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Chebucto News

Vol.26 • No.8
April 2025

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Williams Lake Dam – get ready!



Tagged Trees at the Williams Lake dam. Photo: Cathy Vaughan

by Cathy Vaughan

Multiple coloured ribbons were noticeable in the Shaw Wilderness Park in mid February. The ribbons were wrapped around various trees next to the path leading from the car park

to the Williams Lake dam to identify trees proposed to be removed or kept.

Specific colours were used by Forestry Technicians with HRM and Build Nova Scotia to identify trees proposed to be removed or kept along

the trail to the dam. The team began measuring the width of the path to accommodate the construction machinery that will use the path as the main route from the car park to the staging area close to the dam.

Only trees that would be a safety hazard or impede the bigger and more bulky construction machinery were tagged for removal. The path will also be enhanced to handle the weight of heavy equipment that will need to access the dam site. In addition to the tagged trees, the area around the dam construction site will also be cleared of trees and brush.

The month of March is considered a critical window of timing for tree removal to avoid disrupting the annual bird nesting season. Returning migratory birds and local populations of birds live and thrive in the surrounding woodland and wilderness areas in the Williams Lake watershed. The Bird Team of experts from the Williams Lake Conservation Company (WLCC) provided information to Build Nova Scotia on how the impact of the noise and removal of trees could possibly reduce the success of breeding and nesting bird populations.

Build Nova Scotia, in collaboration with HRM, are working together to advance the required repair work at the dam while ensuring that the experience of the Shaw Wilderness Park is maintained.

WLCC has been providing scientific documents and historical data on lake levels, water quality, as well as information on globally rare plants and endangered bird populations and their migratory habitats in the Williams Lake watershed. Consultation is also taking place with the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC,) which partnered with HRM and The Shaw Group to establish the Shaw Wilderness Park in 2020. The urban park was

(See Dam on page 2)

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New drive-thru coming to Spryfield



A small, wooded lot on Herring Cove Road, between Shoppers and Sobeyes, was transformed into a busy construction site in late February. It was cleared of trees, brush and vegetation. Dexter Construction crews then brought in the big diggers, excavators and dump trucks.

This was a bit of a surprise for many folks in the community. A lot of questions were asked as they watched the lot being bull-dozed for construction. What's being built? Who owns the land? Is the storm drain from the Catamaran Ponds affected?

A Canadian owned A&W Drive-Thru will be coming to Spryfield in the spring. Check out their Canadian proud story on their website. "From using compostable packaging to fundraising to support Canadians

living with Multiple Sclerosis, we strive to make a positive impact in our community."

Construction crews worked into March to remove the boulders and flatten the area for the large car park and building. Sources on site thought that most of the property will be paved to accommodate a drive-through on the Shoppers side of the property, close to the Herring Cove Road.

There is a long-held understanding in the community that there is an important storm-water culvert underneath this property which directs water from the Catamaran Ponds to Governors Brook, Colpitt Lake and Williams Lake. Several workers on site confirmed that there is a storm drain under the site and that the new building and car park will not affect the existing storm water main underneath the property. They mentioned that the property is owned by Crombie Real Estate.

You may not see the connection with the Catamaran Ponds while you're fishing in, or floating on, Colpitt Lake or Williams Lake, but it's all connected. It all needs our attention and protection.

The movement of water through Spryfield is important for the existence and health of our many lakes and rivers that surround Spryfield. Chebucto News covered "The Williams Lake Watershed in Crisis – Catamaran Ponds – Powerful Providers." Check out our March 2021 edition on our website to learn more.



Map from Williams Lake Water Report 2020 at www.williamslakeecc.org

Dam

(continued from page 1) made possible thanks to the support of numerous partners and donors.

Communication from Build Nova Scotia and HRM will help keep the public informed of when construction crews are active on the site. Information will be available to the public as Public Service Announcements on Build Nova Scotia and HRM's websites.

This is a collaborative, project which brings together government, community, politicians, neighbours, and lake lovers from all over HRM who voiced their concern over saving Williams Lake.



Lake water leaking under the Williams Lake dam, February 2025. Photo: Cathy Vaughan

Chebucto News

Publisher: Dan Doherty, 902-478-4023

Editor: Tangelene Ramsay, chebuctoeditor@gmail.com

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

Circulation:

14,000 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.
Email to: "The Editor"
chebuctoeditor@gmail.com

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Design and Layout:

Sharon Ward Graphic Design
Phone: 782-414-7351
wards@eastlink.ca

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Religious Services for April

Send your submissions to chebuctoeditor@gmail.com for May's issue by April 15.

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.
 Good Friday: April 18, 1:00pm.

Stations of the Cross
 Taizé Service: Sunday April 27, 7:00pm. A candlelit service of chanting, meditation, prayers and readings. If you are looking for something 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 worship services are held at 10:30 am. April 13 Palm Sunday Intergenerational service with children carrying palms; April 18 Good Friday 7 pm service; April 20 Easter Sunday service with communion. Our services are live streamed on our Facebook page (St James United Church Sambro NS) and YouTube. Weekly bulletins/programmes with the order of service are on our website: www.sambrojollimorepc.com; email address: office.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com; phone 902-868-2791.
 Family Faith Formation Sundays 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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DISCOVERING OUR PAST

Parsons Ocean Power Plant demonstrated wave power in Herring Cove

by Iris V. Shea

Clean Energy is a term that is being used a lot lately to describe wind and solar power, but in 1921 another method of “Clean Energy” called “wave power” was being talked about in Halifax. Newspapers at that time began reporting that a local man, Osbourne H. Parsons, had invented a method to harness electricity from the powerful waves of the ocean and he was planning to construct his first plant in Herring Cove.

Mr. Parsons had been born in New Brunswick in 1873 and left school with a grade three education to work in lumber camps. He eventually went to work for Robb Engineering in Amherst where he had access to the tools that would help shape his future. He invented a motor which he believed could generate electricity from the motion of tides and waves. When he moved to Halifax, about 1917, he received encouragement to build a “Demonstration Plant” at Herring Cove. Parsons Ocean Power Company was incorporated on 20 March 1922 and, to raise the necessary funds to build this plant at Tribune Head in Herring Cove, 5000 company shares were sold to the public at \$100 a share. A local woman, Nellie Kirk, was one of those shareholders.

How did Parson’s invention work? His machine consisted of a train of gears and a heavy balance wheel, constructed at the machine works of



Parsons Ocean Power Plant, Herring Cove, NS. Courtesy Mainland South Heritage Society

W. and A. Moir in Halifax. It was transferred by boat and installed in a wooden building at Tribune Head. A pontoon or small boat was then positioned outside the building in a three-sided wooden crib where the ocean waves would strike it. The movement of the pontoon, when hooked up to Parson’s machine, converted the wave energy into electricity.

In 1924, when the Demonstration Plant was nearing completion, an advertisement appeared in several Maritime newspapers urging investors to be in on the ground floor of

the Parsons Ocean Power Company. “Buy Today – Tomorrow May Be Too Late”. The company was located in the Roy Building on Barrington Street. The advertisement went on to say “This Invention has no limits because the ocean never goes on strike. No capital can tie up the supply. It now costs countless millions of dollars to furnish the driving power that the almighty ocean can furnish Free”.

In 1925 the company’s board members invited engineers and shareholders to their demonstrations at the Herring Cove plant, hoping to show that the force of the waves and tide could be converted to electric light and power. Halifax newspapers reported that on 11 January 1925 as many as 60 shareholders attended one demonstration and were so impressed with the results that they immediately increased their stock subscriptions. In March 1925 another demonstration was held. Among those present were Professor R.P. Donkin of the Nova Scotia Technical College who showed great interest in the invention, and Mr. Frederick E. Darrah of Herring Cove.

This demonstration resulted in generating “brilliant electric light from several 60 watt lamps and several smaller lamps.”

It was the intention of the company, according to the Halifax Chronicle of 24 March 1925, to build a larger pontoon and anchor it to the shore. “When patented and protected, the machine will be ready for leasing to companies all over the world on a royalty basis. But first, it will benefit the Maritime Provinces with the harnessing of marvelous power of the sea now going to waste along our Atlantic Coast”.

What happened to Mr. Parsons’ dreams? In Herring Cove, the powerful ocean waves that created the electrical power also destroyed several plants built by the Parsons Ocean Power Company. Newspapers reported that by 1936 all that existed on the site at Tribune Head were remnants of “a broken down pier” and the skeleton of an abandoned building. Mr. Parsons had, since 1925, continued to perfect his machine, and in 1936 the world famous engineer, Dexter B. Cooper, showed a keen interest in the concept. Mr. Cooper visited the site in Herring Cove and declared that Parsons’ invention was worth pursuing, but his choices for location of a new plant were Sheehan’s Cove, White Head or Morris Point, a little further along our shore, where it was more open to the ocean. Unfortunately, Mr. Cooper died in 1938 before anything could be done with Mr. Parsons’ upgraded machine.

If one ventures to Tribune Head today, it may still be possible to see the holes that were drilled in the rocks for Parsons Ocean Power Plant. The idea of harnessing electricity from ocean waves continues to be of interest. Today, several large companies all over the world advertise their ability to bring this method of “Clean Energy” to the consumer, but Osborne H. Parsons was the first person to prove it was possible.

Spotlight on Spryfield Bird Walks

Experience the fun of birdwatching on one of the Backland trails of Spryfield.

Well known bird identification expert, Fulton Lavender will share his knowledge of bird habitats and habits

while teaching you effective bird watching and listening skills.

Dates: May 2, 4, 9 and 11
All walks are 12:30 -2:30 pm
Registration is required for each walk.

For more information or to register call 902-490-5244 or visit Halifax Public Libraries Events: Spotlight on Spryfield.



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ABBA fan? You'll love Yabba Dabba I Doo!

by Lorrie Boylen

St. James United Church at 3811 Old Sambro Road in Sambro is once again hosting its annual dinner theatre production, which never disappoints.

This year's show is titled "Yabba Dabba I Doo," a modern day comedy written by playwright Brad Lowes, directed by Edmund MacLean and set to the music of Abba.

The storyline tracks Sambro's most eligible bachelor, Fred Fishstone, seemingly the catch of the day for many of the Sambro Loop's single ladies. Fred's adventures are followed through the local gossip buzz being spilled at local beauty parlors Salon De Sambro and What A Ketch beauty salons, as well as the Ship Shape barbershop.

A lot of hard work goes into the dinner theatre every year, with weekly rehearsals starting in January and becoming more frequent as the show dates loom nearer. In addition to the talented and enthusiastic cast, there are stage and production crews, kitchen staff, volunteers and of course the local fishermen who donate lobsters to feed the masses. It truly does take a village!

The Sambro Dinner Theatre has become a favourite annual tradition since retired school teacher Eva Mae Gray launched it in 1990 and has grown over the years.

Performances are May 2, 3, 4, 8, 9 and 10, 2025. The Sunday, May 4th show is a matinee starting at 4:30



Starting with the back row, left to right: Alison Simpson, Alicia Getz, Jennifer Matthews, Brad Lowes (playwright), Cathy Garrison, Kelly Turner, Ray Laing, Crystal Gilkie, Gemma Vale, Langley Tibbo, Mya Laing, Izzy Laing, Kate Laing, Sara Scarfe, Edmund MacLean (director), John O'Toole

p.m., with all other shows starting at 6:30 p.m. The Thursday, May 8th dinner will be ham (no lobster option), while all other shows are lobster (no ham option).

Each meal includes salad, shelled Sambro lobster (ham on May 8th) with vegetables, homemade rolls and dessert, tea and coffee. At the con-

clusion of each show there will be an auction of locally crafted items.

Tickets are \$50 each and are available via the online platform Zeffy at: <https://tinyurl.com/sambrodinner>

If you absolutely can't obtain your tickets online, please reach out to Leslie Harnish at 902-868-2553 and she will try to assist.

To stay in the know about this and future shows, you can follow St. James United Church Dinner Theatre Productions on Facebook.

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



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Harbour View Voices Community Choir

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Spring Session

Dates: Saturday April 12- June 14

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: St. James United Church, Sambro

Cost: \$200 for 10-week session

For Registration and information, email Susan:

sfeltmate88@gmail.com





Spring is here and Summer won't be far behind!

It's time to start planning the Spryfield Days Festival taking place on July 12 & 13, 2025.

If you would like to get involved, volunteer, sponsor, or help in any way, please contact Bruce at bruce@discoverspryfield.ca



Backlands Suites Art Exhibition – poignant and personal

by Cathy Vaughan

The Backlands Suites art exhibition is a visceral experience. You will be up-close and personal with the raw beauty and quiet vulnerability of the wilderness landscapes of the Backlands in Spryfield.

The art display features 9 remarkable local artists, each with a different passion, vision and medium - featuring the sensuousness of this wilderness landscape.

Each suite of work is unique, and yet collectively the drawings, paintings, photographs, sculptures and weavings coordinate and reflect these artists' emotional responses to this profound and wondrous landscape.

Frances Dorsey is the curator of the collection, a member of the Backlands Coalition and a contributing visual artist. She brought together the artistic talent and sensitive passion for the Backlands to showcase the need to conserve and protect these wild lands in our Spryfield community. "Our intention is to highlight the Backlands and to engage a larger audience to actively support our Coalition's mandate of the preservation of the Backlands," says Dorsey.

"We invite Halifax and the Nova Scotia community to view this unique urban wilderness gem by experiencing it at the Chase Gallery through the vision of these amazing artists. We want

this experience inside the gallery to inspire new interactions outdoors with the Backlands and add new voices to its protection," remarks Ilona Inman of the Purcell's Cove Neighbourhood Association and a volunteer with the Backlands Coalition team producing the exhibition.

Joshua Barss Donham who takes photographs of the Backlands and volunteers with the Backlands Coalition contributed his intimate portraits of birds of the wilderness to the exhibition. Barss Donham remarked, "I would like to see more value placed on ecologically sensitive areas and more protection afforded to sensitive and rare 'at risk' species. I am cautiously optimistic about the future of the Backlands, encouraged that the city of Halifax recently bought a section of land between Williams Lake and Colpitt lake, much of which is expected to be added to Shaw Wilderness Park. I also continue to watch current residential development creep into the Backlands from Herring Cove Road."

Kathleen Hall, Chair of the Backlands Coalition, says "the Backlands Coalition is a group of 10 environmentally conscientious volunteer organizations which value protecting and preserving the area. We continue to work with all levels of government, HRM, property owners, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Nova Scotia



Photo: Joshua Barss Donham

Nature Trust and other conservation organizations regarding other property acquisitions to add to this area. Integral to this work are our advocacy efforts and ongoing representations made to Halifax Planning Staff and HRM Council about the significant aspects of the land which necessitate protection."

The Backlands are located in Spryfield between Purcell's Cove Road and the Herring Cove Road from the Williams Lake Road to Power's Pond. The Coalition's mission is to "ensure no loss of wildlife habitat in the Backlands and to preserve them for natural, historical, cultural, conservation, educational, recreational and common use."

Artist Frankie Macaulay, inspired by nature and architecture, builds three-dimensional structures with

paper and cardboard. "My artwork for the Backlands Suites exhibition explores the landscapes of wetlands, lush mixed forests and granite pine barrens as seen along the McIntosh Run trails in the Backlands. I created a series of paper weavings featuring trees, rocks and fungi from the area, and a recycled cardboard wall installation referencing the topography and biodiversity of the Backlands."

The members of the 10 organizations of the Backlands Coalition are committed to using their strong voices to protect this unique terrain for the common wealth of everyone, forever. The Backlands Suites art exhibition invites you to experience, explore and engage in this wild land for the month of April at the Chase Gallery located in the Nova Scotia Archives on Dalhousie University campus.

3 - 29 APRIL, 2025

BACKLANDS

SUITES

Joshua Barss Donham
 Frances Dorsey
 Jennifer Escott
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THE BACKLANDS - Land Ownership

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- NS DNR OWNED
- PARKS CANADA
- NS NATURE TRUST

NOTE: Government owned land does not guarantee that the land is protected

SOURCE: NS PROPERTY ONLINE, EXPLORER MARCH 2024

Left: Poster: Christopher Webb

Map by Jennifer Escott, Backlands Coalition

Mark Boudreau campaign launches with a vibrant energy

Large Halifax crowd gathers to hear a message of hope and enthusiasm

Halifax Conservative Candidate Mark Boudreau formally kicked off his campaign recently with the goal of winning the upcoming federal election in Halifax. A federal by-election has been called for April 14th. Halifax has been without a representative in the House of Commons since Liberal MP Andy Filmore resigned from the Trudeau government to pursue the mayoralty of Halifax Regional Municipality in August 2024.

Boudreau presented a message filled with optimism and commitment to finding solutions, addressing an enthusiastic and diverse assembly of nearly 300 supporters. He emphasized his genuine dedication to public service.

“I am familiar with adversity. Having grown up in poverty and relying on food banks, my early experiences taught me the significance of community and the importance of mutual support,” Boudreau, who has been very open about his life and has publicly shared his personal experience in having to access women’s shelters and other community supports over the years. He stated. “We must uplift not only ourselves but also others.”

The Honourable Peter MacKay introduced Mr. Boudreau, acknowledging the efforts already made by the campaign team. MacKay stated,



Mark Boudreau and his Blue Wave Team

“There is no one in this province more dedicated or working harder to bring the Conservative message to the people of Halifax.”

Boudreau’s campaign has been active for several months, engaging with constituents by visiting thousands of homes throughout the riding. He and his team of young, diverse and energetic volunteers have knocked on

over 10,000 doors since Christmas. The campaign continues to grow, attracting a strong contingent of young supporters, along with lifelong Conservatives and new allies from various political backgrounds.

Boudreau concluded his address by highlighting the positive momentum he’s sensed during his door-to-door interactions.

“The winds of change are upon us, and I believe this election represents a unique generational opportunity. A Blue Wave is on the horizon. Let’s channel that excitement and collaboratively build a brighter future for Halifax and Canada. Together, let’s ‘Bring it Home.’”

Mark lives in Spryfield with his Husband Dustin.

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What's Happening at the Urban Farm

by Patricia MacLean, Past President
Listen quietly - can you hear it - the clip clop of horse's hooves on the pavement and excited children's voices as they follow an old wagon to its new home?

This actually happened right here in Spryfield on a sunny day in October 1999! Through the efforts of Vic Eisan & Don Strouple, the Umlah farm wagon made its way from Leo Flemming's chicken farm to the Kidston Farmhouse and the new site of the Urban Farm.

Our UFMSS had learned that an old wagon in our community had been left to Emmanuel Anglican Church in the will of the Umlah Family and they were willing to give it to our UFMSS! Under some old lumber, we found the original stavs for a horse and a small, engraved plate on the wagon "Roy Blades & Sons, Middle Musquodoboit No. 129".

Now came the really big job - to find the perfect size horse to move it to our Urban Farm. This was indeed a complicated job as the stavs were made to fit the rump of a small work horse in the late 1950s and local museums had only large farm horses. Finally, through our Rural Delivery magazine (yes, it's still being published), I found Joe Miller. His Clydesdale, "Nick" had the right measurements & Joe was willing to bring him to Spryfield! Sadly, the wagon bed had deteriorated over the years, but the students from Elizabeth Sutherland School, who were already helping us clear our land, eagerly volunteered to walk behind the wagon, escorted along Rockingstone Road by a police car with flashing lights!

Walking with the Grade 6 students were their teachers, parents and founding farm member, Michele Raymond. Riding on the wagon with Marjorie Willison, Joe & I was our community historian, Peter Saulnier, who regaled us with stories of the past. Taking detailed notes was Peter Duffy of the Chronicle Herald. His article the next day led to an email

from Roy Blades's granddaughter, Judith Risser in Middle Musquodoboit. Although envying our wagon ride, she was so very happy a Blades wagon had been found in Nova Scotia!

Waiting for us at her gate, Janet Kidston welcomed everyone as her family had often done in bygone days. Her house and icehouse are Spryfield's oldest structures dating back to 1825. "Nick" certainly enjoyed all the loving attention from school children and the many adults and younger children who had gathered to relive a memory from the past!

As stories go, this probably would be the end, but when the Blades family realized the wagon needed repairs before it could be used, Judith's husband Rob cut wood from the family's woodlot and 4 Blades sisters, 4 brothers, wives and great grandson Jesse, arrived on a fall morning in 2001, to rebuild a new wagon bed including benches with a back railing to allow children to ride in safety. As "Nick" was unavailable for the Santa Claus Parade in November, Rob brought his truck (and most of the Blades family) to tow our wagon, much to the delight of children waiting patiently for a ride. Actually, so many wagon rides were enjoyed over the years, that we literally wore out the original tires!

The future plans of the UFMSS have changed and our Board of Directors decided last year that we would no longer seek museum accreditation. We will become as we were in the beginning, a "Museum Without Walls" focusing on "Activities (programs & events) not Artifacts". We will concentrate on increasing our membership, enhancing our gardens, building nature paths in our old growth forest, continuing our "Come Grow With Us" program and planning events to bring our community together. With this new commitment in mind, I contacted the Blades family. They were beyond happy to have their grandfather's wagon returned to them! After 26 years at our Urban Farm, Rob Risser took wagon "129" home to its very



Blades wagon on way to new home in Middle Musquodoboit. From left to right: Rob, Pat, Janet & Marjorie

grateful family!

2025 is a new year with new decisions to be made and we invite you to be a part of them. Membership fees remain the same - Individuals \$10.00, Students & Seniors \$5.00, Families \$15.00, Groups & Organizations \$25.00 - \$50.00. Seedy Saturday / Plant Sale at the Urban Farm is sched-

uled for May 24th (2-4pm). Registration forms for the CGWU program and garden plots will be available. For further information, please call Pat at 902-497-3683 or urbanfarmspryfield@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you, your family and friends soon at our Urban Farm!



Day we moved the wagon to the Urban Farm - Pat, Joe Miller, "Nick" the Clydesdale & students from Elizabeth Sutherland School



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 markboudreauhalifax.ca
 MarkBoudreauHalifax@gmail.com
 (902) 600-2288

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.



Maternal and childcare is one of Rotary's main causes. Rotary makes health care available to vulnerable mothers and children so they can live longer and grow stronger.

It is estimated that close to 6 million children under the age of five die each year because of malnutrition, inadequate health care, and poor sanitation, which can all be prevented. Rotary clubs and districts dedicate their efforts to improving access to quality care so that mothers and children can enjoy a healthy future. Projects to support mothers and children include mobile prenatal clinics, cancer screening, immunizations, and training on how to protect themselves and their children from disease. Several projects highlight innovative solutions that provide health care to mothers and children:

- Nigeria averages only one physician for every 2,500 people and creative solutions are needed to expand health care reach. Innovative tools such as telehealth medicine have helped those living in rural Nigeria.

- Brazil has experienced high infant mortality rates, and several Rotary clubs partnered together to provide solutions. Rotary club partnerships led to an increase in resources for the incubators and access to Neonatal intensive care units at the Dr. Leopoldo Bevilacqua Regional Hospital in Brazil's Ribeira Valley.

That's what Rotarians do!



Time is running out! Get your tickets now! Our annual Rotary Adventure Club has launched – with our first of 6 monthly trips being drawn on 8 March for a Quebec City weekend getaway. The other fabulous trips are: Cuba – Havana and Veradero (\$3600), a New York City Escape (\$4000), Spain- Costa Barcelona and Costa Brava, Gourmet Paris (\$6800) and Iceland (\$7000). All trips are for two

people and include return airfare from Halifax and \$500 spending money. These draws are very flexible. The winner gets a voucher which can be

Our turkey dinner is back!

by Carolyn Mont

On February 16, Scoutmaster Dan Drabble addressed the congregation of St. Paul's United Church, speaking about Lord Baden-Powell as that was Baden-Powell Sunday and if that doesn't mean anything to you, you are not alone. Rest assured, however, that the congregation knew what Dan was speaking about. Of course, in case we weren't quite sure, we were reminded when Dan arrived with members of the Scout troop who meet at St. Paul's on Wednesday evening. Lord Baden-Powell, born on February 22, 1857, was a British army officer who ultimately founded the Boy Scout movement and the Sunday closest to his birthday is Baden-Powell Sun-

The Maguire Report

by Brendan Maguire, MLA for Halifax Atlantic

Sambro is Getting a New Community Centre

I am incredibly proud to share some exciting news with the community of Sambro. This past month, I had the honor of standing alongside dedicated volunteers and community members to announce both provincial land and funding for a new community centre in Sambro. This long-awaited project will provide the community with a much-needed space for gatherings, events, and support.

Sambro is a community that truly exemplifies what it means to come together. It represents the values of hard work, collaboration, and family. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to represent such an inspiring community. A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who has worked tirelessly to bring this project to life. Your dedication is what makes this all possible, and I am excited to see this dream become a reality.

School Renovations

As many of you are aware, Herring Cove Junior High is currently undergoing much-needed renovations. Once completed, the school will be brighter, warmer, and more welcoming, with natural light, new washrooms, lockers, and many other improvements. I'm also pleased to announce that Harrietsfield Elementary will be receiving renovations as well, which are long overdue.

However, there's still more work to be done for our local schools, and I remain committed to advocating for the investments they need to thrive. Our children and educators deserve the best possible learning environments, and I will continue to push for further improvements.

In addition, I am proud to share

used within three years for the trip, or with which another trip can be negotiated with the travel agent. If winners don't not want to travel, they can take 85% of the value of the trip. That's not all! Each month we draw for four \$100 prizes, so you can win the price of your ticket! To join and for more information, go to: <https://rotaryadventureclub.ca>

Our Rotary Club of Halifax North-

west 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 at rogerchiasson305@gmail.com or 782 234 9408.

day. There has been a Scout troop at St. Paul's United Church for over 65 years and we are always pleased to welcome the Scouts and their leaders to be part of the worship service on special occasions.

I know a number of you have been waiting to hear about our next turkey dinner take out. That will be on Saturday, April 12. The price is the same, \$18.00 for a turkey dinner with vegetables, dressing, and gravy, as well as dessert. All dinners will be presold, and you can order them by calling Lynn at 902-240-5107. They do sell out so please call early to ensure you don't miss out.

Some of you will know that Max Martin has been our student minister

for the past two and a half years. Max has proven to be an inspired preacher who has fit in well at St. Paul's. This has been a part-time position for Max and while we will miss him, we are happy for him that he will be moving to full time ministry at Orchard Valley United church in New Minas. Our best wishes go with him as he begins this new phase in his ministry on April 1.

St. Paul's United Church has an account at Beaver Enviro Depot at 251 Herring Cove Rd. If you wish to donate your refundables to the work at St. Paul's, you can take them to Beaver Enviro Depot, label them for St. Paul's and drop them at the door. If they are marked for St. Paul's, you don't even have to wait for them to be counted. Thanks so much for those who are doing this.

will soon be behind us, and warmer weather is on the way. However, with spring also comes potholes and road damage. I will be closely monitoring road conditions and reporting any issues I encounter. If you see any road concerns in your area, please don't hesitate to contact me. Together, we can ensure our community stays safe and well-maintained.

A Final Word

It is truly an honor to be your MLA, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve this remarkable community. Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Spotlight on Spryfield

Edible and Endangered Plants

April 10, Thursday 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Captain William Spry Community Library / Williams Lake Conservation Company



Ecology Action Centre



Let's get to know a few of our plant neighbours in the Spryfield area of Halifax. Karen McKendry, of the Ecology Action Centre (EAC), will discuss and explore edible, interesting and rare plants, and their fascinating lives in the Backlands and the Williams Lake watershed. She will 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.

Karen is an environmental activist and nature educator. She advocates for more nature conservation and parks in Nova Scotia, for all the benefits that these protected areas provide. Her professional background is in conservation biology, and she shares her knowledge and expertise through leading guided hikes in wilderness areas. When not at work, Karen goes trail running in the Backlands, snagging a few berries along the way.

Join us at the library for this "Spotlight on Spryfield" event, hosted by the Williams Lake Conservation Company and the Captain William Spry Community Library. We support the principles of sustainability, conservation and preservation of the natural environment which surrounds our Spryfield area for everyone. Forever!

LOCAL OBITUARIES

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

Alice “Sally” Tressa (Hubley) Jacobs
Age 91 of Halifax. It is with great sadness but much gratitude for a life well-lived that the family of Sally Jacobs announces her passing on February 19, 2025 at Northwood Care in Halifax.

The eldest daughter of ten children born to the late Douglas and Mary (Wills) Hubley, Sally was a Spryfield girl. She was born in 1933 in a house built by her grandfather on Philip Street in Halifax and then moved at an early age with her family to a house built by her father on Dentith Road in Spryfield, just outside the city.

As a youngster she showed entrepreneurial spirit selling small household items around the neighbourhood that she ordered from a mail-order catalogue; also, blueberries that she handpicked. Playing with her siblings and local children in the Hubley front yard and at Wagner’s Pond and Kidston’s Lake, Sally became an able swimmer, skater and baseball player, going on to play in a women’s softball league at the Halifax Commons.

Throughout her life she was a loving elder sister, almost a second mother, to her siblings, teaching, supporting and mentoring them as they grew and matured. Although she loved school, she left before graduating to enter the workforce so she could help financially at home. She worked at Moir’s Candy factory in downtown Halifax and while

still a teenager became a supervisor of hard candy packing on her floor.

In 1953 at age 20 she married the love of her life, David Jacobs, an American sailor she met through her father who, after meeting and talking with David outside his workplace, brought the young man home for supper. They moved to Vermont where their first three children were born and she worked part-time to help pay medical bills and buy a house. In 1964 they returned to Spryfield where they welcomed their fourth child and Sally worked part-time at her brother Bruce’s store, Doug’s Old Style Meat Market on Dentith Road.

After getting her GED she became a monitor, with a sister, sister-in-law and friend, at Halifax West High School. They were known as the monitoring mothers and called “Mum” by the students who, long after graduation, expressed appreciation to Sally for her firm but fair treatment.

Sally had a strong work ethic and was fair to a fault. She was devoted to her family and her faith community at St. Paul’s United Church in Spryfield, where she often read during worship. A life member of the United Church Women, in which she held various leadership roles, she made jams, pickles, baked goods and knitted garments for church suppers and fundraisers, as well as for her family. She was a good cook and excellent baker, and without lessons, could sew and knit almost anything.

Sally enjoyed the company of children, singing with family and friends, reading the daily newspaper at home or in whatever place she was traveling, gardening and sharing her produce with others, maintaining friendships she made throughout her life. She was down-to-earth and outgoing, a strict disciplinarian with her children as well as a trusted confidante and staunch supporter of whatever endeavour they chose in life.

Married for 70 years, Sally and David were a loving couple, singing together at home and on their many road trips, sharing craft projects, gardening at home and at Toney River, where for many years they enjoyed a network of cottage friendships. They volunteered at local nursing homes. When new people appeared at church they were invariably brought back to Sally and David’s for lunch. Through the years family and friends would come to them for advice or to share a sorrow or celebration. Back in the day (when doors were not locked), Sally kept a basket of apples in the cold front porch on Lewis Street for local children to go in and help themselves if they were hungry; she provided food for neighbours in need.

As they grew older Sally and David were considered surrogate grandparents by young relatives, friends and neighbourhood children who often presented them with framed photos of themselves for placement among family photos.

Sadly, in her later years Sally developed dementia. She was lovingly cared for by David, still singing together until his illness and death in the fall of 2023. Her care was then provided by family members until she entered Northwood. Her family extends gratitude to Northwood staff for their kindness and profes-

sional support, and to Dr. Hugh Matheson of Spryfield Medical Clinic for his loving care of both Sally and David through the years.

Sally is survived and lovingly remembered by her children, Helene Burns (Gary) of West Pennant, Brian Jacobs (Patsy) of Halifax, Bruce Jacobs (Jackie Peltz) of Winnipeg, and Heather Bissonnette (Anthony) of Lr. Sackville; grandchildren, Bruce Burns (Yuhui Yu) and Daniel Burns (Laura Peek) of Halifax, Samuel Jacobs (Danielle Proutt), CJ Jacobs (Andrew Wiebe), and Noah Penner of Winnipeg, David Bissonnette (Émilie), and Anna Bissonnette of Lr. Sackville; great-grandchildren, Sophia and Faye; sisters, Helen McKay (James), Margaret Baker, Mary Brind’Amour, and Beatrice Delong (Murray); brothers, Frank Hubley and Gordon Hubley (Carol); sister-in-law, Bonnie Drake (Phil); and their families. Besides her parents and husband, Sally was predeceased by brothers, Bruce Hubley, Cyril Hubley, and Patrick Hubley; sisters-in-law, Thelma Hubley and Velma Hubley; brothers-in-law, Thomas Baker and John Brind’Amour.

In lieu of flowers, charitable donations in Sally’s memory may be made to St. Paul’s United Church, 173 Old Sambro Rd, Halifax, NS, B3R 2H6.

Sharon Ann Field

Age 69 of Halifax, it is with extreme sadness we announce the passing of our beloved mother and grandmother, Sharon Ann Field who passed away on February 20th, 2025, at the QEII Halifax Infirmity Site. Born in Halifax, she was a daughter of the late Cyril and Velma (Landry) Hubley.

Sharon had a personality like no other, she was caring, kind, and compassionate but she could also be a little feisty. Sharon was loved by all who met her and was a motherly figure to so many people. Sharon loved to be around children, in her previous years she worked in education as a school secretary, babysat, and was involved in Girl Guides. Sharon had many hobbies which included baking, making cards, and spending time at the cottage. Sharon was a lifelong member of St. Paul’s United Church. The one thing Sharon loved more than anything was being a grandmother to her 3 beautiful granddaughters.

Sharon is survived by her 2 daughters, Kimberley (Timothy), and Jacqueline (Brandon); granddaughters, Mya, Payton, and Talia; siblings, Douglas (Wilma), Everett (Trudy), Charlotte (Darren), and Kenneth (Dawn). Sharon is also survived by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, aunts, and uncles. She was predeceased by her late ex-husband, Gary; nephew, Devin; brother-in-law, Reg; sister-in-law, Susan and many aunts and uncles.

A special thank you to the nursing staff on 7.4 at the QEII Halifax Infirmity Site for all their care and compassion during Sharon’s stay.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Sharon’s memory can be made to the Kidney Foundation of Canada.

Douglas Frederick Winburn Conrad

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Douglas Frederick Winburn Conrad who left us on 23 February 2025 at the age of 87. Douglas was born on 21 June 1937 to Karl Mortimer Conrad and

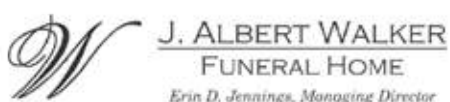
Sadie Gladys (Webb) Conrad in Saint John New Brunswick. After graduating from Saint John Vocational School in 1955 with a Second Class Certificate of Proficiency in Radio, Doug went to sea as a Radio Officer and travelled the world, eventually settling down in Halifax Nova Scotia and working for the Canadian Coast Guard as a Radio Operator and Marine Communications and Traffic Services Officer, retiring in 1998. After retirement Doug worked part time as a Pilot Dispatcher for the Atlantic Pilotage Authority for many years. Doug enjoyed trains and photography and spent many hours enjoying his favourite pastime - chasing and photographing trains, often having his pictures published in Train Magazines. Doug spent many retirement evenings with his buddies, drinking coffee, shooting the breeze and watching the trains passing by the area of Birch Cove overlooking Bedford Basin. Doug was pre deceased by his parents, his first wife Stephanie Lynn (Brown) and their son Karl Aaron Conrad and his second wife Dorothee Elisabeth (Junghans). Doug is survived by his Daughter-in-Law Jane Conrad, grandchildren Soren Kayze Vogel (Alex), Lacey Jazmine Conrad, Colton Taz Conrad (Meredith) and great grandchildren Zander Rice Conrad and Shepherd Treat Conrad. A special thank you to the staff at Melville Lodge Long Term Care Facility in Halifax for taking care of Doug for the last three and a half years. We greatly appreciate all that you do for our loved ones in your care.



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The Jason Doherty Memorial COMMUNITY EVENTS PAGE



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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 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.
- Our Annual Egg hunt will be held Saturday, April 12th, 2025 (rain date April 13th). \$5:00 per child Egg hunt, cookie decorating, temporary tattoos and Easter Bunny! Group 1: 10:00 am. Group 2: 11:00 am. Please email Cara at: hwcc@outlook.com. Specify which time slot you would like.
 - 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 April 12, from 10:00am to 11:30am 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
- Introducing Harbour View Voices, a non-auditioned, mixed voice community choir serving the Sambro Loop area. Everyone who loves to sing is welcome to join - no experience necessary! We will be learning and performing a wide variety of musical styles in a relaxed and supportive environment. Our 10-week Spring Session starts on Saturday, April 12, 10am - 12 pm, at St. James United Church, Sambro. Registration is \$200. For more information, please email Susan: sfeltmate88@gmail.com.

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 urbanfarmsspryfield@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.

- SEEDY SATURDAY / PLANT SALE - Saturday, May 24th (2-4pm). Raindate - Sunday, May 25th. Donations of seeds or plants can be dropped off Friday after 6pm and would be very much appreciated!!
 - "COME GROW WITH US"
- Memberships for the CGWU program will be available at Seedy Saturday for

Families & Groups. We are also looking for an adult leader who would be available Tuesday evenings 5:30-7:30pm from June - mid August (10 weeks) and several mornings through the week. This would be a part-time "paid" position + vacation pay & MERCS - preferably for someone with experience working with children & youth. For further information, please call Pat at 902-497-3683 or email patriciaabma-clean@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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+ 1 Side \$10

Expires May 15/2025



16" Pepperoni Pizza
\$12

Expires May 15/2025



2 x 16 oz Any Real
Milkshakes \$10

Expires May 15/2025



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

Expires May 15/2025



Any 1x Shareables
\$6⁹⁵

Expires May 15/2025



Any 3x Shareables
\$19⁹⁵

Expires May 15/2025



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

Expires May 15/2025



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

Expires May 15/2025