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# Chebucto News

Vol.25 • No.8  
 April 2024

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Harper MacKay receiving her first book from the Sambro Imagination Library

## Used Book Bazaar coming to Ketch Harbour / Sambro

by Lorrie Boylen

The Sambro Imagination Library is hosting a Used Book Bazaar on Saturday April 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ketch Harbour Community Hall at 964 Ketch Harbour Road.

There will be a selection of children's, adult, fiction and non-fiction books. Pricing is very budget friendly. Paperbacks will sell for \$2 each or three for \$5. Hardcover are \$3 each and children's books are \$1. Remember to bring your own shopping bags to carry your purchases.

Raffle tickets will be available on a pink Juicy Couture plush bag filled with self care items like soap, face masks, shampoo, conditioner and hand cream. \$2 each or three for \$5.

Also available will be lip balms, \$3 each or two for \$5, and Sambro Imagination Library zippered canvas totes for \$25.

Funds raised at this event and others throughout the year provides free books to enrolled children in the Sambro Ketch Harbour Elementary

School catchment area up until their fifth birthday. Every month a book arrives via Canada Post addressed with the child's name.

Since last fall when enrollment opened, 219 books have been mailed out to a total of 60 children in the Sambro area. Five children have graduated out of the program, leaving 55 currently enrolled.

Since its inception, over 232 million books have been gifted to children across Canada.

To check availability in your area, go to [www.imaginationlibrary.com/ca](http://www.imaginationlibrary.com/ca). There are 22 affiliate branches across Nova Scotia, but many areas remain unserved. There's information on the website about starting up a local branch of your own, if advancing childhood literacy is one of your passions.

(Lorrie Boylen is a Communications Professional, Coordinator for the Sambro Imagination Library, and CBC Radio's Community Contact for Sambro)

## Spryfield Lions Club: always there for the community

On April 16, 1957, the Spryfield Lions Club began to serve the community of Spryfield. Through continued fundraising (bingos, road tolls, light bulb sales, walks, dances, and raffles, etc.) the Lions Club had raised approximately \$3,000,000.00. The Club sponsored major projects such as

Kidston Lake Park in 1969. Following the completion of the Park the Lions Club proposed building an indoor Skating Rink. Under the direction of Lion Frank "Wee" Martin, the support of all Lion members, and land donated by Randall Park Developments, the

(See Lions Club on page 2)

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# Lions Club

(continued from page 1)

first sod was turned in April 1972. The Spryfield Lions Rink opened to the public on November 27, 1972. On November 29, 1997 while celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Spryfield Lions Rink, the Rink was dedicated to the Late Lion Frank “Wee” Martin and renamed the Frank “Wee” Martin Memorial Rink.

The Lions Den opened in 1978. The Recreation Centre in 1979. The Lions Club provided the wave equipment for the Wave Pool at the Captain Spry Centre. In 2006 the Spryfield Lions Rink and Recreation Centre were turned over to the City of Halifax.

In July 2007, members of the Spryfield Lions Club, in conjunction with the Boys and Girls Club, members of the United Way, workers from Home Depot and many members of the Community, totalling approximately 150 people, built a playground in one day on land owned by the Lions Club, opposite the Lions Rink on Drysdale Road. In the summer of 2008, the playground was dedicated to the late Lion Rene Quigley. Many children enjoy the playground on a daily basis.

Over the years the Lions Club held fundraising events and donated the funds to J.L. Ilesley High School Scholarship Fund and Elementary School Breakfast Programs, just to mention a few. The Community opened their wallets without hesitation to donate when asked.

Each Natal Day members of the Lions Club cook a free pancake breakfast for members of the community in the Sobeys parking lot on

Herring Cove Road.

Prior to ‘Covid’ the Lions Club cooked a pancake breakfast at the Grand Parade in Halifax, serving approximately 1800 residents on Canada Day.

The Lions Den was an excellent fundraiser serving the Community. Birthday, Anniversary & Retirement Parties, Weddings and Baby Showers were held at the Den. The good times all came to an end in 2021 when the Lions Club was notified by HRM that the Lions Den has been found to have some serious structural issues, and as a result of these findings it is necessary to close the Lions Den for ANY use until the structure can be properly reinforced and meet the proper requirements. Members were not permitted to enter their premises without permission and events were cancelled. The Lions Club has been

told the structural issues will not be corrected, leaving the Lions Club no physical presence in Spryfield.

There are plans in the works for a new rink & recreation centre but not to replace the Lions Den.

On April 27, 2023, there was a fire at the Recreation Centre spreading to the second floor. The Lions Club suffered great loss that day.

The Spryfield Lions Club will continue to fund raise and support the community of Spryfield. But the Club is no different from any other non-profit Organization, not enough money to do the work required and an aging membership.

New Members are always welcome. If you are interested, contact the Spryfield Lions Club at 902-479-2917. Join one of our meetings. Get involved.

## Spryfield Legion turns 65

The Earl Francis Spryfield Memorial Legion, Branch 152, held its 65th anniversary celebration on March 16, 2024, with approximately 100 members, past executive, former staff, and guests in attendance.

Branch President, Charlie Martin, gave the opening address, welcoming all those in attendance and thanking all those members who volunteer their time to help keep the legion operating efficiently and effectively throughout the year.

The occasion also served as an opportunity to recognize long serving legion members, including Ron Slaunwhite who received

a pin marking 60 years of membership. Four members, Brad Fougere, Wayne Hollis, Gary Isnor, and Blair Marryatt received 50 year pins.

In addition, pins were awarded to those members whose tenure had been from 15 to 45 years. The total among this group was 112. Earlier in the day, pins were made available to those with 5 and 10 year memberships.

Following the presentations, a delicious supper was served to those in attendance and the evening was capped off with a dance featuring the talented band, 4 Way Stop.

# Chebucto News

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**Editor:** Tangelene Ramsay, chebuctoeditor@gmail.com

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 20141  
Halifax N.S. B3P 1L1

**Circulation:**

12,500 copies

Agent: Canada Post

Printer: Advocate Printing

Delivered free-of-charge to households in; Armdale, Bald Rock, Ferguson's Cove, Harrietsfield, Herring Cove, Jollimore, Ketch Harbour, The Pennants, Purcell's Cove, Portuguese Cove, Sambro, Spryfield, Williamswood

**Letters to the Editor / Editorial Inquiries:**

Letters should not exceed 200 words and must include the writer's full name and telephone number. Letters are subject to editing and are printed at the discretion of the publisher.

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chebuctoeditor@gmail.com

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# Religious Services Directory for April

Send your submissions to [chebuctoeditor@gmail.com](mailto:chebuctoeditor@gmail.com) for May's issue by April 19.

**City Church** (276 Herring Cove Road)  
 Sunday Family service: 10:30am  
 Nursery and Children's ministry: 10:30am  
 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.)  
[emmanuelanglican-church.net](http://emmanuelanglican-church.net), 902-477-1783.  
 Sunday Worship:  
 8:00 am: Quiet, traditional, contemplative communion service.  
 10:00 am: Lively, contemporary communion service with music.  
*Special Services:*  
 Messy Church, Saturday, April 6, 4:00-6:00pm, informal time of worship, socializing, crafts and din-

ner for children and their significant adults. RSVP.  
 Wednesdays in Lent: 11:00am, March 6, 13, 20, communion service  
 Taizé Service: 7:00pm, Sunday, April 21st. Contemplative candlelit service of chanting, readings, and meditation, suitable for those who are spiritual but not religious.  
 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)  
 Palm Sunday...Sunday, March 24th, 11:00 am at St. Paul's United Church  
 Good Friday...Friday, March 29th, 6:30 pm, at St. James United Church in Sambro  
 Easter Sunday...Sunday, March 31 11:00 am at St. Paul's United Church  
 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**

Weekend Masses: Saturdays 4:00 pm 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): Evening 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](http://www.sambrojollimorepc.com) and our email address is [office.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com](mailto:office.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com)  
 Our phone number is 902-868-2791

**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 Road)  
 Sunday Worship 10:30am  
 website: [wayfarerschurch.ca](http://wayfarerschurch.ca)  
 email: [friends@wayfarerschurch.ca](mailto:friends@wayfarerschurch.ca)

**Searching for Truth Church** (2 Auburn Ave)  
 Church for everyday people. Fridays at 7pm  
 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

Share your thoughts and opinions with us:  
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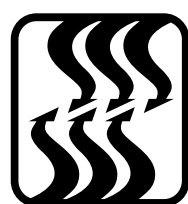
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## DISCOVERING OUR PAST

### Family histories can create challenges and surprises

by Iris V. Shea

Researching family histories can be a challenge but can often lead to documents containing some amazing discoveries. When attempting to compile the family history of Alice, Grace and Sidney Drysdale of Brookside, near Hatchet Lake, Nova Scotia, I discovered a few surprises. Their parents, Andrew Drysdale and Hannah Boutilier, both died in 1872 when the three children were aged four, three and two years. Hannah, their mother, died March 18th of inflammation, three weeks following the birth of her fourth child, William Charles. Andrew, their father, died December 25th of heart disease, one day after his 11 month old son, William Charles, died of measles.

In a Supreme Court record, dated April 8, 1873, a petition was registered in the names of Alice, Grace and Sidney Drysdale. The record stated that the three children were entitled to their father's estate which consisted of a small house and barn on a property in Brookside, worth at least \$400. The children were in the care of their father's sister, Elizabeth, wife of Daniel George of Halifax. The uncle of the three young children, Charles Drysdale of Brookside, asked to be appointed Guardian to the three children. Permission was granted.

The Supreme Court documents revealed that Charles Drysdale sold the property on May 10, 1873 for \$410. A "loan of mortgage" was made to the buyer, William J. Flemming, in the amount of \$220 which would provide a monthly income for the children. The remaining amount of money from the sale was absorbed by expense claims.

A second document, dated 1874, was found in the Registry of Deeds at the Nova Scotia Archives and would give two of the children, six year old Alice and four year old Sidney, a permanent home with the Sutherland family of Spryfield. Their guardian, Charles Drysdale, drew up a legal agreement with Mary Ann Sutherland, mother of school teacher Elizabeth Sutherland, in which she would provide a home and education for six year old Alice. Alice, in return, was expected to help Mrs. Sutherland with household chores and gardening. Four year old Sidney Drysdale was adopted by Elizabeth Sutherland's brother, George, and his wife, Rebecca Umlah, who were childless. The document did not mention what became of their sister, five year old Grace Drysdale.

The descendants of Sidney Drysdale had heard stories about Grace which were passed down by generations of family members. One of those stories was that Grace had been adopted by the Romans. Thinking they were referring to a family named Romans, I searched for a likely family



Photo of Sidney Drysdale, born 1870, and his sister, Alice, born 1868, adopted children of the Sutherland family of Spryfield

with that surname and hit a dead end. I recalled, however, years ago, people used the word "Romans" when referring to members of the Roman Catholic faith. That happened to be the case with the Presbyterian Drysdale family. One more family story about Grace was that she had joined the Sisters of Charity. Sidney Drysdale's great granddaughter, Betty Sander-son, contacted Mount Saint Vincent Mother House where they were able to provide Grace's story.

Grace had been adopted by Michael and Eleanor Fahie of Halifax. When Grace entered the Sisters of Charity on February 2, 1890, she was 21 years old and was listed as Grace Fahie. She became known as Sister Mary Cornelia. Grace died October 1, 1913 at the age of 44 years. She worked at St. Joseph's Orphanage in Halifax but suffered from epilepsy for 10 years prior to her death. Heart failure and epilepsy were listed on her death certificate as "cause of death". Her surname on the death certificate was Drysdale. She was buried in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Alice Melinda and Sidney Reuben Drysdale led very productive lives as members of the Sutherland families. Both children kept the Drysdale surname although the Sutherland

name was often used by them and by others. They attended school in Spryfield and were brought up in the Church of England, the religion of the Sutherland family. A Christmas gift in 1883 from Sidney to Alice was an Autograph Book addressed to Alice Melinda D. Sutherland. In George Sutherland's will, dated February 9, 1889, both Alice and Sidney were mentioned... "to Alice M. Sutherland, adopted daughter of my wife, Mary Ann, six shares of Cotton Stock; I give and bequeath to Sidney R. Sutherland, adopted son of George Walter Sutherland, three shares of Cotton Stock."

Alice married Archibald Kidston, Jr. in 1891 and moved to Harrietsfield where she and her husband established their own farm, separate from the original Kidston farm on Rockingstone Road in Spryfield. Alice and Archibald Kidston raised a family of seven children, three of whom were named after Alice's sister and two brothers, Grace, Sidney and William Charles. Their descendants continue to live in the area. If you drive along the Old Sambro Road to Harrietsfield, you will see, on your right, remnants of the old Kidston Farm...the deteriorating stone wall beside the road and apple trees in the overgrown field.

Two of Alice's sons, Richard (Dick) and Sid Kidston, married Drysdale sisters who grew up at Long Pond on the Herring Cove Road. When Sid Kidston's first wife, Mary Drysdale, died, he married her sister, Laura. Dick Kidston married another sister, Florence Drysdale. Alice Melinda Drysdale Kidston died January 15, 1937 and is buried in Emmanuel Cemetery in Spryfield.

Alice's brother, Sidney Reuben Drysdale, married Elizabeth (Bessie) Drysdale from Greenhead, near Goodwood. Both of Bessie's parents were Drysdales. Sidney and Bessie lived in Halifax where Sidney was a Chauffeur. They had one daughter, Nellie Whitman, who named her son Sidney. Sidney Reuben Drysdale died January 18, 1941 and is buried in Camp Hill Cemetery.

The photograph of Sidney and Alice Drysdale was among the Sutherland family pictures. A copy of the picture was donated to Mainland South Heritage Society by Shirley Goulden, a Sutherland/Yeadon descendant.

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# What's Happening at the Urban Farm

by Janet Kidston

Here in the spring of 2024, not too much is happening in the field and woods of the Urban Farm. But robins have arrived, and they are looking for food. The ground is quite wet, which makes it easy for the robins to find worms to eat. At sunrise we have seen a buck with 3 females, and the pheasants are still looking for the berries that fell to the ground last fall.

Now is the time to get the deer tape you see at the top of our gardens back in place, to remind the deer to stay out. A few irises and daffodils are pushing up through the ground, along with crocus and monkshood.

Memberships for 2024 growing season are coming in by mail. Thank you. Your membership and donations are greatly appreciated.

As our growing season is approaching, the Urban Farm needs to finish replacing the rotten beams with fresh wood. Our Come Grow With Us garden for groups and families has had all of their raised beds replaced thanks to the help of our local Rotary Club. The main garden finished replacing their 22 beds for plot holders. The rest of the main garden needs the market garden portion to be completed with new beams and the vegetables beds redesigned. We also have two smaller market gardens that need some redesigning to get as much room as possible for growing vegetables too. From this, the vegetables we sell help the Urban Farm to pay yearly expenses.

We will also need to replace new structures (obelisks) that secure the deer tape from the obelisks to the surrounding garden fencing. These

obelisks also teach gardeners how to grow beans, peas, etc above the ground to a height of about 6 feet, with the help of some 2" chicken wire, leaving opening on the corners to pick what has vined inside behind the wire. When the plants flower, we then see hummingbirds visit from time to time to check out what is growing.

As some of you know, we have a

short growing season, so hopefully the Urban Farm can get enough done in our market garden areas to start planting the last week of May. We will try and apply for a grant for the cost of supplies.

If any of you Chebucto News readers and supporters of the Urban Farm of Spryfield would be interested

in helping complete this very important task, you can reach us at urban-farmspryfield@gmail.com. Weather permitting and with dry ground, we will start as soon as possible.

2024 membership forms can be found on our Facebook page, along with many photos of our farm. Individuals \$10, Families \$15, Senior/Student \$5, Groups \$25. We have automatic etransfer through our gmail site. Thank you.

## Earth Day 2024

by T.Ramsay

April 22, 2024, marks the 54th year that the world celebrates Earth Day. Since its inception in 1970, Earth Day has grown to include billions of people in over 190 countries around the world. The nonprofit, Earth Day, states that its mission is to “diversify, educate, and activate the environmental movement worldwide” (earthday.org)

This year, the theme for Earth Day is Planet Vs Plastics. Their goal is to educate the public and private sectors about the harms plastics do to our world. The hope is to have a 60% reduction in plastic production by 2040. A laudable goal to be sure.

To advance this goal, Earthday.org has a 4-fold plan. First, promote widespread awareness of the damage plastics do to human, animal, and biodiversity health, while demanding more research be done on the health impacts of long-term exposure to plastics. Second is to encourage the phasing out of single use plastics by 2030. Third is to demand policies that end our reliance on fast fashion and the amount of plastic it produces. If you are unfamiliar with the term fast



fashion, it simply means mass produced, inexpensive clothing created in response to changing fashion trends. These clothes are cheap to make, cheap to sell, and often get thrown out within a few months. The final piece of this plan is to encourage investment in innovative technologies and materials to replace plastic in our world.

These might seem like lofty goals, unattainable by the average person, but if you look at your own little piece of the world, there is much you can do

to help. Organize a clean up of your local trail, lake, or street. Sign up for a local clean up event. Choose to switch from single use plastic water bottles to refillable ones. Consider bringing your own glass jars to the Bulk Barn when shopping (they give a discount on Sunday when you do). Shop second-hand for items that don't need to be brand new, such as clothing and toys. For more suggestions on ways to help the earth check out earthday.org for more ideas, petitions, and information.

This year, Halifax will host the Second Annual People's Parade for Life on Earth on Saturday, April 20th at 2pm. The parade will last approximately 1 hour and then there will be an after party at the Peace and Friendship Park in Halifax. The event is described as “a joyful celebration for all to come together in respect and love for Mother Earth, the Water, our Communities, and All our Relations.” Participation is open to all community members, grassroots groups, artists, and non-profit organizations. No cars or trucks, no businesses, and no politicians. The event begins at The Wave on the Halifax waterfront. Registration is through <https://linktr.ee/peoplesparade> or you can contact [info@ecologyaction.ca](mailto:info@ecologyaction.ca) 902-429-2202.

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## Bird Walks

with **Williams Lake Conservation Company**

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**Friday, April 26**  
Shaw Wilderness Park

**Sunday, April 28**  
Osprey Ridge Trail

**Friday, May 3**  
Osprey Ridge Trail

**Sunday, May 5**  
Shaw Wilderness Park

All walks 10:30 am -12:30 pm

Register at:  
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# A Rotary moment

## From The Rotary Club of Halifax North West



Welcome to the newsletter from the Rotary Club of Halifax Northwest, where we share the club's and Rotary's news and activities with the communities we serve. This issue features Maternal and Child Health, one of Rotary's seven Areas of Focus and the Rotary theme for April.



Rotary makes high-quality health care available to vulnerable mothers and children so they can live longer and grow stronger. We expand access to quality care, so mothers and children everywhere can have the same opportunities for a healthy future. An estimated 5.9 million children under the age of five die each year because of malnutrition, inadequate health

care, and poor sanitation — all of which can be prevented.

Rotary provides education, immunizations, birth kits, and mobile health clinics. Women are taught how to prevent mother-to-infant HIV transmission, how to breast-feed, and how to protect themselves and their children from disease.

Our club has been a long supporter of the Chebucto Family Centre in Spryfield, whose mission is to “nurture and enhance the quality of life of families through the delivery of community-based programs and services”. These services include health and wellness programs, prenatal and parenting classes, a Volunteer Doula Program, and a Family Home Child-care Agency.

The Centre was an important beneficiary among the many that we supported in the Spryfield area during our pre-COVID Toonies for Change fundraiser. We have continued our support through our food bank collection during the annual Spryfield Santa Claus parade. Most recently, our club made a donation to the Centre in support of their Doula program.

Our 2024 Rotary Adventure Club early-bird draw was held on 12



March, but there is still time to join for chances to win one of our monthly draws for fabulous trips over the next six months. Our 9 April draw is for a 5-night excursion to Las Vegas, including five nights at a 4 star resort on the strip, an excursions on the Grand

Canyon Rim Bus Tour, a visit to the Hoover Dam with optional tours to the Skywalk and on Las Vegas Helicopter Night Flight.

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 in person every Tuesday from 1145 to 1 pm. at Smitty's on Lacewood.

For more information contact Roger Chiasson by email at [rogerchiasson305@gmail.com](mailto:rogerchiasson305@gmail.com) or by phone at 782 234 9408.

## What lies at the heart of St. James United Church?



St. James United Church, Sambro, reprinted from the website

by Rev. Sean Hancock

I want to let you in on a secret. You know that big white church at the end of the Loop? The one that looks out onto the ocean and puts on all those dinners we like to attend? Well, when we're not serving up tea, putting on a show, or hosting an event, the people who make St. James their spiritual home meet every Sunday at 11:00am for worship.

Now, I know what you're thinking. That this isn't much of a secret. That you already know plenty about what Christians get up to on a Sunday morning. But I'd be willing to wager we're not who you think we are.

For example, we don't believe in a far away God who sits on His throne, passing judgement, and exacting vengeance, but a God who has woven Themselves into the very fabric of our being, whose essence permeates the whole of Creation, and whose love for us is so deep and abiding that our mistakes are met with compassion, not retribution.

Nor do we believe that we've been given a laundry list of “do's” and “don'ts” to abide by if we want to stay in God's good graces, but rather a singular command to love God, each other, and ourselves. So you won't find folks here who'll judge you for your choice in clothing, career, leisure activity, or the friends you hang with. Instead you'll find people who're eager to embrace you for all that you are and, yes, that includes things like

your sexuality, gender identity, race, culture, faith, or any past you're trying to work through or leave behind.

Our beliefs don't make us science deniers, biblical literalists, or a bastion of social conservatism, instead we are seekers of truth, scholars of antiquity, avid environmentalists, and passionate proponents of social justice as we are fiercely dedicated to the notion that there can be justice for none until there is justice for all.

But do you want to know our biggest secret? While we absolutely do believe that God has promised us an eternal life we don't believe our faith or discipleship is about scoring enough “points” to get us into heaven. No. We believe that God's promise of life is for everyone always and not something you earn. So, like Jesus, we aren't on the lookout for another moral merit badge to get us into the Good Place, but forever striving to make the world a more just and loving place by transforming ourselves into more just and loving people. Because Jesus didn't come to teach us how to prep for death. He came to teach us how to live.

So, if any of that piques your interest, come check us out some Sunday. I promise you'll be welcome. You might even see a familiar face or two. And if you choose to stay, who knows? Maybe you'll find what you've been looking for and we can help each other start living our best lives today.

## WELCOME HOME.

## WELCOME TO MELVILLE HEIGHTS.

Our senior living accommodations are full of laughter, good friends, and easy access to everything you're used to. Call **902-477-3313** to book your tour today!



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A Retirement and Assisted Living Facility



# Viruses and gastrointestinal parasites in cats

by T. Ramsay

Spring is here and the debate rages on regarding indoor vs outdoor cats. There are many things an indoor cats misses, and none of it is bad.

Beyond the usual vehicles, sick people, and predatory animals, indoor cats miss all of the parasites and viruses that infect outdoor cats.

The most serious virus that a cat can encounter (besides rabies) is Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV). This is a highly contagious virus that passes from cat to cat through feces, saliva, and blood. Although there are some therapies that can reduce the severity of the virus, there is no cure for FeLV. Cats with FeLV have an extremely shortened lifespan, usually 2 to 2 ½ years. They need to be monitored continuously for weight loss, lethargy, elimination habits, and overall behavioral changes. Needless to say, any cat with FeLV can not be with another cat. Often, by the time the virus is detected, the most humane course of action is euthanization.

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is the second most serious virus to infect an outdoor cat. Although not the death sentence that FeLV often is, FIV has long term consequences. A cat with FIV is more susceptible to catching a virus or infection than a healthy cat. They may not bounce back as well, or as quickly, as a healthy cat. They should never be allowed unsupervised interaction with a non FIV cat due to the risk of spreading the disease through blood transfer.

Beyond FeLV and FIV, outdoor cats are prone to becoming hosts for a myriad of parasites. Roundworms, Hookworms, Tapeworms, Whipworms, and Stomach worms are all parasites that infect an outdoor cat.

These worms enter the cat through ingesting fleas while grooming, eating infected rodents, or licking up vomit from another infected cat. Symptoms of these parasites range from vomiting, and diarrhea to bloody stool, weight loss, anemia, and loss of appetite. If caught in time, treatment is usually simple and effective. However, outdoor cats often don't show signs until the parasite has done long term damage to the cat's intestinal system.

Other parasites, known as protozoan parasites, which can infect an outdoor cat are Isospora (coccidia), Giardia, and Toxoplasma.

Coccidia, which is more of a problem with kittens than adult cats, comes from eating flies that carry Isospora Cysts. In adult cats, they are fairly harmless. Kittens, however, will experience vomiting, diarrhea, and decreased appetite as the parasite destroys the intestinal lining.

Giardia is passed through fecal matter and can incubate for over two weeks before symptoms become noticeable. Some cats may show no signs but can infect other cats in the vicinity. Kittens are most affected by this parasite and will have chronic diarrhea.

Toxoplasma is a parasite that cats ingest, usually by eating raw meat. It is actually harmless to the cat but can be very dangerous to people who are pregnant or immunocompromised.

Although it is possible for an indoor cat to come into contact with any of these parasites, the odds are highly against it. Indoor cats are rarely exposed to the things in which parasites generally reside. If for no other reason than to keep your cat, and home, parasite free, keeping your cat indoors just makes sense.

PHOTOS: SHARON WARD



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3: SPRING/SUMMER EDITION

# Spryfield Magazine

THE HEARTBEAT OF THE LOOP

WELCOME TO Spryfield

FEATURING:

- SPRYFIELD DAYS FESTIVAL
- NEW HERRING COVE COMMUNITY CENTRE
- SAMBRO DAYS

This sign erected by the Spryfield Business Commission in partnership with City Church.

**COMING DIRECT TO YOUR MAILBOX IN APRIL**



# Cuttell Community Update

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

Did you know that it has been 54 years since April 22 was declared Earth Day? In 1970, it mobilized millions of citizens to lobby for the protection of the planet. The first Earth Day is accredited with launching the modern environmental movement and is now recognized as the planet's largest civic event. The theme for 2024 is "Planet vs. Plastics", calling for an end to plastic production. Halifax has always been a leader in the source separation of organics, recyclables, and waste. Last year about 18,000 tonnes of blue bag material was sent to be processed into new items. This helps with diverting waste from the landfill but does not address the amount of waste being produced. Managing waste is costly for the municipality.

Last year I was very excited when the Province announced it was starting Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). EPR is a critical environmental approach that shifts the responsibility for managing waste from municipalities and taxpayers to product manufacturers and importers. In Nova Scotia, EPR programs aim to reduce waste, enhance recycling efforts, and promote sustainable practices. What will you do to reduce the amount of plastics in your home and community?

Talking about waste, it is that time of year when litter seems to be everywhere. It's ugly. Just one small piece of litter – even those that happen by accident – looks bad in our community. One piece of litter turns to two, then three, and more. We are each responsible for stopping litter before it starts. The only place litter belongs is in a garbage can, organics, or recycling bin. If there isn't a bin close by, take it with you. Don't leave it for another person (or animal) to pick up.

HRM has been working hard to reduce litter. In 2022 we began requiring all drive-thru restaurants to have garbage cans. We also created the Litterati App to track litter hotspots, increased illegal dumping fines to up to \$10,000, and launched an education and enforcement campaign on unsecured truck loads.

If you want to help combat litter in your community, please consider signing up for the Great Nova Scotia Pick-Me-Up. Every year amazing residents across District 11 take the time to clean up their communities, pulling 100s of bags of litter from our ditches, trails, streams, and parks. You can register at Nova Scotia Adopt-A-Highway ([nsadoptahighway.ca](https://nsadoptahighway.ca)). I'll see you out there.

Work continues on traffic calming. The latest news is a crosswalk has been approved at Herring Cove Road and Levis. This is an important connector linking the McIntosh Community Trail to the Captain William Spry Centre, supporting pedestrian safety and our active transit network. As well, Sylvia Ave has been re-evaluated and approved for traffic calming

in a future budget. This year, traffic calming measures will be installed on Tartan and Thornhill. Residential streets need to be safe for all users.

The gym floor in the multi-purpose room at the Spryfield Arena has been fully refinished and is ready for action. The gym was damaged as a result of a fire in 2023. While the gym floor has been fixed and is available for rent, the kitchen will not be replaced. The entire facility is due for a 25-year facilities update in 2027. Work is currently underway to determine the community's growing needs for a new facility, which will inform the design and programming. Look for more information later this year!

## Premier's Message

by **Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia**



Premier Tim Houston

Our government is building Nova Scotia, faster.

Nova Scotia is a different province than it was 20, 10 and even five years ago. We are now seen as a province of opportunity – a place where young people can build their careers, and where businesses can thrive.

On February 29, my government tabled a budget that reflects this shift. But what does it mean for you?

It means building up Nova Scotians by making life more affordable.

Starting on January 1, 2025, we are indexing tax brackets, basic personal amounts and certain tax credits. Every Nova Scotian who pays income tax will benefit. From that day on, Nova Scotians will see less tax coming off their paycheques so they can keep more money in their pockets. These measures amount to the largest tax break in the province's history and will save Nova Scotians up to \$160 million per year in taxes by 2028.

It means building up our communities.

What better way to do that than by supporting our children? Children need good nutrition for their learning and well-being and the rising cost of food is placing pressure on many families. That's why this year we will launch the first-ever, province-wide school lunch program. The program

Last month we held a meeting in Sambro to discuss transit needs and ideas. The meeting was attended by about 30 people and had presentations from Halifax Transit, Joint Regional Transportation Agency, Bay Riders, and Rural Transit Solutions. Notes from the meeting will be shared, and a follow-up meeting planned. Thanks to everyone who participated.

In June 2023, HRM passed By-law R-400 that required property owners to register their residential rental properties by April 1, 2024. Only rental properties that are located within HRM need to be registered. The Residential Rental Registry will provide a clearer picture of the rental landscape in the HRM. A complete record of rental properties – from multi-unit buildings to basement apartments and backyard suites – is expected to provide significant ben-

efits for residents in these buildings by enhancing HRM's ability to provide services. Over time, the registry will help proactively identify maintenance issues, reduce complaints and non-compliance, and improve the safety and overall living conditions for renters across the region. For property owners, the online registration form is quick and easy to complete. A sample maintenance plan is available for anyone who does not have one. More details can be found at [www.halifax.ca/business/doing-business-halifax/residential-rental-registry](https://www.halifax.ca/business/doing-business-halifax/residential-rental-registry).

As always, it is a privilege to be the HRM Councillor for District 11. Please call 902-221-6893 or email [patty.cuttell@halifax.ca](mailto:patty.cuttell@halifax.ca) if you have a question or municipal issue. Find me on social media at [@pattycuttell11](https://twitter.com/pattycuttell11).

will build on our school breakfast programs and roll out over the next four years.

It means building up our healthcare system.

This budget provides more resources to fix healthcare and improve patient experiences. More support for cancer care. More funding to improve the working conditions for our dedicated healthcare professionals and to recruit more of them. All guided by our Action for Health plan. All in this budget.

One of the many healthcare highlights is a significant investment that will make a difference in the lives of people living with diabetes. The Province will help cover the cost of sensor-based glucose monitors and

remove the age cap on the insulin pump program. Considering a person with diabetes pays up to \$4,000 per year for a sensor-based glucose monitor, more than \$6,000 for an insulin pump and \$4,000 for supplies, this is an important investment in the health of many Nova Scotians.

It means building – literally.

New housing. New schools. New hospitals. New roads and highways. This budget supports them all and so much more.

Budget 2024-25: Building Nova Scotia, Faster invests in a brighter Nova Scotia. I encourage you to learn more about how it supports communities across the province at <https://novascotia.ca/budget/>

## The Maguire Report

by **Brendan Maguire, MLA for Halifax Atlantic**

Why I Crossed the Floor

The question of "why" looms large this month as I reflect on my recent decision to cross the floor from the Nova Scotia Liberal Party to join the government led by Premier Tim Houston. After two years in opposition and a decade as a Liberal, what prompted this significant shift?

Critics may have labeled me as Premier Houston's most vocal opponent in the past, but beneath that criticism lies a deep passion for putting people and community first. My commitment to serving Nova Scotians transcends political affiliations, as I maintain friendships across the political spectrum and respect for all who dedicate themselves to public service.

Over the past year, I approached members of the Houston government with ideas to improve the lives of seniors, youth, and all Nova Scotians. To my surprise, I found receptive ears among PC members who were genuinely interested in ideas that would benefit everyone, irrespective of partisan divides. This refreshing approach prompted me to reexamine my motivations for entering politics in

the first place – a dedication to serving the people, especially the most vulnerable, and achieving tangible results.

Setting aside partisan considerations, I observed Premier Houston's unwavering focus on the well-being of Nova Scotians. His dedication to making their lives better resonated with me, reaffirming my belief that people are tired of partisan bickering and crave leadership that prioritizes action over rhetoric.

The decision to join the Houston government was not made lightly. It involved careful consideration and discussions, including a meeting with my wife Rena at the Premier's request, recognizing the impact on my family. I hold nothing but fond memories and respect for my former Liberal colleagues, acknowledging the achievements we accomplished together.

However, my decision was ultimately guided by what I believe is best for our community and Nova Scotia as a whole. Premier Houston's leadership, centered on putting Nova Scotians first and delivering tangible

(See *Maguire on page 10*)



# The Jason Doherty Memorial COMMUNITY EVENTS PAGE



To have your Community Event listed call or fax us at 902-477-NEWS or send email to [chebuctoeditor@gmail.com](mailto:chebuctoeditor@gmail.com).  
Check our Facebook page for updates & late arrivals

## COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR APRIL

### 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: If you would like help with food, please call 902-477-1954 before 10 am and leave a message with your name and phone number. 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:

- Tues. April 2, Executive Meeting - 6:30
- Friday, April 5 - Young at Heart Bingo 6:30 start. Doors open 5 pm
- Sat. April 6 - Paul Sidney Memorial Dart Tournament. Fundraiser for Alzheimers Society. Registration 10 am Start 11 am. M/F prizes. 50-50 draw. Door prizes
- Mon. April 8 - Seniors Dance. 1- 4 pm. Music by Joe MacKinnon. Adm. \$6.00. Lunch served.
- Tues. April 9 - General Meeting 7:00 pm
- Sat. April 13 - Kitchen Party with Cheryl Misener and friends. Start - 2:00-ish
- Sat. April 20. Merrill Shadbolt Memorial Dart Tourney. Blind Draw Doubles. \$5.00 entry. Register 9:00 am. Start 10:00. Kitchen open. Donations to Cancer Society All welcome.
- Thurs. April 25 Crib 7:00 pm start. \$7.00 entry. Bring a partner.
- Fri. April 26 - Karaoke with Cheryl. 7-11 pm. Adm. \$6.00
- Sat. April 27. Dave MacAulay Memorial Pool Tournament. 11:00 am start. Donations to Heart and Stroke Fund. Kitchen open.
- Sat. April 27 - Penny Auction

and Dance - Fundraiser for Clint Sock. Music by Slightly Slanted. 8-12. Adm. \$8.00 Auction at 7:00 pm

- Sun. April 28 - Super Bingo. Start 1:30 pm Doors open 11:30 am. Tickets sold in advance. Limited seating.
- Kitchen Open Fridays 5-7 pm

### 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](mailto:hwcc@outlook.com)

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

- City Church Tel #: 902-479-CITY [c.citychurch@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:c.citychurch@ns.sympatico.ca) [www.citychurchhalifax.ca](http://www.citychurchhalifax.ca)
- City Church Christian Radio Station Life 94.7 FM

### Emmanuel Anglican Church (322 Herring Cove Rd) events:

- [emmanuelanglicanchurch.net](http://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.
- Messy Church: Saturday, April 6th, 4-6 pm. Informal time of worship, socializing, crafts and dinner in the church hall, aimed at children and their significant adults. Please RSVP if you would like to come.

### 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 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). For further information contact Stella Maris Parish office at 902 477-3530 or email [stelaristwelvebaskets@gmail.com](mailto:stelaristwelvebaskets@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.
- We will be having our first turkey dinner of the year on Saturday, April 27. This will be a takeout only but it always sells out so please order your dinner early. Unfortunately, due to rising cost of the food, we have had to

put the price up to \$18.00 but remember that is for a full dinner, turkey, dressing, gravy and vegetables. You will also get a dessert. To order, call or text Lynn at 902-240-5107.

### 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](mailto:shay@ns.sympatico.ca) or check out the TOPS org website at [www.tops.org](http://www.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](http://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](mailto:urbanfarmspryfield@gmail.com)

Seedy Saturday/Plant Sale at the Urban Farm May 25th from noon to 2pm. Rain date, May 26th

For further information, please call Pat at 902-497-3683 or email [urbanfarmspryfield@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**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@halifax-weddingchapel.com](mailto:info@halifax-weddingchapel.com). Funding by the Community Links Association and the NS Dept of Seniors and Long-term Care.

**Women For Music Society' 60th Annual Spring Book Sale** will take place at the Maritime Hall, Halifax Forum. April 13th from 8:30am to 4pm and Sunday April 14th from 9am to 2pm. [www.womenformusic.com](http://www.womenformusic.com) for more information

**Festival Of Colours** presented by the Spryfield Area Multicultural Society. May 25th from 12noon to 5pm. Performances, Music, Dhol, Variety of Delicious Food, Dance. Entry is \$2 per person at the Spryfield Lions Rink, 111 Drysdale Rd.

Tom Urbaniak, as a guest of Spryfield Community Association, is coming to Spryfield May 28, 7:00 pm at the Capt. Spry Library. Tom is a professor at Cape Breton University and has interests in public policy, municipal politics, and community development.

Mainland South Heritage Society has a new date for the previously cancelled **Heritage Tea and Display**.

Saturday, April 13, 2024, from 2pm to 4pm at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. Open to the public, no charge.

The theme is Military with photos and artifacts from wartime. Enjoy chatting over refreshments with old and new friends.

## Maguire

(continued from page 9)

results in critical areas such as health-care, education, infrastructure, climate change, and affordability, resonated deeply with me.

We are at a pivotal moment where action is imperative, where words must be backed by deeds. While I anticipate mixed reactions to my decision, rest assured that my commitment to serving our community remains steadfast. Political parties are secondary to the vision, investment, and leadership required to propel Nova Scotia forward.

To those who may agree or disagree with my decision, my door is always open. My beliefs, morals, and drive to fight for this community will never waver.

With love and respect,  
Brendan Maguire, 349 Herring Cove Road 902-444-0147



# LOCAL OBITUARIES

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

## Delina Madeline Pennell

Delina “Del” Madeline Pennell (Campbell) Kilbride) of Halifax passed away on February 12, 2024. Born in West Chester, NS, she was the daughter of the late Harold and Thelma (Weatherbee) Campbell. She worked at Robert Simpsons for 16 years, and 10 years at the HMC Dockyards, retiring in 1988. She enjoyed knitting, crocheting, quilt making, baking, and playing cards.

She leaves to mourn her passing, son, Fred Campbell, Enfield; stepson, Harvey (Laura) Pennell, Moncton NB; grandson, James Kilbride, Halifax; step-grandsons, Jordan, Taylor Pennell, Moncton NB; brothers, Rev. George (Dorson) Campbell, Dartmouth, Bobby and John Campbell, Halifax; several nieces and nephews, cousins and friends; card playing buddies, Rosie, Marie, Barb, Debra, and Cecelia; good friends, Carol Burke, Halifax, Gerald Moulton, Halifax, Tom Holden, River Phillip, and Ken on Rycroft, Timberlea, Darleen Lantz, Margarets Bay, special friends, Tommy Burke, Halifax, Donna and Gerald Wells, Halifax, Debby Burkes, Halifax; special cousin, Gloria MacDonald, River Phillip.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Lionel Kilbride, second husband, Harry Pennell, son, Ken

Killbride; three brothers, Scott, Tom, Harold Sr. (Sonny) Campbell; sisters, Myria (Arnold Jollimore), West Penet, Susanne Conner, Tantallon.

## David Allan MacDonald

David Allan MacDonald died on February 14, 2024, at the age of 69. He is survived by his wife, Cathy, and his son, Robert “Austin” MacDonald.

Born in Halifax on November 5, 1954, to Allan and Anne MacDonald (née White), David was proud to be a lifelong Haligonian. David grew up on the corner of Robie Street and Jubilee Road and attended Queen Elizabeth High School.

David was intelligent and inquisitive. He attended Dalhousie University and graduated with his Bachelor of Commerce in 1975, going on to study Internet Technology at the DeVry Technical Institute in Toronto. David could be counted on to know the latest current events and news stories. He read the daily newspaper faithfully and never shied away from a spirited discussion.

David enjoyed nature, observing local wildlife, and gardening – a hobby surely inspired by years of living so close to the Halifax Public Gardens. He especially loved walks with his dog, Jake, through Sir Sanford Fleming Park. David’s extensive knowledge of the city and its history made him an excellent tour guide for family and friends visiting Halifax.

David was passionate about sports, particularly hockey, and often reminisced about his days as a lifeguard along the Northwest Arm. Some of his fondest memories were of traveling with his son to watch NASCAR races. Family trips to Cape Canaveral, Florida, and summer vacations in PEI were also highlights. David will be remembered as a devoted father.

In 2018, David received the invaluable gift of a kidney transplant. In lieu of flowers, we ask you to consider donating to the Kidney Foundation of Canada, so others can benefit from their life-changing work.

## Verna Mary (Nickerson) Marryatt

88, passed away from renal failure on February 21, 2024, at Dykeland Lodge in Windsor, Nova Scotia. We are mourning the loss of a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and sister. Verna suffered from chronic pain for the past several years and she is now at peace.

Survived by husband of 64 years, Douglas Marryatt, daughter Debbie Symonds (Frank), son Jonathan Marryatt (Elizabeth Wile), granddaughter Victoria Symonds (Joe LeRoy), brother Roderick Nickerson (Veronica), and many nieces and nephews.

Predeceased by father Claude Nickerson, mother Amy Nickerson, brother and sister-in-law Wynne and Sybil Nickerson, brother Forrest Nickerson, brother Malcolm Nickerson, father-in-law, and mother-in-law Robie and Marjorie Marryatt, brother-

in-law and sister-in-law Donnie and Lily Marryatt, special cousin Barbara Allen, special friend Kaye McCormack.

Born in Richfield, Digby County, Verna was the only daughter with four brothers (three of whom were born deaf). She went to Normal College in Truro to study to be a teacher. After teaching in various schools throughout the province, Verna arrived in Sambro in the mid-1950s to teach at Sambro Elementary School. She met and fell in love with Doug, the son of a local fisherman, and they were married in October 1959. Verna was a kind, creative, and encouraging teacher, and established the first children’s library at the school. Reading was an important part of learning, and Verna read to her students every day and encouraged them to borrow books from the library at every opportunity.

Mum was an avid reader and had a keen eye for grammatical mistakes and typos. Her dry wit and sense of humor were second to none, and she could often be found giggling like a teenager with her friends. Verna loved to travel with Jon and her close friends and went on several bus trips, European tours, and a cruise in the Mediterranean. Her favorite travel destination was the U.K. Her numerous skills included knitting, crocheting, quilting, tapestry, cross-stitch, and rug-hooking, and she created many sweaters, suits, and dresses for her daughter over the years, as well as numerous baby outfits and dresses for her granddaughter. Until her eyesight started to fail, Verna spent many hours putting together jigsaw puzzles. Verna’s faith in God was strong, and she volunteered at the St. James United Church as often as she was able.

Verna went on to work part-time at Sears before she finally retired. Verna and Doug became Gramma and Grampa in 1992 and enjoyed spending time with their new granddaughter, Victoria. In 2010, they sold the family home in Long Cove, West Pennant, and moved to the city. Last year, 2023, both Verna and Doug moved into Dykeland Lodge, Windsor, where they received exemplary care from doctors, nurses, and care workers.

Special thanks and love to Zoe, Tracey, and Rena (just to name a few) who loved Mum almost as much as we did.

Donations may be made to the St. James United Church or a charity of your choice.

“A mother is your first friend, your best friend, your forever friend.” – Anonymous

“A mom’s hug lasts long after she lets go.” – Unknown

## Ethel May Smith

93, passed away peacefully on Thursday, February 29, 2024, in the QEII Veterans Memorial, Camp Hill Hospital. Born in Sambro, she was the second oldest daughter of the late Simeon and Stella (Hart) Smith.

She is survived by her sons Robert (Delores), McKay Section, Victor (Julia), and Ardoise; sisters, Lois, Spryfield, and Bessie, Ohio; brother,

William, Sambro; grandsons, Robert Smith (Caleidgh), Hammonds Plains, Justin Smith, Bedford; granddaughter, Vanessa (Mark)Lichtensteiger, Ohio; many great and grand nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband Harold (Jim); son Michael; sisters, Gladys Nickerson and Mary Smith; brothers, Cecil and Cillford Smith.

Mom loved to be social, chatting with her friends in her residence at Captain William Spry Lodge; she enjoyed dancing, bowling, darts, playing cards, and walking with her friends when she lived in Sambro and later in years with her sister Lois around Halifax and events like the buskers downtown. She was an active member of the Spryfield Legion. Always ready to give her opinion on world events, chances are she could have solved many of their problems, I’m sure. She was a real go-getter and never wanted to stop moving. She will be greatly missed by all who know her.

The family would like to express special thanks over the years to all the doctors, nurses and staff of the QEII and Camp Hill 3 East.

## Betty Eva Elizabeth (Gustavsen) Lordly

As the sun shined bright and the birds sang cheerfully, our dear mother passed on to the next world February 11, 2024, in the comfort of her own home with loved ones at her side. Born April 5, 1935 in Saint John, New Brunswick, she was 9th child of Carl and Nikoline (Brandt) Gustavsen, who immigrated to Canada from Denmark in 1923.

“Gussie”, as she was known to close friends, grew up in Red Head, just outside of Saint John. Despite life in the Great Depression and losing her brother Preben to the war, Betty lived in an idyllic setting of family and farm life, summer camp and weeks-long canoe trips, swimming at the beach, horse riding and high school basketball. With her natural good looks, she even graced the covers of the local farmer’s digests.

Betty was Valedictorian of her graduating class at Saint John General Hospital School of Nursing (’56). After-which, she sailed to the UK to marry Donald, a pal from her canoe trip days. They became an item when Betty needed a last minute date for a high school dance and he just happened to be available - lucky him! After a few years in the UK, the two returned to Canada and settled in Halifax where they raised four boys in Westmount subdivision.

Between sons, Betty practiced as a nurse while in the UK, at the Victoria General in Halifax and in an in-store clinic at Sears. By far, her favourite job was driving around the province making house calls as a VON. She and Don were devout parishioners at St. Paul’s Anglican Church. She was also an active member of the Professional Engineers Wives Association.

Betty maintained lifelong friendships with her chums back in Saint  
(See Obituaries on page 11)



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# PI/PIE Day at St. Paul's United Church

by Carolyn Mont

On Sunday, March 17, we celebrated PIE Day at St. Paul's United Church. Yes, that was Saint Patrick's Day but it was also the closest Sunday to actual PIE Day, March 14. That date, 3.14 is the mathematical number pi ( $\pi$ ), or 3.14. Mathematically, according to Wikipedia, that is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. For the purpose of this article, you don't really have to understand the mathematical explanation. However, the United Church recognizes the date, 3.14 as PIE Day and encourages its members to a Public, Intentional, and Explicit call to action against 2SLGBTQIA+ hate.

Our minister, Max Martin, reminded us that there has been an exponential rise in anti 2SLGBTQIA+ hate-fueled movements, hate crimes and hate speech across Canada. The United Church of Canada urges individuals and communities of faith across Canada to commit to concerted efforts to be Public, Intentional, and Explicit (PIE) in denouncing that hatred. That really means that we are encouraged to promote and protect the freedoms and rights of 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

Of course, church people love food and on PIE Day, we have regularly been treated to pie/tarts. Thanks this year to Rena Eldershaw for making tarts, small pies, for us.

Mark your calendar:

Many of you will recall attending various concerts at St. Paul's United. Mark your calendar for two returning concerts this spring. On Friday

April 12, Hal Bruce will be performing, beginning at 7:00pm. Tickets cost \$25.00 and can be purchased by calling Heather at 902-440-7552. It is best to purchase tickets in advance to ensure that seating will be available.

The next concert will be a return of the Tuesday Night Band, so named because they have met on Tuesday

nights to practice for many years. This group of very talented musicians provide a variety of jazz music on Tuesday, May 21 at 7:30. The cost for this concert is a free will offering at the door.

The community continues to support the work of St. Paul's United

Church by dropping their refundables at Beaver Enviro Depot at 251 Her-ring Cove Rd. and marking them for St. Paul's. Please remember that the bags should not include garbage and that bottle caps should be removed. We thank you for contributing to us in this way.

## OBITUARIES

(continued from page 10)

John as well as in Halifax, through church, the neighbourhood and bridge club. She was an avid gardener, enjoyed swimming and playing tennis at the Waegwoltic Club. Always with a good book on the go and a new recipe to try out, she also loved knitting and quilting for family, among many other crafts.

In retirement, Betty & Don cherished their time in Mackerel Cove; gardening, canoeing and sailing, swimming and barbecuing with family and friends. They also loved to travel near and far, visit family around the globe and go on bicycle tour adventures. In winter, they enjoyed bowling and cross country skiing.

All in all, the "Redhead from Red Head" was a kind soul and lived a truly charmed life. Even in her later years living with dementia, she maintained grace and her familiar gentle and cheerful demeanour. We will miss her dearly and hold her in our hearts always.

Betty is predeceased by husband and lifelong sweetheart Donald, and is survived by sons Michael (Takako), Andru (Judith), Preben and Matthew,

and grandsons Kai (Danielle) and Tuskar. The Lordly family would like to extend deep gratitude to Josephine and Bernadette for treating our Mom like their own, Hazel at Continuing Care, Jody at Geriatrics Outreach, the Lawtons pharmacy team at Halifax Shopping Centre, the palliative team and VON.

### Brendan Matthew Ryan

age 84: It is with great sadness in our hearts to announce the passing of Brendan Ryan on March 7, 2024 –

## Boat safety

by T.Ramsay

Now that the weather is getting better, it is time to start thinking about getting back on the water. Or trying boating for the first time. HRM, and our community, have so many great lakes on which to paddle or row your aquatic vehicle of choice. From kayaks and canoes to motorized boats, there is something for everyone to enjoy on our local lakes.

Although it may not seem like it, boat safety looks the same whether you are paddling a canoe or manning a motorboat. Starting with a sober driver. Just like getting behind the wheel of a vehicle, operating a boat under the influence of alcohol or cannabis can turn a fun afternoon into a tragedy. Save the drinks for after the boat ride.

Every person who gets on a boat needs a PFD. There are many different kinds of PFDs and some are better suited to certain situations. For example, a vest-style PFD is best for most adults. It allows freedom of movement for paddling or rowing while ensuring that your core stays afloat should you capsize. Some people prefer one that just goes around the waist, like a cummerbund, but those should not be used when out on the lake alone, as they do not keep your head above water. Children, and those who can't swim, should use one that gives extra support to the neck and head. Traditional PFDs are made from buoyant materials such as foam. Recently, inflatable PFDs have hit the market. These have benefits and drawbacks that should be taken into consideration before choosing the right PFD for you.

Every boat that hits the water should have a bailing container and extra paddle. Leaks spring up at the most awkward of times and having a bailing container on board can mean the difference between floating to shore and swimming to shore. An extra paddle (or oar) should be an

Brendan was born December 16, 1939 in Port Saunders, NF. Brendan worked as a Head Chef for 57 years, most of those years was employed with the Flamingo Restaurant in Halifax. Brendan lived a quiet life being a loving husband and Father.

Brendan is survived by his wife Elaine Ryan (LeBlanc) of 51 years, his daughter Emmy Ryan; two grandchildren Connor and Tyler Ryan, and daughter in law Judy Ryan. He was predeceased by his son Matthew Brendan Ryan.

automatic part of your packing list. Motors stop, paddles get pulled away in a current, and being prepared can save you a lot of frustration.

Sunscreen, water, and food are absolute necessities when going out on the lake. Food can be as simple as a protein bar or an apple and some nuts. Just something to keep you going if you find yourself farther from shore than originally planned for. An extra bottle of water is always a good idea, as you don't want to dehydrate while out paddling. Sunscreen may not seem like a safety device for being out on the water, but sunburns can occur quickly, even on overcast days, and can make you very sick.

IMAGE: CANSTOCK PHOTO



If you are planning on fishing while out on the lake, always bring a first aid kit. Fish gills and fins are sharp, as are hooks. It doesn't take much for you to end up with an infected cut because you didn't have a band aid and some rubbing alcohol, or polysporin, onboard.

These days, everyone has a cell phone. This may have you believing that you don't need most of this other stuff because you can just call for help. Unfortunately, many lakes don't have reliable cell coverage. Always let someone know where you are going and when you expect to be back. Don't rely on technology to keep you safe.

If you have never been on the water in a boat, canoe, or kayak, consider taking a course. There are lots of places that offer water safety courses, and many specialize in certain watercrafts. Have fun and stay safe this boating season.

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## February statistics

Spryfield single family homes' sales are still outperforming the rest of Nova Scotia with a 300% increase in homes on the market over February 2023. Average price for a single family home in Spryfield is \$585k.

The February report shows the return received for house sales is slightly over asking. Houses are closing quickly, averaging 28 days on the market vs 55 days last February.

There are few condos in the Spryfield area and there was little to no activity reported in February.

This is a very 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.**

### Local Market Update – February 2024

A Research Tool Provided by Nova Scotia Association of REALTORS®



#### 7-Spryfield

Single Family Key Metrics	February			Year to Date		
	2023	2024	% Change	Thru 2-2023	Thru 2-2024	% Change
New Listings	7	22	+ 214.3%	11	32	+ 190.9%
Pending Sales	5	17	+ 240.0%	11	28	+ 154.5%
Closed Sales	6	16	+ 166.7%	12	24	+ 100.0%
Days on Market Until Sale	55	28	- 49.1%	50	35	- 30.0%
Median Sales Price*	\$469,500	\$602,630	+ 28.4%	\$513,500	\$593,250	+ 15.5%
Average Sales Price*	\$422,000	\$585,856	+ 38.8%	\$495,787	\$572,835	+ 15.5%
Percent of List Price Received*	103.4%	101.6%	- 1.7%	100.5%	100.7%	+ 0.2%
Inventory of Homes for Sale	6	16	+ 166.7%	—	—	—
Months Supply of Inventory	0.4	1.2	+ 200.0%	—	—	—

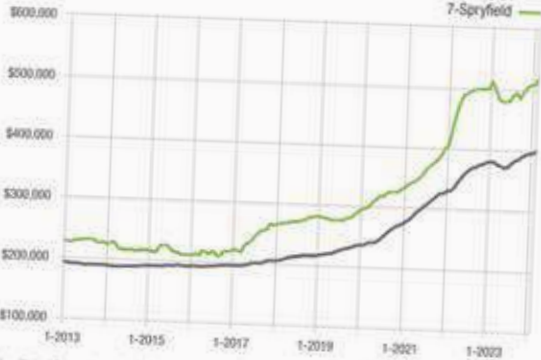
  

Condo Key Metrics	February			Year to Date		
	2023	2024	% Change	Thru 2-2023	Thru 2-2024	% Change
New Listings	0	1	—	3	1	- 66.7%
Pending Sales	1	0	- 100.0%	3	0	- 100.0%
Closed Sales	1	0	- 100.0%	2	0	- 100.0%
Days on Market Until Sale	3	—	—	3	—	—
Median Sales Price*	\$340,000	—	—	\$344,000	—	—
Average Sales Price*	\$340,000	—	—	\$344,000	—	—
Percent of List Price Received*	104.6%	—	—	105.8%	—	—
Inventory of Homes for Sale	0	1	—	—	—	—
Months Supply of Inventory	—	0.4	—	—	—	—

\* Does not account for sale concessions and/or downpayment assistance. | Percent changes are calculated using rounded figures and can sometimes look extreme due to small sample size.

#### Median Sales Price - Single-Family

Rolling 12-Month Calculation



#### Median Sales Price - Condo

Rolling 12-Month Calculation



A rolling 12-month calculation represents the current month and the 11 months prior in a single data point. If no activity occurred during a month, the line extends to the next available data point. Current as of March 3, 2024. All data from Nova Scotia Association of REALTORS®, Report © 2024 ShowingTime Plus, LLC.

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