every Sunday 1:00pm doors open at 11:30.
- Sunday Evening Bingo, 6:30pm start. First Sunday of every month
- Fri. Jan 5th: Young at Heart Bingo
- Sun. Jan 7th: Special Bingo. Doors open at noon. Bingo starts at 2pm. All Games \$200 Last Game \$1500. Must Go!
- Kitchen Open every Friday 5 6:30 pm. For more information about legion events, please contact the legion at (902) 477-0467.
- Sat., January 20th Kitchen Party 2:30pm Cheryl Misener & friends
- Tues. Jan. 9th: Executive Meeting
- Tues. Jan. 16th: General Meeting 7pm

 Thurs. Jan. 25th: Crib 7pm. Bring a Partner \$7

#### **Harrietsfield Williamswood Community** Centre events:

Currently taking bookings. Please call, email or message us through our FB page (902) 446-4847 email hwcc@outlook.com

#### Sprvfield Lions Club events:

Spryfield Lions Club would like to invite members of the public to join us at our regularly scheduled meetings at 7 pm on the fourth Tuesday of every month in the meeting room of our signed entrance. Our regularly scheduled weekly bingos will continue to be suspended until further notice. Please call 902-479-2917 if you are interested in attending.

#### City Church (276 Herring Cove Road) events:

- City Church Tel #: 902-479-CITY c.citychurch@ns.sympatico.ca www. citychurchhalifax.ca
- City Church Christian Radio Station Life 94.7 FM

**Emmanuel Anglican Church (322 Her**ring Cove Rd) events: emmanuelanglicanchurch.net, 902-477-1783.

· Prayer Group: Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month for an hour of prayer for each other, the world and the church. All welcome.

#### Salvation Army (328 Herring Cove Rd) events:

- · Family Services by phone call or walk in 902-477-5393 ext 0.
- Immigration Support by limited appointments call 902-477-5393 ext. 226

#### **Stella Maris Roman Catholic Parish** events:

• Twelve Baskets, Stella Maris Parish outreach ministry, will provide a free, light takeout meal every Friday evening, between 5:30 and 6:30 PM, out of the St Michael's Church Hall site. (while supplies last). For further information contact Stella Maris Parish office at 902 477-3530 or email stellamaristwelvebaskets@gmail.com

#### St. Paul's United Church (173 Old Sambro Road) events:

 Now that the temperatures are dropping, we have had to turn off the outdoor tap. Water jugs can still be filled inside the church during normal business hours.

Improve your reading, writing and math **skills**, work toward the GED in person or from home. The Halifax Community Learning Network is here to help! We offer free adult learning programs in several locations. COVID protocols are in place for your safety. Call 902-422-7648 for more information. Let's get learning together!

#### **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)**

Monday evening – 6:15 to approximately 7:30 at the Golden Age Centre, 212 Herring Cove Rd.

Our mission statement is "to help and support our members as they take off pounds sensibly. We are a non-profit organization which exists to provide you with support when needed. We welcome new members. Come sit in on a meeting some Monday night.

For information, please contact shay@ns.sympatico.ca or check out the TOPS org website atwww.tops.org

#### TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

Tuesdays from 6 to 7pm at the Golden Age Centre, 212 Herring Cove Rd. Call for information: Colleen 902-868-2214 or Bev 902-477-4335 or check us out on the web at www.tops.org

**Spryfield Legion/Forever Young Seniors Club Chase the Ace** draws on Mondays at 7 pm. Ticket sales at the bar during Legion open hours as well as Mondays by volunteers from 5 pm to 6:45 pm. Tickets \$5.00 each and support programs that are offered to members of the community at large. Please Note: Tickets must be clearly filled in with just one person's name and phone number. You are not required to be present at the draw in order to win.

**Urban Farm Museum Society of** Spryfield 2023 memberships are now available - Individuals \$10.00, Students & Seniors \$5.00, Families \$15.00 and Groups & Organizations \$25.00. We look forward to sharing our ideas and hearing your suggestions for the future. For more information, please call Pat at 902-497-3683 or email urbanfarmspryfield@gmail.com

The Spryfield Farmers Market has moved to our fall indoor location in the lower hall of St. Paul's Church 173 Old Sambro Rd.

Forever Fit for Seniors. Mon, Wed, and Fri from 10 to 11am at Emmanuel Church Hall. Punch cards available from the YMCA. First class free.

**Upward Basketball** is now accepting registration for children ages 8 to 11 for its 2024 league season. Upward Basketball runs from February until April with weekly practices (Thursday evenings at Duc D'Anville School) and games (Friday evenings at Springvale School). Cost is \$110 per player. All skill levels welcome. To inquire or register, please reach out to Ian MacFarlane 902-830-5669 or halifaxhal@hotmail.com

**Crafts and Conversation** Tues and Thurs from 2 to 4pm in the Shared Program Room at 16 Sussex Street. Free drop-in. Refreshments. For more information, check out info@halifaxweddingchapel. com. Funding by the Community Links Association and the NS Dept of Seniors and Long-term Care.

Bottle Drive will be held at Beaver Enviro Depot on January 6th and 13th to help send Christian and Noah to the Ontario Ju-Jitsu championships in May.

To have your Community Event listed call or fax us at 902-477-NEWS or send email to chebuctoeditor@gmail.com.

Check our Facebook page for updates & late arrivals

## Religious Services Directory for January

Send your submissions to chebuctoeditor@gmail.com for February's issue by January 19.

City Church (276 Herring Cove Road) Sunday Family service: 10:30am Nursery and Children's ministry:

Wednesday night prayer: 7-8pm

Hill Chapel (91 Thornhill Dr) Formerly Spryfield Christian Community Church Church services Sunday 11-12 am

#### **Oromo Gospel Church**

Sunday worship service: 3 pm and Tuesday prayer: 10 am.

#### **Emmanuel Anglican Church (322** Herring Cove Rd. emmanuelanglicanchurch.net, 902-477-1783. Sunday Worship:

8:00 am: Quiet, traditional, contemplative communion service.

10:00 am: Lively, contemporary

communion service with music. This is livestreamed on our Facebook page and website. Followed by coffee hour

Messy Church: There will be no messy church in January. The next messy church will be February 3rd 4:00-6:00pm: A time of informal worship, social time, crafts and dinner, particularly for children and their significant adults. All are welcome. Please RSVP to the church.

Emmanuel Church is an affirming church. Everyone is welcome to our services. Masking is optional but if you are sick, please join us online.

#### St. Paul's United Church (173 Old Sambro Road)

Worship at St. Paul's United Church is now in person, at 11am on Sunday mornings. Masks are still required, however. One will be provided if you have forgotten yours.

Stella Maris Roman Catholic Parish at St Michael's Catholic Church

Sundays at 10:00 am

Weekday Masses: Tuesday to Friday 9 am Monthly Tuesday Night Prayer: 7 PM each month

First Tuesday: Healing Mass Second Tuesday: Upper Room Praise and Worship

Third Tuesday: Mass and Adoration Last Tuesday (Sept-May): Eventide Candlelight Prayer

All are welcome, wherever you are on your faith journey!

#### St. James United Church (3811 Old Sambro Rd)

Sunday services held at 11am. Sunday school held at 11am. Services are livestreamed on our Facebook page (St James United Church Sambro NS) and Youtube. Our website is www.sambrojollimorepc.com and our email address is office.sambro-

Our phone number is 902-868-2791

jollimorepc@gmail.com

#### Weekend Masses: Saturdays 4:00 pm Open Door Community Church (11 Aldergrove)

You are invited to join us weekly for a time of fellowship, contemporary worship and Bible based teaching for today's world on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am. Visit us at http://opendoorhalifax.ca for more information.

Wayfarers' Church (328 Herring Cove

Sunday Worship 10:30am website: wayfarerschurch.ca email: friends@wayfarerschurch.ca

#### **Searching for Truth Church**

(2 Auburn Ave)

Church for everyday people. Fridays at

Apologetics Club. First Saturday of the month from 6 to 8pm. At 114 Bromley Road. Please join us for a delicious meal followed by a discussion. This is an outreach of Living Hope Community Church. For more information call Maggie at 418-264-7292

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## LOCAL OBITUARIES

Courtesy of J. Albert Walker Funeral Homes Ltd. 902-477-5601

#### Glen Mervin Gray

77 (b. August 23, 1946), passed away peacefully on the evening of October 7, 2023 surrounded by his immediate family. He is survived by his wife Chrystal (nee Harrigan), his daughter Shawna, his son, Ryan and daughter-in-law, Dawn (Shepherd) and the light of his life, his grandson, Ronan.

He was a 58 year member of Union Local 56 Plumbers and Pipefitters. He had a long career with Siemens Building Technologies before his retirement. His first passion was music, singing and guitar. He loved country music, fast cars, boats, long walks in the woods, home cooking, action movies, and the sunshine. He was gregarious, had a sharp sense of humour, and gravitated to social gatherings.

A special thank you to Jo-Anne Hogard for the unconditional support and compassion that she provided to Glen and the family. Thank you to the hemodialysis team at the QEII Health Sciences Centre.

He is survived by sisters, Gladys Ashford and Margaret Gray, brother, Marshall (Dolly), as well as many nieces and nephews. Glen is predeceased by his parents, George Preston Gray and Helen Louise Gray (Jollimore), his sisters, Dora, Marie Billard, Verna Myatt, Gloria Stoner, and Helen Smith, and his brothers, Gordon, Arthur, Herman, and Wallace.

#### **Robert Gilford Slaunwhite**

83, Terence Bay. Robert passed away



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peacefully at Melville Lodge, on Wednesday, November 8, 2023. Born in Halifax, he was the son of the late James and Alice (Jollimore) Slaunwhite. Growing up on River Road, Robert enjoyed farming at a very young age from his father having cattle, oxen, chickens, and more, and he later had cattle of his own as soon as he was able to buy them. For this reason, he loved spending time in the valley to be near farms and livestock. Robert is survived by his sister Tishia Boni; brother, Ivan (Shirley) Slaunwhite; and grandson Chevie Beck. He was predeceased by his daughter Anita Slaunwhite, brother Gerald (Julia) Slaunwhite, and sisters Lois (Marshall) Slaunwhite and Nona (Arthur) Sampson

#### George Walter Henneberry Jr.

77, of Halifax, passed away on Thursday, November 16, 2023 in the Q.E.II Infirmary Site. He was the son of the late George and Florence (Gilkie) Henneberry Sr.

George worked for the Coast Guard as an engineer before retiring.

Surviving are his brothers, Andy (Wanda), Sambro; Mark (Rhonda), Mahone Bay; sister, Pauline, Halifax; nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by brothers, Alex, Roger, Amos and Robin. Words of comfort may be sent by clicking on "Tribute Wall"

#### **Diane Mary Mabe**

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of Diane Mabe age 81 from Herring Cove on November 18, 2023. Diane was a very thoughtful person who always cared about everyone else first. She loved Christmas time and always wanted the best for everyone. She was still trying to find special things for Christmas days before she passed.

She was an avid bingo player and also loved playing board games. She always enjoyed playing her salsa game and scratch tickets. A big thank you goes to Hospice Halifax for the great care they take with the person passing and also with the families. Diane recommends them to anyone who needs end-of-life care.

Also thank you Dr Ross Mason QEII for all of his time and hard work over 10 years and Dr. Woods, Dr. McKeen, and Dr. Jarna.

She was predeceased by her infant son, Patrick; husband, Thomas; granddaughter, Felicia; brothers, Alan, and Terry Conway. She is survived by son, James; daughter, Karen; son Emerson (Angie), son, Thomas, son, Kevin (Marlene), son, Jason all of Halifax; brother, Dennis (Linda); sisters, Deloris Conway and Debbie Cameron all of Halifax. Diane's favorite cousin was Madelyn (Maddy) Boudreau. Many nieces and nephews, My special nephew (Gage); 13 Grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

#### Daniel A MacDonald

As the noon gun was fired from Citadel Hill, Dan passed away, peacefully, at the Halifax Infirmary, on November 23, 2023. Born August 28, 1934, to the late Michael R. and Matilda (Dadeau) MacDonald in Pictou Nova Scotia. Married to Nancy Joan (Fry) MacDonald, who predeceased him in 2020.

Educated at Stella Maris Convent School, he graduated from Pictou Academy, Pictou NS in 1953. Dan received a scholarship and attended the Vancouver Theatre School, Vancouver BC, and Saint Mary's University, Halifax NS

Dan's career in the performing arts took him from Egypt to Vancouver. In the late 1950's he was given a scholarship and joined the Old Vic Company in London England where his acting career developed. He was the first Canadian actor to receive the Shakespearean Cup. As part of their touring company, he performed for several years in their productions throughout the United Kingdom and the Middle East. This is where his life changed, meeting Haligonian Nancy Fry, whom he proposed to, and in 1965, married in London England.

He returned to Canada for roles with the Stratford Festival and beyond. CBC Radio shows were a favorite of Dan's, finding him in roles, and acting in Halifax and Toronto for those performances. Live theatre was his passion as an actor, producer, and director. For over 60 years he was cast in multiple productions with Theatre New Brunswick, The Citadel in Edmonton, and in Hamilton ON. His film and television repertoire included Wind at My Back, Road to Avonlea, The Little Kidnappers, Due South, Street Legal, The Trailer Park Boys-Make It Legal, The Book of Negros, to name a few. He founded his own theatre company, Tiroam Arts, producing plays such as Mass Appeal for audiences in New Brunswick. Ontario, and Alberta.

He established business ventures through Tiroam Enterprises, including the Toronto-based "Man About the House" a handyperson business that provided work for performing artists to supplement their income.

His career also included working with the Nova Scotia Department of Education and producing Summer Theatre in Yarmouth and Tatamagouche, NS. He landed in Saint John New Brunswick and worked as a news anchor for Irving-owned CHSJ (New Brunswick Broadcasting), learning how to properly pronounce Calais, not Calay Maine from no other than Mr. KC Irving himself.

Dan was past President of Actors Equity, ACTRA, and an active director of The Performing Arts Lodges (PAL), an organization that advocated for and provided housing and assistance to aging performing artists across Canada. He fought hard for the performing arts community and helped establish the ACTRA Fraternal Benefit Society (AFBS), Canada's only national insurance and investment provider launched by Canadian performers and screenwriters.

Although based in Toronto for much of his career, Nova Scotia was his home and he would visit and travel here as often as he could, spending many summers at his family property on Mill Lake, near Hubbards.

Family was very important to Dan. He took great delight in family visits and hearing about the life of the Clanranald's. He loved sharing stories about growing up in Pictou, his cross-country travels, especially when he piloted his plane to acting gigs, and off-air and off-stage experiences. Dan served time in uniform as a junior officer in the Canadian Armed Forces Reserves and university program. He was very proud of his family and three older brothers who volunteered to serve in WWII.

Dan was predeceased by the love of his life Nancy; brothers, and sisters, Joseph, Angus, Allan, Bernard, John R (Jackie) Michael, Mary, Patricia "Patsy" and Elizabeth. He is survived by many nieces, nephews, and their extended families.

The family would like to thank Dr. Peter Leighton and staff for their excellent care of Dan. Many thanks to the staff of the Emergency Department and Unit 4.1 Halifax Infirmary for their supportive and gentle care of Dan during his final days on Earth.

#### **Gordon Cooper**

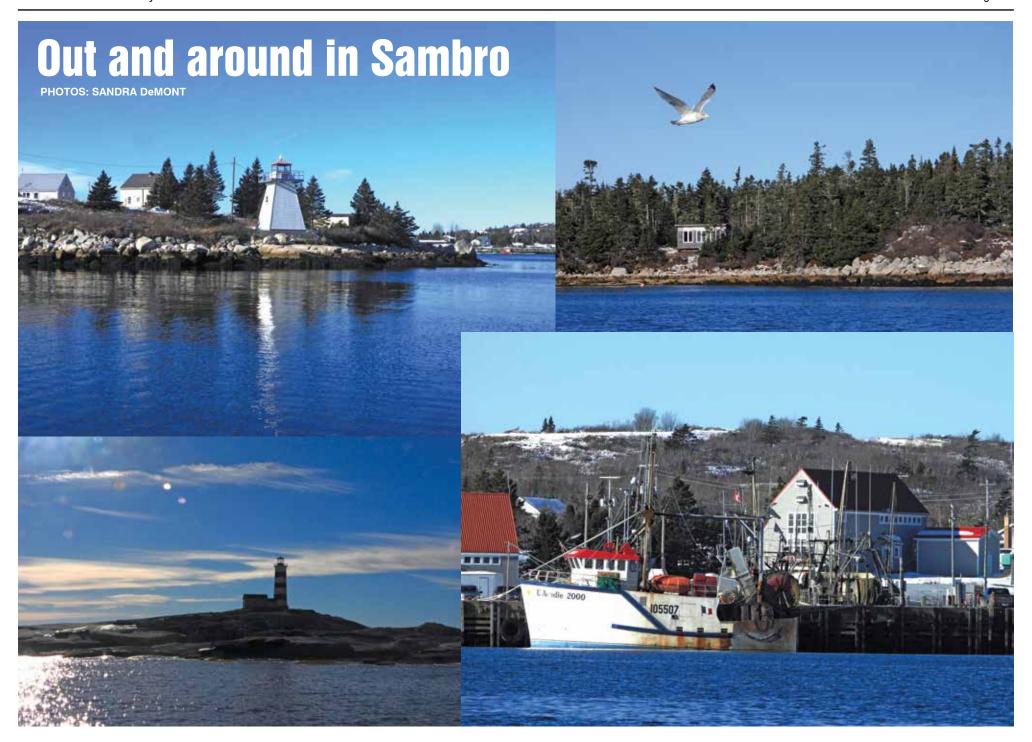
With great sorrow, we announce the passing of Gordon Cooper on November 28, 2023 at Halifax, born November 23, 1946. Gord is survived by his wife of sixty years, Sheila (Rose), his children Elizabeth (Perry) of Purcell's Cove and Edward (Michelle) of Paradise NL. Gordon also leaves behind to mourn his grandchildren, Cara (Aaron), Steven (Alyssa), both of Halifax, Jessica (Greg) and Stuart (Rachel), both of Paradise NL. He will be missed by brothers Nathan (Diane) of Ottawa, ON, and Calvin (Ruby) of Gaultois, NL, a sister Barbara (Roland) of Gaultois, NL, and a brother, Ben (Lori) of Cornerbook, NL. Gord was predeceased by his parents, Benjamin and Elizabeth "Dolly" Cooper. Gordon was born in Pushthrough NL, and moved to Gaultois at the age of 11. In 1968 he moved to Halifax, with his family, to build a new life. It was here he met a lot of old friends from home and went on to make many more new friends. Dad was blessed by this great circle of wonderful friends, some who will greet him at the Golden Gates with a glass of whiskey and Newfoundland music in the background

#### David Lloyd Jacobs

We are heartbroken to announce the passing of David Lloyd Jacobs, age 90, on Nov. 29, 2023, beloved husband of Sally (Hubley), loving father of Helene Burns (Gary) of West Pennant, Brian Jacobs (Patsy) of Halifax, Bruce Jacobs (Jackie Peltz) of Winnipeg, Heather Bissonnette (Anthony) of Lr. Sackville, loving grandfather to Bruce Burns (Yuhui Yu) and Daniel Burns (Laura Peek) of Halifax, Sam Jacobs (Danielle Proutt), CJ Jacobs (Andrew Wiebe) and Noah Penner of Winnipeg, David Bissonnette (Émilie) and Anna Bissonnette of Lr. Sackville and his great-grandchildren Sophia and Faye Burns. David was predeceased by his parents Harold and Helene (Wilkin) Jacobs, and his sisters Nancy Lee Bolton (Dick), Shirley Jacobs (Arden), Peggy Maskell, and Judy Gonyea (Dick).

Born in Vermont he joined the American Navy at age 17 and met the love of his life, Sally, while in port in Halifax. After a long-distance courtship, they married and settled in Burlington, Vermont where they had 3 children and David trained as a printer. They eventually moved to Nova Scotia where another daughter was born. They raised their family in Spryfield and David found brief employment as a printer at Maritime Cans but then changed gears and worked as an oil burner mechanic with Willard McKay, Esso Home Comfort, and Scotia Fuels, from where he retired. David and Sally were a loving couple, gardening at home and the cottage, doing craft projects together, and being companions on many car trips. David kept his home and car in good repair and often helped others in their home and cottage projects. He and Sally found a church home at St. Paul's United on Dentith Rd where for over 50 years David was involved with the repair and maintenance of the church building and property, fund-raisers, and the choir. He took great delight in singing and

(See Obituaries on page 7)





## Municipal Budget 2024/25

The municipality is working through the budget and business planning process for 2024/25.

Each year, citizens have an opportunity to speak directly to Regional Council about their budget priorities. During each meeting, time is set aside for the public to provide insight and comments and residents are encouraged to pre-register to speak in a meeting.

\*Access the full list of in-person meeting dates and times for all budget presentations by visiting halifax.ca/budget or calling 311.

#### How to Participate

Registration is required to be added to the speakers list. Please contact the Clerk's Office at 902.490.4210 or by email at <a href="mailto:clerks@halifax.ca">clerks@halifax.ca</a>. Virtual participation will also be available and residents who wish to speak through the virtual option must still pre-register by no later than 4:30 p.m. the business day prior to the meeting.

During the meeting, after all pre-registered speakers have been called, the chair will call three times to ask if there is anyone else present who would like to speak. At that time, anyone who has not pre-registered will have the opportunity to speak to the Budget Committee.

\*Meeting dates may be subject to change and any new dates will be communicated on halifax.ca/budget.



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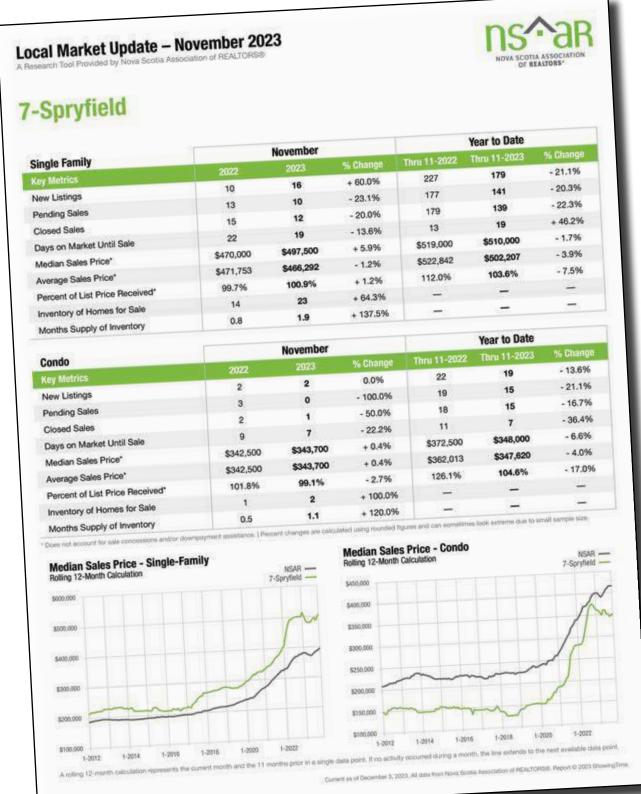
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November's Market Update from the NS Association of Realtors is showing a slight decrease in sale prices over the year to date but single family homes are still selling just over the asking price, while condos are just barely under for November.

Average time in the market is 19 days for single family homes and 7 days for condos.

Spryfield prices are still stronger than the overall NSRA report in other areas of Nova Scotia.

The market has shown a slight downward trend and if you are ready to sell, this is a good time to list your property.

Call Dan at 902-478-4023, Amanda at 902-930-3900 or Sharon at 902-483-7325 today to discuss your real estate needs.

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