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Chebucto News

Vol.26 • No.7
March 2025

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It's not just about the food



Left to right: Carolyn Mont, Ansel DeWolfe, Ruth Wagner and Harry Wagner gearing up for another game of cribbage after their delicious lunch.

by Carolyn Mont

Even if you are not a regular church goer, you are probably aware that eating and church often go together. It might be in the form of coffee before or after church, church suppers, food banks, lunches, meetings before or after a communal meal, or food used as a fundraiser. Those things happen at various times in various churches,

but the food is often not as important as the sense of community that occurs. We see this all the time at St. Paul's United Church in Spryfield.

An example of this is Soup's On, a program of St. Paul's Family Resources Institute (FRI). This is definitely not a fundraiser as it is a free meal every Tuesday at noon. Of course, people show up for the meal prepared

by amazing volunteers. However, as I watch the guests, I see that many of them come every week and sit at a communal table enjoying the time spent with friends old and new. Often, after the meal, some people stay and enjoy a few games of crib.

About those volunteers...it takes a lot of planning, cooking and cleaning up after Soup's On. It is hard work,

but friendships have been created through the involvement in volunteering.

St. Paul's United Church had a successful fundraiser on February 1. This was a turkey dinner. Volunteers prepared over 150 takeout turkey dinners with vegetables, turkey, gravy, dressing and dessert. These were all preordered, meaning that everything that was cooked was sold. The customers drove to the kitchen door and were handed a still hot dinner to take home. As usual, these dinners were sold out. I have said that it is not just about the food and yet, it would seem that it is. However, members of the congregation spent two days peeling and cooking vegetables, making dressing, cooking and slicing turkeys and packaging the dinners. The time spent shopping, preparing and cooking while exhausting, is a wonderful time of fellowship.

Are there ghosts in Spryfield?

Episode 4

by a Spryfielder

Martello Tower in Point Pleasant Park – visiting with a friend and our kids. At this point in time the Martello Tower was open to the public. It was set up to show how gun powder was stored in a previous historical time. Inside the round tower there were wooden planks to walk on with barrels stacked against the walls. This is a bit hard to explain to people, but I felt a presence come up beside me and I can even give you a description. It was a young man in a soldier's

(See Ghosts on page 2)

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What's happening at the Urban Farm

March. Hard to believe it is here already. We forgot to check on what the ground hog forecast was. As this is being written, the snow outside is sparkling and beautiful. But us Urban Farm gardeners are dreaming about planting at the Urban Farm when the crocus start to push up their beautiful little flowers, and shortly thereafter the daffodils tell us what to plant next. Are you all checking out the seed catalogues? So much fun.

We all at the Urban Farm follow our Come Grow With Us garden book. Starting on Page 17 you will see that our garden advisor, Marjorie Willison, has a very informative chart of what to plant when. The Urban Farm market gardens are on a bit of a sheltered slope which is a plus. With our weather changing from year to year, this is a great book to follow and it will be on sale at our Urban Farm all season long for \$15.

Our volunteer work parties are now only 2 hours long. We found by accident that the 2-hour work party is great. Volunteers arrive happy, do some work for us, have a snack and leave happy. And more people show up. The Urban Farm is very happy about that.

We also have groups come and volunteer their time. If these folks want to stay longer, we will hang in there with them until all the chores are done.

Have you visited our new and improved web site? It is www.spryfieldurbanfarm.ca We have added as many beautiful pictures as we could and will update many times during our garden season showing off flowers, birds, flowers, bugs, and whatever,

in our old 1825 heritage field. You can check our Facebook page as well for event information, and daily for what vegetables might be for sale. Our garlic bed has been increased to 250+. When the garlic scapes are ready, we will post on FB and our website.

For those of you who don't know what a garlic scape is. It is the top of the plant that curls and it needs to be cut off, which helps the garlic plant to produce a bigger, better bulb. The garlic scape can be chopped up, used in a stir fry. Use

Ghosts

(continued from page 1)
uniform. He had short blond hair, and I felt he was about 23 or 24 years old. A very pleasant fellow and I whispered "Hi". No big deal for me, but outside was a Commissioner looking after the visitors. Sometimes I just blurt things out without thinking. And, I said "You know there is a really nice young man inside from long ago in a soldier's uniform." The Commissioner said "Lady, don't you be telling me about any ghosts." I said "Yes, but it is a really nice young man..." "Lady, I have to come back tonight and now I have to bring a bottle of rum". I just smiled and walked away. Another thoughtful moment. I was a thoughtful child and now I am a thoughtful adult.

What else can one do? Well, from time to time, I try to test this kind of stuff. I have always been curious, but who to talk to, and will they think I am crazy? Hmmm. I was visiting a friend in Florida. Far from home. No one else there knows me, so I checked

your imagination for other uses.

Do you know what an Artic Strawberry tastes like. No? Well, I guess you will have to stop by and we will find a couple for you to taste.

I hope you all are having a great 2025 so far in this winter season.

Urban Farm Memberships: Individuals \$10, Students/Seniors \$5, Groups/Organizations \$25 - \$50

Contact us with any questions you may have about our Urban Farm: urbanfarmspryfield@gmail.com

into a "medium" type of person. I found this little old lady - \$10 for ½ hour. I thought, I won't tell her anything and I will repeat nursery rhymes in my head, so she can't read my mind.

I was ready. She touched my hand and said, "My Goodness, you live in a very old house, and that house will always look after you." Deep breath. Repeat nursery rhymes. She touched my hand again. She then said, "I am not sure, something about, you are ok kid?" Well. I felt a warm, fuzzy glow. At this time my Dad was dead a short time. He once in a while would lightly punch my shoulder and say, "You are ok kid." Needless to say, I was impressed by this little old lady, and I once again became thoughtful and it lasted quite some time.

One other thing I think about is having a lot of X lines on my palms. I shall plan to check on Google in the very near future. Maybe this will be another Episode.

Chebucto News

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Religious Services for March

Send your submissions to chebuctoeditor@gmail.com for April's issue by March 11.

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, 902-477-1783.

Sunday Worship:
 8:00 am: Quiet, traditional, contemplative communion service. (2nd, 3rd, 4th Sundays)

10:00 am: Lively, contemporary communion service with music.

First Sunday only has a 10am service and it is Morning Prayer.

Ash Wednesday: March 5, 11:00am. Service led by Rev. Bert Chestnut.

Taizé Service: Sunday March 16, 7:00pm. A candlelit service of chanting, meditation, prayers and readings. If you are looking for some-

thing deeply spiritual, this is for you! Emmanuel Church is an affirming church. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship.

St. Paul's United Church (173 Old Sambro Road)
 11am on Sunday mornings.

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

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 4pm Sunday: 8am, 10am & 4pm

Weekday Masses: Tuesdays: 7pm Wednesdays: 9am Thursdays: 7pm

Fridays: 9am (followed by 1 hour of Eucharistic Adoration) 1st Saturdays: 9am Tuesday 7pm Masses: First Tuesday: Healing Mass Second Tuesday: Mass and Adoration Third Tuesday: Mass and Adoration Last Tuesday (Sep-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 10:30am. Services are live streamed on our Facebook page (St James United Church Sambro NS) and Youtube. Our website is www.sambrojollimorepc.com and our email address is: office.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com Our phone number is 902-868-2791.

We are once again offering our

unique Family Faith Formation Sundays starting January 19th. While traditional Sunday school models focus strictly on instructing youth, our approach extends that learning to the whole community. Our youth receive a lesson meant to familiarize them with the core stories and values of our faith through conversation and creative activities. The rest of the congregation will study the same story with an emphasis on how to keep the conversation going at home. Our program is only once a month to make it easier for families to plan around their busy schedules and to ensure that we've always got plenty of teachers and kids to make it a more educational and enjoyable experience. So, join us as we explore our faith and see just how far your faith can take you. Family Foundation Sundays for the 2025 Winter/Spring season will take place on Jan 19th, Feb 16th, Mar 23rd, May 18th and Jun 15th

St. James Anglican Church (1 Harrigan's Road)

Sunday mornings at 10:30am alternating each Sunday with Holy Eucharist and Morning Prayer

Priest in charge: Rev. Taunya Dawson (902) 240-7588

Lay Minister: John Richardson (902) 233-3465

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 at Open Door Community Church, 11 Aldergrove Drive, 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
 email: 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

Christ Embassy Halifax (16 Sussex St.)

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 Wednesdays – 7:00 – 8:00 PM



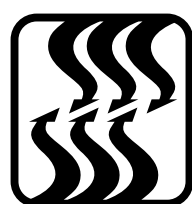
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DISCOVERING OUR PAST



Church and cemetery records reveal birthplace of early Irish

by Iris V. Shea

Roman Catholics in Nova Scotia before 1783 were not permitted to own land, build a church, or practice their religion. The English Protestants claimed the Irish were lazy and “good for nothing.” If you were Irish and Roman Catholic, you had two strikes against you!

The laws against Catholics were relaxed in 1783, and within one year Roman Catholics in Halifax purchased land and erected a place of worship on Barrington Street. Known as St. Peter’s, it was the predecessor of St. Mary’s Cathedral which was built in 1820. During those first few years Reverend James Jones, the first priest of the Halifax church, visited the communities along the shore. Roman Catholic church records before 1800, however, have not survived. In 1794, Irish Catholics living in Prospect built their own church, namely Our Lady of Mount Carmel and the communities of Ketch Harbour and Herring Cove were within its bounds. Reverend Thomas Grace, the incumbent priest at Prospect, administered to the spiritual needs of the Catholic inhabitants along our shore.

Information from Roman Catholic Church records and local cemeteries provide the actual counties of origin in Ireland for some of the early settlers in our communities. Descendants of these early Irish settlers, with names such as Dempsey, Gallagher, Hanrahan, Hayes, Johnson, Murphy, Lynch, O’Connell, Oakley, Power, Quan, Scallion, and Sullivan, settled in our fishing communities from Ferguson’s Cove to Ketch Harbour.

William Johnson first appeared in Bear Cove in 1801 when he bought 200 acres of land granted earlier to Thomas Clarke. He later bought the Bracket grant at Halibut Bay with Andrew Scallion. A cemetery stone in the Old St. Paul’s Cemetery in Herring Cove for William’s son, Lawrence Johnson, is inscribed “A native of County Wexford, Ireland”.

The following records were found in St. Peter’s Roman Catholic Church (later St. Mary’s) in Halifax:

On 3 January 1815, Daniel Gallagher, son of Daniel and Elizabeth of County Tyrone, Ireland, married Eleanor Hacket of Ketch Harbour. This couple settled in Ketch Harbour.

On 4 July 1820 William Dempsey, son of Patrick and “Bridgit”, a native of the parish of Castle-Ellis, County Wexford, Ireland, married Catherine Latter, daughter of Henry and Catherine (McClellan) Latter of Herring Cove, in the presence of John Loughman, Michael Hacket and Anne Philpot. The church record neglected to mention that Catherine was the widow of James Philpot at the time of her



Stella Maris Church in Ferguson’s Cove, about 1953. Courtesy Mainland South Heritage Society. The Roman Catholic church opened in 1846, said to have been built with help from an Irish regiment stationed at York Redoubt

marriage because her first marriage took place in a Church of England and was not recognized.

On 17 Nov. 1820, Walter Murphy, son of Stephen Murphy and Mary Doyle of County Wexford, Ireland, married Mary Connors, daughter of Denis Connors and Ruth Lister of “Catch” Harbour. Witnesses were Moses Brooks, Charles Grennel and Jane McDaniel. The Murphys settled in Ketch Harbour.

On 1 Feb. 1821, Andrew Scallion, son of Joseph Scallion and Margaret Doyle of County Wexford, Ireland, married Elizabeth Edwards, daughter of George Edwards and Catherine Brown of Lawrencetown, Halifax County. The couple settled in Halibut Bay.

On 12 Oct. 1823, John Quan of the parish of Ballyconnick, County Wexford, Ireland, married Anastasia Murphy, daughter of John and Mary (Casey) Murphy of Mirimachie, N.B. Witnesses were Luke Kehoe, Elizabeth Kehoe, William Brophy and John Kehoe. This family settled in Portuguese Cove.

Thomas Oakley was buried by Rev. James Dunphy from St. Mary’s Church in Halifax, Sept. 24, 1823. The death record states “Thomas ‘Oakley’ was a native of Tipperery, Ireland, died in the poor house.” From the marriage record for his daughter Eliza, the record shows her birthplace as Prince Edward Island. The baptism records for the three youngest children of Thomas and Mary (Burke) Oakley were found in St. Paul’s Anglican Church in Halifax, NS. The marriage record for their son James Oakley to Elizabeth King was

Elizabeth (King) Oakley.

On 20 Jan. 1830, James O’Connell, son of James and Mary (Young) O’Connell married Sarah Louisa White of Portuguese Cove, daughter of Joseph White and Sarah Rouse. James O’Connell’s gravestone in Old St. Paul’s Cemetery in Herring Cove was inscribed “a native of Glasshouse, Parish of Slaive, Rhue, County Kilkenny, Ireland, born 23 July 1810”. His daughter, Susan, married 15 January 1851 Andrew Scallion, Jr.

A gravestone in Holy Sepulcher cemetery in Ketch Harbour was inscribed with information about Timothy Sullivan’s origin... Timothy O’Sullivan, from the Parish of Borehaven, County Cork, Ireland, aged 98 years, died 11 Aug. 1875. His wife, Catherine Harrington, died in 1880 at the age of 103 years. The Sullivans lived in Portuguese Cove. Their son, Michael Sullivan, married Margaret Scallion in 1837 and drowned off Herring Cove in 1854 when he fell overboard from his fishing boat. Michael’s brother, John Sullivan, married Margaret Scallion’s sister, Ann.

If you are tracing the Irish roots of any of these local fishing families, they will most likely include more than one of the surnames mentioned above. In addition to the church and cemetery records, the online census records are a valuable source.

Chebucto News Community businesses serving community needs.

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Spotlight on Spryfield

Backlands Suites – Art of the Backlands

Exhibition supported by the Backlands Coalition
 April 3 – 29, 2025
 Chase Gallery – Nova Scotia Archives
 6016 University Ave., Halifax

The Backlands Suites art exhibit is an exceptional glimpse into the many stunning and diverse natural areas tucked into the landscapes found in the Backlands in Spryfield. These natural “suites” are framed by the Purcell’s Cove Road and the Herring Cove Road from Power’s Pond to Williams Lake Road and cover 1,350 hectares of unique forests, sculpted granite barrens and rare ecosystems.

The Backlands Coalition is a grassroots, citizen-action group of 12 local conservation groups. The troupe of dedicated naturalists, citizen-scientists, biologists, birders, conservationists,

business owners, and residents fuel the volunteer Coalition. They are a cohesive voice to advocate for the protection of these rare lands, their important natural services, and access to nature for everyone, forever.

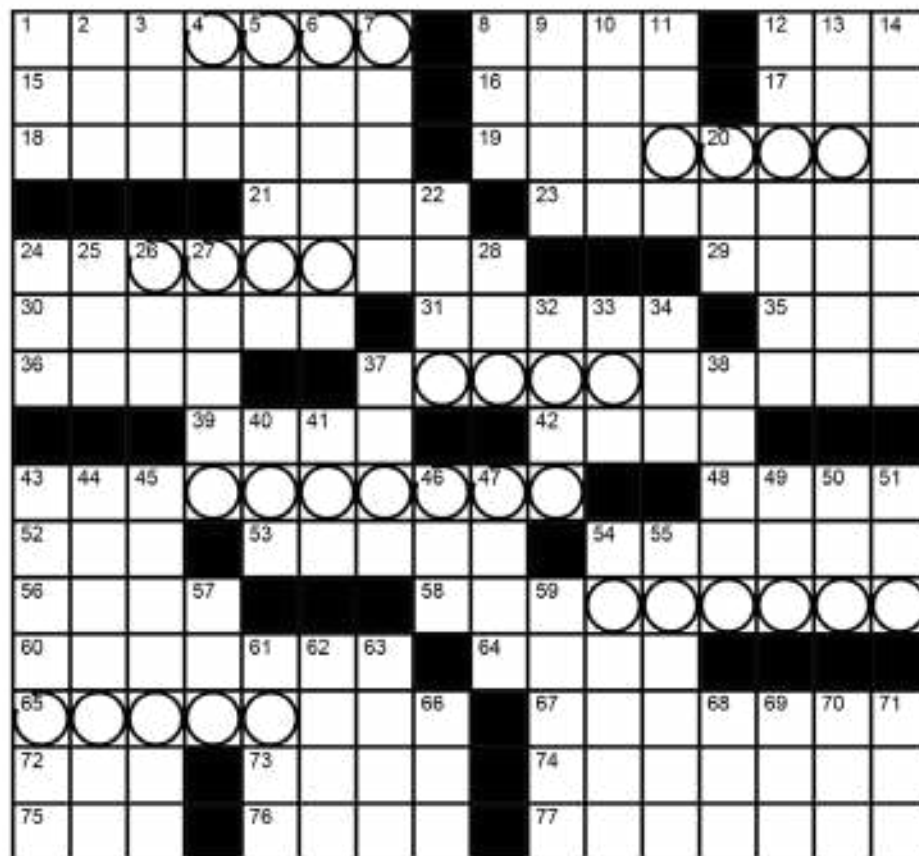
The Backlands “Suites” exhibition in April will feature 9 notable artists, inspired by the Backlands, and whose bond with, and alliance to, the land can be witnessed in their sensitive and novel pieces of art. This exhibition is your moment to experience the wonder of the Backlands wilderness.

Pieces of Music

by Barbara Olson
 © ClassiCanadian Crosswords

Across

- 1 Like an expired coupon
- 8 “Big Raven” painter Emily
- 12 Castanet clacker’s cry
- 15 Sweet shaved-ice treat
- 16 Start to -syncratic
- 17 Slyly shy
- 18 Bell or Rogers
- 19 Right to vote
- 21 Literary no-name: Abbr.
- 23 Is a member of, with “to”
- 24 Sticking point for King Arthur?
- 29 Scott of “Joanie Loves Chachi”
- 30 Bottom out in business
- 31 Specifics, slangily
- 35 “No CPR” request
- 36 Jupiter and Mars, but not Earth
- 37 Spying tactic using seduction
- 39 ___ good example
- 42 Like a lazy layabout
- 43 Relating to boxing
- 48 ___ ‘acte (theatre break)
- 52 Mil. time off
- 53 “I have to ___ to believe ...” (doubter’s words)
- 54 Canal skated on in Ottawa
- 56 U.S. anthem starter
- 58 Savagely fierce
- 60 Impersonated
- 64 Viral TikTok bit, say
- 65 Zika or coronavirus, e.g.
- 67 Creepily gruesome
- 72 Article in “El Mundo”?
- 73 Bailiwick
- 74 Having a wild night out
- 75 Summer hrs. in most of B.C.
- 76 With 77-Across, musical with a song whose parts are circled in the grid
- 77 See 76-Across



Down

- 1 “Believer in” suffix
- 2 U-turn from SSW
- 3 Decibel level: Abbr.
- 4 Bottom card in a solitaire column
- 5 Pub or diner regulars, likely
- 6 Privy to the plot
- 7 Discharge from the army
- 8 Sue Grafton’s “___ for Corpse”
- 9 Rub-___ (drumbeat sound)
- 10 Abounding (with)
- 11 Texter’s “too funny!”
- 12 Air of the True North?
- 13 Major industry in B.C.
- 14 Rundown shack, from a neighbour’s viewpoint
- 20 Hold up
- 22 Unthreaded?
- 24 Say “Do it, do it!”, with “on”
- 25 Letter writer’s kiss-hug-hug
- 26 Marijuana compound sans THC
- 27 Too, in Toulouse
- 28 “Oedipus ___”
- 32 Modern “Marvellous!”
- 33 Thrice daily, on an Rx
- 34 Sonora sun
- 37 RSVP encl.
- 38 “___ say more?”
- 40 Golfer Ernie dubbed “The Big Easy”
- 41 Even score

- 43 Helps support
- 44 Wobbly, as logic
- 45 Try to take hold of
- 46 Cousin of .png and .bmp
- 47 Agenda listing
- 49 Prefix meaning “new”
- 50 Alphabet symbol for torque
- 51 Putin’s place: Abbr.
- 54 Parmesan alternative
- 55 It’s on top of the world
- 57 “___-hawl!”
- 59 Tend to another wet spill
- 61 Wee bit of whiskey
- 62 Syllables with cadabra
- 63 Prosecution lawyer’s client
- 66 Like apparel in a carol
- 68 Org. for Shapovalov or Djokovic
- 69 OutKast rapper Big ___
- 70 Canadian singer Sexsmith
- 71 French connections?

Bad weather brings out our best responses

February had everyone dealing with some really nasty weather. By Valentine’s Day, the roads were a sheet of ice. The stores were sold out of salt and people were scrambling to get out of their driveways. However, as a community, the Chebucto Loop always comes together in the end. Our resilience and generosity know no bounds. We find ways to overcome Mother Nature’s fury.

Take, for example, the young fellow from Sambro who strapped on his skates, grabbed a hockey stick and puck, and went for a skate down his street. Young Grayson’s video even ended up on Nova Scotia Buzz. Check it out online for a smile.

Or the unnamed person who grabbed a Canadian flag, pulled on a pair of ice skates and let the wind carry him down the Bald Rock Road, flag waving, while the whitecapped waves of the Sambro Harbour flowed along beside him.

The best example of community though, had to be Ali Alizy of Carlton Landscaping, who filled his pickup truck with salt, drove to the Bowlarama in Spryfield and filled buckets for local residents in need. Without charge.



Unnamed person skating down Bald Rock Rd with Canadian flag waving. (screenshot from the SACA Facebook page)

Spotlight on Spryfield

Let's Talk Fish

March 20, Thursday 7:00 – 8:30 pm
 Captain Spry Community Library –
 Program Room
 Williams Lake Conservation
 Company



Whether you're new to fishing or just want to be more ecologically minded, this is an opportunity to learn about sustainable fishing practices, conservation and how we can all play a part in protecting our local waters. We'll discuss conservation efforts, local fish species, and tips for responsible fishing to ensure that Nova Scotia's natural resources are forever preserved for future generations. Bring your family, friends and newbie fishers to connect, share experiences, and let's talk fish!

Sabrina Wolthers is the Sportfish Development Officer with the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture. She introduces kids and families to the joys of fishing, works to promote recreational fishing through educational resources, events, and highlights the best fishing opportunities across the province. Her goal is to make fishing accessible and enjoyable for anglers of all ages and abilities.

The Williams Lake Conservation Company and the Captain William Spry Community Library are hosting a series of talks by local experts on

the amazing natural environment in Spryfield. Topics include hiking trails, fishing for newbies, birding skills, identifying wild edible plants and wildlife rescue and rehabilitation and more. Check our calendar of events on the Williams Lake Conservation Company website at <http://williamslakecc.org>. Also check the library's program listing "Spotlight on Spryfield" on their website <http://halifaxpubliclibraries.ca>.

No registration is needed for this event. Messy winter weather may force us to cancel an event so call the library before you come. For more information on the series contact Captain William Spry Community Library (902) 490-5244

The Williams Lake Conservation Company and the Captain Spry Community Library support the principles of sustainability, conservation and preservation of the natural environment which surrounds our Spryfield area for everyone, forever.



Sabrina Wolthers engages Learn2Fish newbies on Cunard Pond on Williams Lake



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Local Market Update – January 2025

7-Spryfield **Single family homes holding their value in Spryfield**

Single Family	January			Year to Date		
	Units	\$/sq ft	% Change	Jan 1, 2024	Jan 1, 2025	% Change
New Listings	10	18	+ 80.0%	10	16	+ 60.0%
Pending Sales	11	16	+ 45.5%	11	16	+ 45.5%
Closed Sales	8	13	+ 62.5%	8	12	+ 50.0%
Days on Market (Unit Sale)	90	41	- 54.4%	10	41	- 75.0%
Median Sales Price*	\$281,225	\$272,000	- 3.3%	\$281,225	\$270,000	- 3.3%
Average Sales Price*	\$240,704	\$276,776	+ 15.0%	\$240,704	\$276,776	+ 15.0%
Percent of List Price Received*	98.8%	98.4%	- 0.4%	98.8%	98.4%	- 0.4%
Inventory of Homes for Sale	13	29	+ 123.1%	—	—	—
Months Supply of Inventory	1.5	1.3	- 13.3%	—	—	—

Condo	January			Year to Date		
	Units	\$/sq ft	% Change	Jan 1, 2024	Jan 1, 2025	% Change
New Listings	0	0	—	0	0	—
Pending Sales	0	0	—	0	0	—
Closed Sales	0	0	—	0	0	—
Days on Market (Unit Sale)	—	0	—	—	0	—
Median Sales Price*	—	\$298,000	—	—	\$298,000	—
Average Sales Price*	—	\$398,000	—	—	\$398,000	—
Percent of List Price Received*	—	98.1%	—	—	98.1%	—
Inventory of Homes for Sale	1	0	- 100.0%	—	—	—
Months Supply of Inventory	0.3	0.0	- 100.0%	—	—	—

Median Sales Price - Single-Family
 (12-Month Calculation)

Median Sales Price - Condo
 (12-Month Calculation)

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Williams Lake Dam – preparing for the rebuild



Deteriorating Williams Lake Dam to be rebuilt by Build Nova Scotia, Shaw Wilderness Park. Photo of dam: Cathy Vaughan, October 2021

by Cathy Vaughan

The Nova Scotia Minister of Public Works, Kim Masland, announced plans to replace the deteriorating Williams Lake dam this past October. Masland made the much anticipated announcement at the Shaw Wilderness Park where the outdated dam is located. The new structure will hold the lake waters to environmentally healthy and recreationally safe levels for this popular urban lake.

Through Build Nova Scotia, the province is investing \$4,965 million in a new dam which will protect this popular urban lake’s recreational value within the Shaw Wilderness Park and also preserve its unique and varied ecosystems, wildlife corridors and habitats that rely on the health of Williams Lake.

Minister Masland announces rebuild of Williams Lake Dam. October, 2024.

The new structure will be built to current Canadian dam environmental standards to regulate lake water levels for the safety and recreational use of this popular lake in Halifax. Build Nova Scotia predicted that the work will be in progress over the next three years to limit the impact on the environment, delicate ecosystems, aquatic life and the surrounding neighbourhoods.

In preparing for the rebuild, Build Nova Scotia is consulting with First Nations communities, Provincial Departments of Natural Resources & Renewables, Environment and Climate Change, and the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Last fall, the geotechnical assessment bore holes were drilled and capped at the dam site.

Now Build Nova Scotia is ready to progress to the next phase of the rebuild. They are preparing the access route, needed to move the large heavy construction equipment and vehicles from the Shaw Wilderness Park parking area to the dam, by widening the existing path.

Build Nova Scotia’s Construction Project Managers consulted with HRM Parks representatives at the Shaw Wilderness park in February to examine and discuss the issues of widening the existing path. Tree removal and the re-plant or reinstatement process of the trees along the path was on their agenda. The two

groups examined the path and began marking and taping trees that would need to be cut to give enough room for construction crews and machinery to safely maneuver the route to the dam site.

The next construction area to be readied for the rebuild is the dam. The public will be kept informed of phases, progress and changes to the park as Build Nova Scotia prepares the site for replacing the old leaky dam with a new and improved dam.

Minister Brendan Maguire, MLA Halifax Atlantic, has supported the replacement of Williams Lake dam and said, “The work that’s about to be carried out marks an important milestone as we deliver on our commitment to replace Williams Lake Dam. Careful and responsible planning has brought us to this stage, with a project that marks a significant investment in both the safety of the community and the health of the environment.”

The Williams Lake Conservation Company has been working closely with Build Nova Scotia on this project and President Murray Coolican said, “We are confident that Build Nova Scotia will work carefully and sensitively with the land in this park so that this rebuild of the dam will have minimal impact on the forest and maximum beneficial impact for nature, wildlife, and the many folks who love this lake.”

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The Jason Doherty Memorial COMMUNITY EVENTS PAGE



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COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR MARCH

Food Banks:

- St. Paul's Family Resource Institute (173 Old Sambro Rd). Food Bank clients call the Food Bank line, 902-477-5090, on Tuesday 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:

- Bingo Every Sunday. 1:00 pm. Doors open 11:00. Kitchen Open 11:30 -1:00 pm
- Chase The Ace Draw - every Monday 7:00 pm
- POOL - Beginning on Feb 1, 2025: All Memorial pool tournaments will be open to members of any legion along with family members of the person being memorialized.

Harrietsfield Williamswood Community Centre events:

- We currently have full time spots in our After School Program! Please email hwcc@outlook.com for information.
- Mobile Food Market: Tuesday March 18 11am-2pm and Thursday March 27 5pm-8pm
 - Currently taking bookings. Please call, email or message us through our FB page (902) 446-4847 email hwcc@outlook.com
 - We are always looking for new Board

members and volunteers!

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 Herring Cove Road) events:

- Introduction to Line Dancing: Come and join us at Emmanuel Church hall on Saturday March 15, from 10:30am to 12pm for Introduction to Line Dancing lead by Janice. The cost is \$10 at the door
- Our hall is available for rental. Please call 902-477-1783 or go to <http://emmanuelanglicanchurch.net/>

St. James United Church (3811 Old Sambro Rd) events:

- Dinner Theatre 2025, "Yabba Dabba I Doo". Dates: May 2, 3, 9, 10 Lobster Dinner & Theatre, 6:30 PM
- May 4 Lobster Dinner & Theatre, 4:30 PM
- May 8 Ham Dinner & Theatre, 6:30 PM. Price \$50.00

Auction Items available at each performance. Tickets will go on sale March 8, 2025 @ www.zeffy.com

For more information please see our Facebook page, St. James United Church Dinner Theatre Productions or call 902-868-2791

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 stellamaristwelvebaskets@gmail.com

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

- The outdoor tap at St. Paul's United Church, 173 Old Sambro Rd., has been turned off for the winter. For those

people in Harrietsfield with no access to safe drinking water, you are still welcome to water at St. Paul's but will have to go during working hours to get your water indoors. We are sorry that due to fluctuating hours of some of our staff, there may not always be someone at the church. Feel free to call ahead to 902-479-1015 or 902-477-3937 to see if anyone is there.

Spryfield Legion/Forever Young Seniors Club

- Chase the Ace draws are conducted every Monday night at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome. Tickets are \$5.00 each. This round of Chase the Ace will have ticket sales at the Spryfield Legion bar during bar hours through the week, Mondays 5:00pm to 6:45pm by Forever Young Senior Club volunteers and Legion member volunteers, and for your convenience starting this round, Chase the Ace tickets are being sold at six satellite businesses.

These Satellite Businesses are: Mishoo's Take Out 1 W Pennant Rd, Now We're Cookin Convenient Store 179 Hebridean Dr. Herring Cove Road, Cove Market 565 Herring Cove Road, Uncle Buck's 5 Denith Road, Beaver Environment Depot 251 Herring Cove Road, and Mike's Kwik Way Convenience Store 486 Herring Cove Road. Ticket holders are not required to be present at the ticket draws on Monday night when a clearly filled in ticket is purchased. Ticket winners will be called at the phone number and name provided on the purchased ticket. Chase the Ace supports community programs at the Legion and at the Forever Young Senior's Club, Spryfield. Thank you for supporting our Legion and the Forever Young Senior's Club in Spryfield

Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield

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

2025 memberships will remain the same - Individuals \$10.00, Students & Seniors \$5.00, Families \$15.00 and Groups & Organizations \$25.00 - \$50.00.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - March 10th (6:45-8:45pm) at the Capt. Wm. Spry Centre, Sussex Street. Everyone Welcome!

Seedy Saturday is scheduled for

Saturday, May 24th (2-4pm). Raindate May 25th at our Urban Farm. Registration forms will also be available for our "Come Grow With Us" program. For further information, please call Pat at 902-497-3683 or email patriciabmaclean@gmail.com

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 1:30 to 3:30 pm 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.

Spryfield Lions Club invites you to get involved with the community by joining your Spryfield Lions! Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Phone 902-479-2917 for more information.

45 Card Social at the Golden Age Centre 212 Herring Cove Road (across from Guardian Drug Store).

Every Monday afternoon 1:30pm. Cost: \$6.00/person. Bring a partner and if not, a partner will be provided. Increasing jackpot available to be won. Everyone is welcome to come.

Contact: Sue Morrissey 902-229-5851

Friday night Bingo Royal Canadian Legion Spryfield Branch 152, 7 Sussex Street Halifax
March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6 – Forever Young Senior's Club Bingo
Doors open 5:00pm, early bird games 6:30, regular games 7:00pm

Mainland South Heritage Society invites you to attend the annual Heritage Tea and Display, Saturday, April 26, from 2pm to 4pm, at Captain William Spry Community Centre, 16 Sussex St, Spryfield/. Schools and Teachers will be featured in our photographic display. Bring your friends. Admission free. Donations welcome. Check out our website at www.mshshistory.com

To have your Community Event listed call or fax us at 902-477-NEWS or email chebuctoeditor@gmail.com. Check our Facebook page for updates & late arrivals

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Cuttell Community Update

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

Whoever said “let it snow” must not have been a Councillor! While I’m a winter lover who enjoys the cold and all the outdoor activities it brings, February certainly kept me busy with snowstorms, plowing issues, and a variety of calls from concerned residents. Over the last four years, I’ve learned that no two snowstorms are alike, and there are never enough snowplows to clear our roads quickly enough. Snow-clearing standards exist to set performance targets for contractors and help residents know when they can expect their roads to be cleared. If those standards aren’t met, please don’t hesitate to call 311 and reach out to me directly. I’m aware of certain areas with recurring snow-clearing issues, and I’ve been working closely with HRM staff to address them. Winter isn’t over yet, so keep that shovel handy, and as always, be cautious on the streets during weather events.

Changes to Housing Regulations in HRM

Recently, the Province of Nova Scotia proposed significant changes to housing regulations, known as Minimum Planning Requirements, which aim to address the growing need for housing in the region. These changes will have long-lasting effects on our communities, and while some are necessary, others raise concerns. Here’s a summary of the changes being proposed and my thoughts on each one:

1. **Removal of Bedroom Count Requirements:** Until April 1, 2027, the municipality can no longer require a specific number of bedrooms in multi-unit developments. Developers will no longer have to meet minimum bedroom counts for new housing projects. While I understand the intent behind this change, I’m not in favor of removing these requirements. Multi-bedroom units are vital for families and help reduce the cost of living by supporting shared accommodations. Smaller units, like studios or one-bedroom apartments, may be more profitable for developers, but they fail to address the full range of housing needs. We must prioritize a diverse spectrum of housing to serve families and young people as well.

2. **On-Site Parking Requirements:** Another significant change is the removal of the on-site parking requirement for residential buildings within the Urban Service Area. While this may seem like a good way to save space, I oppose this change. Many residents still rely on cars for work, errands, family activities, and accessibility needs. With ongoing housing projects, the demand for parking will only increase. We already face challenges with on-street parking blocking snowplows, emergency vehicles, and public transit. Removing the requirement for on-site parking ignores these practical realities and could exacerbate existing issues.

3. **Reduction of Ground-Floor Commercial Space:** There is also a proposal to reduce the amount of ground-floor commercial space required in new buildings. In neighborhoods like Spryfield, for example, we need more commercial spaces to serve our growing population and local businesses. Reduc-

ing the required space could lead to a loss of essential services and businesses that we can’t afford to lose. Our community needs more opportunities for services and commerce, not fewer.

4. **Converted Shipping Containers as Dwellings:** The policy will also allow shipping containers to be converted into dwellings or backyard suites. While I see the potential for affordable and creative housing solutions, we must ensure that these converted containers meet safety and livability standards. We need to strike a balance between innovative housing solutions, maintaining standards for living spaces, and neighbourhood values.

5. **Prioritizing Housing:** One of the key changes involves prioritizing housing development over other elements in the municipal planning strategy. While housing is undoubtedly a pressing need, I believe that it’s important to balance housing development with other infrastructure, services, and amenities to ensure that the growth of our city is sustainable and effective.

In conclusion, while these changes are being required by the Province, I believe they warrant further discussion. I’ve made a motion to Council asking for the province to reconsider the lim-

The Maguire Report

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

This month has been particularly challenging for road-clearing efforts due to a series of back-to-back snowstorms, resulting in extensive road-clearing efforts. The Department has worked diligently to manage these weather conditions, ensuring road safety and accessibility. I have been in continuous contact with the local area supervisor to address the community’s concerns and issues, ensuring that they are promptly and appropriately handled. As part of my ongoing commitment to improvement, I will conduct a comprehensive review of this winter season’s response and performance with the Department when the spring season comes.

The last few months since the election have been a whirlwind of activity. I’ve been constantly in the community, connecting with constituents and simultaneously getting settled in my new roles as the Minister of Education and Minister of Advanced Education. These responsibilities are exciting and demanding, but I am committed to making a meaningful impact.

This month, I want to address the Department of Education specifically. My focus is clear: we must support our teachers, staff, parents, and—most importantly—our students. One issue at the forefront of our work is the new code of conduct for schools. We’ve consulted with various stakeholders, including the Nova Scotia Teachers’ Union (NSTU), school administrators, parents, and students. It’s been an open dialogue to ensure we create a comprehensive policy that works for everyone involved.

My priority remains ensuring that every person within our schools feels

ited commercial requirements and will continue to advocate for other amendments as well. I encourage you to share your thoughts with your MLA.

The 2025/2026 Budget: What’s in Store?

As part of the ongoing municipal budget process, Council is reviewing each HRM department’s budget and business plan for the upcoming 2025/2026 fiscal year. This process is open to public input, and I encourage you to get involved by attending meetings in-person or virtually during Public Participation or submitting your feedback to the Clerk’s Office. The full schedule of presentations is available on the Halifax website.

This year’s budget is being referred to as a “transitional budget.” It’s designed to maintain existing initiatives while setting the stage for the new Council’s long-term vision. A proposed 7.6% increase in the average tax bill has been proposed, however, the final decision on the budget will not be made until April 8, when Council has reviewed all proposed budget adjustments.

As we work through this process, I will continue to advocate for initiatives that will have a positive long-term impact on our communities while being mindful of the financial strain on taxpayers. These are challenging times, and I am committed to ensuring that we keep the tax burden as manageable as possible.

I have received the list of proposed capital projects for District 11. While there are some projects I’m disappointed to see missing from the list (such as traffic calming on Lier, Alabaster and Sylvia, and others!), I’ll continue to push for these priorities and ensure that our community’s needs are heard. Planned work for 2025 includes: Pavement work on Claymore Ave (Thornhill to Tartan), John Brackett (Aaron’s Way to Glencairn), and Purcells Cove Rd (Ferguson’s Cove to Aaron’s Way.) Sidewalk renewal for Claymore Ave. Traffic calming on St Pauls Ave, Sussex St, Rockingstone Road. New marked crosswalk with beacons for Herring Cove Rd at Maplewood Drive, and Purcells Cove Rd at Burns Drive. William King Elementary School Park playground replacement. Ravenscraig Drive Park playground replacement. And design for future work at Sir Sandford Flemming Park, Graves Oakley Park, and Norris Drive Park.

I encourage you to stay engaged in the ongoing budget discussions and share your thoughts on which projects and initiatives should take priority for our community.

Thank you for your continued support, and as always, I look forward to hearing from you. You can reach me at patty.cuttell@halifax.ca or contact my coordinator, Michelle Egan, at 902-233-8364.

communities inspire us, and we stand with you as you navigate these difficult moments. You are never alone in this.

Celebrated on the third Monday in February, Nova Scotia Heritage Day is an annual reminder of our storied past and an opportunity to honour the remarkable people, places, and events that have contributed to this province’s unique heritage.

This year, we honour Mi’kmaw activist Nora Bernard.

Nora was born on September 22, 1935, at Millbrook First Nation, one of seven children. When Nora was nine, her mother was forced to send Nora and her siblings to the Shubenacadie Indian Residential School.

Nora went on to marry and had six children. She was a mother, grandmother, aunt, wife, and Elder in her community.

Her family and community were very important to her. In 1987, she founded the Shubenacadie Indian Residential School Association and began to search for, and contact, other Survivors. This was the start of her fight for justice, recognition and compensation for Survivors of the Canadian Indian Residential School system.

In 1995, she launched a class-action lawsuit against the Government of Canada. This was the catalyst that led to the largest class-action lawsuit in Canadian history and compensation for Survivors across the country.

Nora died in 2007 and sadly did not witness the formation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which continues today to raise awareness of the residential school system and its impacts. We honour her as a brave champion for her community and Indigenous people across Canada.

See you out there

I am so proud to be your MLA
Brendan Maguire

LOCAL OBITUARIES

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

Bernice Esther (Jessome) Spicer

May 23, 1949 – Jan 20, 2025
75 years Old

It is with heartache that we announce the passing of our selfless and loving mother, Bernice Spicer, also known as Nanna "Picen" or "GiGi", who passed away on the early morning of January 20, 2025 at the QEII Health Sciences Centre with loved ones by her side. Born on May 23, 1949 in North Sydney, she was the daughter of the late Marshall and Thelma (Wilson) Jessome, and wife of the late William Roy Spicer of Halifax.

Bernice was a fun loving woman who liked to socialize and have a good laugh. She enjoyed music, dancing, and was a fabulous cook. She loved her sons and family unconditionally, as well as her cat, Mia. Bernice was a true Cape Bretoner at heart. She was a great piano and keyboard player, and was the rock of the family. You could always turn to her for comfort and advice when needed. Her huge heart, bright smile and chats were shared with many. Bernice worked for Sears, Dalhousie and Liuna the Laborer's International Union of North America, where she made good friends and memories.

She is survived by her sons Bill (Juanita), Halifax, Bunker (Theresa),

Halifax, and Jason (Chantel), Halifax, her grandchildren, Brandon (Shelby), Nicholas (Christie), Jordan (Kamia), Rebecca, Miley and Anjilque (Stevie), Halifax, and her great grandchildren, Roman, Athena, Mallory, Madison, and Milah. She is also survived by her sister, Iris Jessome, Halifax, and an uncle, Tommy Wilson, New Waterford, numerous nieces and nephews, and honorary grandchildren, Arielle, Dante, and Sophia. Thank you all for your support and love.

She was predeceased by her husband, William, her brothers, Richard Jessome (Del), and Raymond Jessome (Beverley), her sister, Pamela Colburn (Carl), niece, Corrina Jessome, nephew, William Jessome and numerous aunts and uncles.

Gary James McDow

Age 68 of Halifax, it is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Gary James McDow of Halifax, who passed away peacefully at Parkstone Enhanced Care on January 31, 2025. Born in the Valley, he was the son of the late Billy and Joan (McDow) Richards and was raised by his grandmother Olive and his Aunt Shirley (McDow).

Gary spent much of his career working with Spryfield/Armdale Taxi before transitioning to Yellow Cab, where he spent many years as a dispatcher. He was an avid golfer who treasured the weekends spent on the course with his best friend, Lloyd Cleveland. A true movie enthusiast, Gary enjoyed all types of films, especially animated ones, and had an extensive collection to enjoy at home. He also loved family dinners, which he eagerly looked forward to every other weekend, often doubling up on desserts. In his younger years, Gary and Bette were active in the Spryfield bowling league.

A lifelong animal lover, Gary always had a dog and a cat, with his beloved dogs Bogie and Oscar holding a special place in his heart. He spent countless hours walking them, treating them as though they were his children.

Gary was a man of rare kindness and integrity. He was genuine, honest, and one of the sweetest individuals you could ever meet. Those who knew him will never forget his unwavering positivity and warmth.

Gary leaves behind his loving partner of 44 years, Elizabeth "Bette" Publicover; stepdaughters, Deborah (Harold) Askew of Alberta, Shelley, and Shawna; greatly missed by his cherished grandchildren, Ashley, Robyn, Liam, Sylvannah, Courtney, Jaylyn, Justin, and CJ; several great-grandchildren; many nieces, nephews; siblings, Ralph (Cathy), Ricky (Carol), Darlene, and Shelly (Norm). He was predeceased by stepsons, Stephen and Chevie (Debbie) of Alberta; brothers, Bobby and Ronnie.

We would also like to extend our deepest gratitude to the staff at Melville Lodge and Parkstone Enhanced

Care for the compassion and care they provided Gary during the last three years of his life.

Phillip L MacInnis

It is with great sadness we announce the sudden passing of Phillip L MacInnis, 48 on Feb 7th, 2025

Phil was born Nov 11th, 1976 to Larry MacInnis and the late Nancy MacInnis. He is survived by his son Aiden MacInnis (Leah, Kyle, Michael, Kimberly, Owen), his Wife Rejeanne Hollet, his three stepchildren Gabrielle, Jullian and Georgia, his father Larry MacInnis, his sister Janet MacInnis and brother Alain Turbide.

Phil grew up in Fairview, and graduated from Halifax West High School. He was an amazing athlete, hockey being his passion. He had a few different jobs over the years as a DJ and as a bartender until he found his true calling being a fisherman. The first trip he took, he was hooked. Phil learned to fish from his father at a young age and he loved being on the ocean. Not many people love their job but Phil truly did.

His other passion was being on his Harley Davidson. Phil had a laugh that was contagious and a smile that lit up a room. He was brave, strong, generous and kind. Phil had countless friends and family and will be missed so much by everyone.

Phil's service took place February 15th from Snow's Funeral Home on Lacewood Drive. Donations can be made to the Diabetic Foundation of Canada in Phil's mother's name (Nancy MacInnis).

Captain John Allan Baker

December 9, 1955 - February 7, 2025

A life remembered

It is with broken hearts that we share the passing of our precious brother, Captain John Allen Baker, age 69, who lost his life at sea February 7, 2025. John was born December 9, 1955, in Canso, Nova Scotia to Calvin Howard Baker and Virginia Margaret O'Hearn.

Survived by his partner, Mary Misener, siblings, Marie Parker, Martha Rhynold, Theresa Cole (Darren Albert), Margaret Parker (John), Joan Baker, Dorothy Bennett (Darren), Ginny Boudreau (Jerome), Anthony Baker (Melissa), Doug Baker (Bev) and Helen Casey (Paul). John was pre-deceased by his parents, Calvin and Virginia (Tootsie), brother in laws, Terry Parker and Fred Rhynold and nephew Paul Parker.

Having no biological children, we wish to acknowledge his commitment to his stepchildren, step-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. He loved them all, would wrap them in a wonderful hug and generously shared all his resources (including free fish) with them.

John's career and entire life was devoted to the Commercial Offshore Fishery. John was an avid NFL Football fan of New England Patriots, a voracious reader and a master at barbecuing (mostly rare) steak.

John's career in fishing started in his late teens on the Offshore Dragers

out of Canso. John found his passion and fell in love with fishing. He began Marine Training and was the youngest to achieve a Fishing Master Class 1 in Nova Scotia. One of John's proudest moments was when he became Captain of The Bedeque, an Offshore fishing trawler. This was the first of many vessels he captained over the years. A very large part of John's career was spent working with his life-long friend and employer, Willard Grover of Tor Bay.

John went on to fish many commercial and experimental species. He worked passionately with Department of Fisheries and Oceans staff, scientists, and oceanographers to contribute to marine science that ensured the conservation and viability of the fishing resources. John was involved in every aspect of the fishing industry and spent time working on a Canadian Coast Guard research vessel. His knowledge of the ocean, the marine environment and the species that he fished was exemplary. The ocean was his home and fishing was his love. There is so much more about John that most will never know. He shared his talents, knowledge and passion with anyone who was interested and mentored many fishermen during his life.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated February 14 at Star of the Sea Roman Catholic Church, Canso, Nova Scotia. Memorial donations may be made to Seamen's Memorial Fund C/O Lions Club of Canso.



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**ROYAL
CANADIAN
LEGION**

Earl Francis
Spryfield Memorial
Branch 152



WE CARE

Welcome – Pjila’si!! Spotlight on Spryfield

Williams Lake Conservation Company
Captain William Spry Community Library



The Williams Lake Conservation Company and the Captain William Spry Community Library are hosting a series of talks by local experts on the amazing natural environment we live in. Topics include hiking trails, fishing for newbies, birding skills, identifying wild edible plants and wildlife rescue and rehabilitation. We welcome you to join us at the Captain William Spry Public Library in the Program Room for most speakers. No registration needed for most events. Weather conditions may force us to cancel events, so call the library before you come.

Spotlight on Spryfield
– Edible & Endangered Plants
April 10, Thursday 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Karen McKendry, Ecology Action Centre



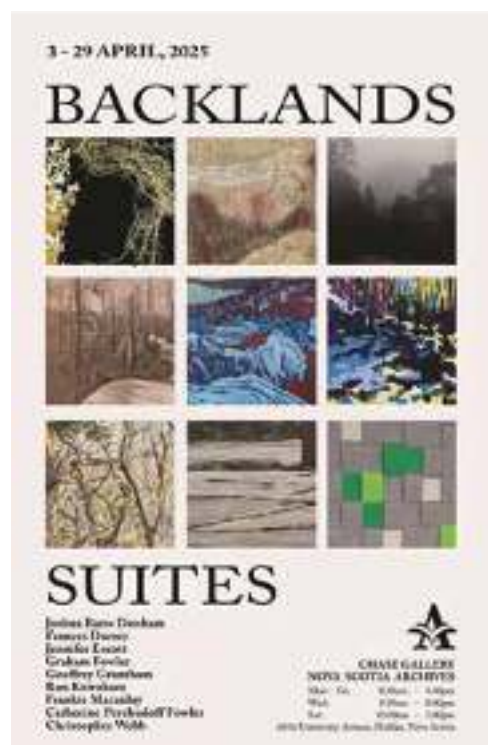
Let’s get to know a few of our plant neighbours in the Spryfield area and explore wild vegetation, interesting rare plants, and their fascinating lives in the Backlands and the Williams Lake watershed. We’ll also discuss ethical foraging and plant conservation to ensure our plant neighbours are around for centuries to come. There will also be time to share your foraging tips and recipes.

Spotlight on Spryfield
– Let’s Talk Fish!
March 20, Thursday 7:00–8:30 pm
Sabrina Wolthers, Sportfish Development Officer
NS Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture



Whether you’re new to fishing or just getting started, this is an opportunity to learn about sustainable fishing practices, conservation and how we can all play a part in protecting our local waters. Connect, share, and let’s talk fish!

Spotlight on Spryfield
– Backlands Suites – Art Exhibit
Supported by the Backlands Coalition and Artists.
April 3 – 29, 2025
Chase Gallery, Nova Scotia Archives
6016 University Ave. Halifax, NS



The Backlands Coalition is a group of 12 environmentally conscientious volunteer organizations that value protecting and preserving this gorgeous natural asset for everyone, forever. The artwork depicts the unique natural landscapes by talented local artists, exhibited to bring awareness of protecting this land for everyone, forever. You will experience the wonderment of the Backlands at this exhibition. Check Chase Gallery viewing hours on the poster.

Spotlight on Spryfield
– Bird Walks
May 2, 4, 9, 11.
Time: 12:30 – 2:30 pm
The Backlands – Trails TBD
Fulton Lavender, Bird Identification Expert



Registration for each walk is required. Birds are colourful, delightful, and fun to watch. They are also especially important for keeping our environment healthy. Registration is required for each individual walk, through the Halifax Public Library website “Spotlight on Spryfield.” Information on the specific meeting location for each bird walk will be available in April and emailed to registrants.

Spotlight on Spryfield
– Trout-a-Rama
June 7, 8am to 12:00
Cunard Pond, Williams Lake
Halifax Wildlife Association
Registration at the event



Spotlight on Spryfield
– Williams Lake
Annual General Meeting – June 10, 2025. Time: 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Captain Spry Community Library – Program Room



Williams Lake Conservation Company has been fuelled by volunteers since 1968 and continues to be the caretakers and environmental advocates for Williams Lake and its huge watershed. Join us as we present our projects and discuss future endeavours.

Crossword Solution

Pieces of Music

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords



What’s happening at TAG Theatre?

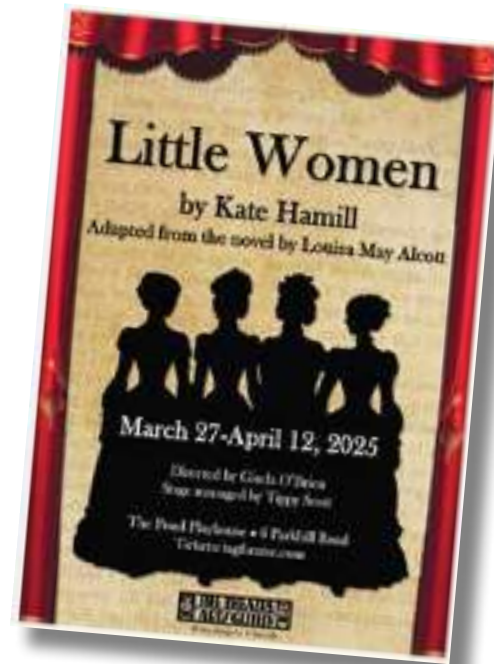
On the Stage
From March 27th to April 12th, you can see Kate Hamill’s adaptation of Louisa May Alcott’s Little Women. Four sisters and a mom. Though this is what those of us who have read the novel think this play is about – it isn’t only that. Sure, we know that these women are left behind to fend for themselves during the ravages of the American Civil War. However, we gain a new appreciation for Louisa May Alcott’s work, as it becomes obvious that she, like most artists, was a woman ahead of her time. There is a realization that sibling/parental/family and love relationships are forever unique, forever changing and forever enduring. TAG tackles this new adaptation by well-known playwright Kate Hamill with a fresh take on a timeless classic.

Cast: Catherine Conrad, Celia Konowe, Desarée da Cruz, Dylan Jackson, Fiona Clancey, Haylea Dolimont, Heather MacPherson, Jayme Butt, Rob McIntyre, Zak Zimmer, Ben Leger, KC Schwarz

We want YOU at TAG’s SpringFest!!! Did you attend TAG’s 2024 Spring Festival last May? If you did, then you know it was a wonderful chance to discover a variety of great local talent. Folks also hit the dance floor to a sold-out show by the cover band The Retrobeats (featuring Louise Renault) on the final night.

In fact, the inaugural Spring Festival was such a resounding success that we are proud to announce the 2nd Annual TAG SpringFest! Co-produced by Cheryl Theriault and Lou-

ise Renault, this celebration of local talent will take place over three nights this Spring. The festival will run April 24 to 26 at the Pond Playhouse. The final night, April 26, The Retrobeats will take the stage again, so you can smile, sing along, and dance the night away.



TAG, located at the Pond Playhouse (6 Parkhill Rd, Halifax), is always looking for volunteers who are passionate about theatre. It takes many different people, with a huge variety of skills, to run a good theatre. From costumes, to acting, and from set design to fundraising, there is something for everyone. If you would like to become a member of TAG, either as a volunteer or a patron, please contact them through their website at tagtheatre.com. There, you will find links to all the ways you can help out, as well as news about upcoming shows and opportunities.



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1 Piece Crispy Haddock
+1 Side \$5⁹⁵

Expires April 15/2025



2 Piece Crispy Haddock
+1 Side \$8⁹⁵

Expires April 15/2025



2 x 16 oz Any Real
Milkshakes \$10

Expires April 15/2025



6" Any Sub + can pop
+ 1 cookie \$7

Expires April 15/2025



Any 1x Shareables
\$6⁹⁵

Expires April 15/2025



Any 3x Shareables
\$19⁹⁵

Expires April 15/2025



6" Any Sub + can pop
+ 1 cookie \$7

Expires April 15/2025



12" Any Sub + can pop
+ 1 cookie \$10

Expires April 15/2025