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Chebucto News

Vol.26 • No.10
June 2025

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What's happening at the Urban Farm



STOCK PHOTO

COME GROW WITH US

The Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield-Come Grow With Us family gardening program has several garden plots available for the season.

SIGN UP NOW BEFORE THEY ARE SCOOPED UP!

Contact Pat at:
pat@urbanfarmmuseum.com
902-477-9083

by Patricia MacLean
CGWU Coordinator
Spring is here!! The daffodils and forsythia bushes are in blossom at our Urban Farm and preparations are underway for our Seedy Saturday / Plant Sale to be held Saturday, May 24th (rain date May 25th) 2-4pm.
Also happening that day is the

registration for our "Come Grow With Us" Family & Group program for summer 2025. We are very happy to welcome Nashim Gargari as our new Program Leader from June 10th - August 29th. If you are a new Canadian or a single parent, we have some financial assistance available from our MLA Brendan Maguire and our

sponsor, the Rotary Club of Halifax Northwest. Our 12 garden plots will be topped up with premium vegetable soil and compost in addition to receiving a great assortment of seeds "Thanks" to Allan at our Spryfield Canadian Tire store.
Membership and participation in CGWU remains the same - Families

- \$40.00 which includes membership, a garden plot, a copy of our garden book / curriculum "Come Grow With Us - A Family Guide to Growing Vegetables" written by our own garden guru, Marjorie Willison, a weekly garden lesson and all the fresh vegetables you have planted! The cost for a group or organization is \$50.00 and includes all the above. Anyone interested in gardening can also purchase our CGWU garden book for \$15.00 with all proceeds going to our children & youth program.
New this year, we will plant a garden plot with vegetables for our friends at St. Paul's Resource Centre Food Bank. Everyone will be encouraged to help plant, water and weed it for the weekly donations.
Nashim and I look forward to welcoming new and returning families and groups. If you are unable to register on May 24th, You may call me
(See Urban Farm on page 2)

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A tale of two churches

by Carolyn Mont

In April, members of the congregation of St. Paul's United Church in Spryfield received news that the congregation was likely to face closure. There is a very small number of people who regularly attend the church and support it financially. This letter was a heads up that things were likely to change.

Probably within a few hours of the email arriving in people's inbox, a member of the congregation called me to say that she had seen on Facebook that St. Paul's was being torn down. We wondered how the facts could have been so misunderstood. When I learned that the person who posted that on Facebook was someone whom I trusted, I called him and found that he had heard nothing about St. Paul's United Church in Spryfield but that he understood that he was writing about St. Paul's Catholic Church in Herring Cove. He decided to take down his post so as to not add to any confusion.

This issue brought to mind that many mainstream churches are suffering from declining attendance. I do not know anything about St. Paul's Catholic Church in Herring Cove other than the fact that it is closed. I can, however, comment on St. Paul's United Church in Spryfield.

This article is being written on May 10 for the June issue of the Chebucto News. We were advised to let the congregation, the community, and our renters know that there may be a changes coming to St. Paul's. There will be a congregational meeting on May 18 at which time we may get some clarity but I do not know what

that will be. Members of the congregation have been contacted to let them know that, should they be interested in facts rather than speculation, they should come to that meeting.

I hope you can appreciate that I had planned to say nothing about any of this because so much is still unclear. However, it turns out that the editor of the Chebucto News has had questions so rather than have guesses out there, I suggest that you realize that there are two St. Paul's churches, one closed and one in a precarious position. It turns out that you cannot just cease to worship in the building and walk away. There are procedures to follow, and we will learn more as time goes by.

May 10 was a rainy day and a group of parishioners met at the church for a prayer walk/drive. They drove through the community, two to a car, and stopped at various sites, not together, to intentionally focus their prayers on the people who live there or who utilize the services. The groups then met back at the church to debrief. One goal, which was certainly met, was to be intentional about prayer for those around us. This was led by Rev. Dr. Sharon Ballantyne, a growth animator with the United Church of Canada.

The Family Resources Institute (FRI), the outreach of St. Paul's, runs the Food Bank, Soup's On, the community garden, and the summer day camp. As usual, Soup's On will not be operational in July and August because the day camp occupies that space. The other programs will continue, and we hope that Soup's

On will resume in the fall. However, whatever happens, in the short term, FRI will operate out of that space. I do not know what "the short term" really means. I could speculate on various scenarios but since I don't know, I will say nothing. For information about the day camp, call Kristen at 902-479-1015.

St. Paul's United Church, and its property, is not owned by the congregation but by the United Church of Canada and held in trust to the board of the church until such time as they are not using it.

Urban Farm



CANSTOCK PHOTO

(continued from page 1)
(Pat) for further information or email me at patriciabmaclean@gmail.com
We sincerely appreciate all donations made to support our CGWU program and a charitable receipt is issued for membership fees and donations over \$10.00.

See you soon at our Urban Farm located on Rockingstone Road across from Kidston Estates!

Chebucto News

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Religious Services for June

Send your submissions to chebuctoeditor@gmail.com for July's issue by June 10.

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.
 10:00 am: Lively, contemporary communion service with music.
 Livestreamed
 Stations of the Cross
 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. 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. In this program, our youth will 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 consider 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. Upcoming date: June 15 at 10:30 am.

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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 Online Services on Zoom:
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DISCOVERING OUR PAST



Dunbrack Street stretches from Kearney Lake Road to Old Sambro Road

by Iris V. Shea

It has been more than five years since signs along Dunbrack Street were changed, establishing the fact that Dunbrack Street extends to Old Sambro Road. Many residents in the area referred to the extension of Dunbrack Street as Northwest Arm Drive and road signs supported this. In 2019, the Northwest Arm Drive signs were removed and the continuous street, starting at Kearney Lake Road, became Dunbrack Street, all the way to Old Sambro Road.

Newspaper reports and Halifax City Council Minutes were declaring a building boom in Spryfield from the time of amalgamation with the City of Halifax, January 1, 1969. In November 1969, two major priorities were being considered by Halifax City Council. One was the construction of the Pockwock Lake system which was supposed to free up the watershed lands for development around Long Lake. The second priority was a bridge across the Northwest Arm to alleviate the traffic entering the city from the Herring Cove Road and Purcell's Cove Road. Northwest Arm Drive was to extend to Purcell's Cove where a bridge would cross the Northwest Arm to Robie Street, near St. Mary's University.

Plans were underway following amalgamation, according to local newspaper reports, for the development of an area in Spryfield to provide 15,000 to 20,000 people with modern housing. There would be something for everybody: "private and co-operative housing, low-rental subsidized public housing, non-subsidized public housing... a modern community with land set aside for churches, schools, recreation areas and a few commercial establishments." The land around Long Lake had been part of the watershed since 1848. That land, however, did not become available for development. In 1984 the former watershed lands were designated as Park Reserve. A group of local citizens took over the stewardship of the parkland.

The population of Spryfield, according to a City of Halifax Staff Report, had risen from 18,703 in 1966 to 26,260 in 1973. In January 1974 Halifax Mayor Walter Fitzgerald maintained that the province should make an immediate start on Dunbrack Street and on the Arm bridge to ease the traffic problems in the Spryfield area and at the Rotary.

Construction of Dunbrack Street was underway in 1974 and was expected to be completed by 1976. Newspapers reported that the new road between Fairview and Spryfield would make available hundreds of



Photo from Longard Collection, courtesy Mainland South Heritage Society. Undated. The creation of a third lane on the Herring Cove Road, near the Armdale Rotary

acres of land suitable for development into recreation, residential, and industrial space. The Halifax Mail Star, February 11, 1974, reported the following: "Motorists who daily crawl along the Herring Cove Road and Purcell's Cove Road, enroute to the city, will rejoice to hear that by this time next year, many of their frustrations with the Armdale Rotary traffic jams should be but painful memories". Highways Minister Leonard Pace proclaimed that the

Fairview-Spryfield expressway will go a long way towards improving the traffic situation on the approaches to the peninsula.

In February 1974 a new "shopping centre" was approved for Spryfield and opened for business in November of that year. This Shopping Mall was predicted to create relief to rotary traffic. Spryfield residents would be able to shop in their own neighborhood. Included in the new shopping centre were two

movie theatres, a Save Easy Store, a Metropolitan Store, several smaller outlets and five clothing stores, a total of 41 retail outlets. Today it is known as the Spryfield Shopping Centre with not much remaining of its original concept.

The words "long-discussed Northwest Arm Bridge" were still being used by Halifax City and Halifax County Councils in 1974 but the paper trail seems to end that year. The topic of a bridge across the Northwest Arm was no longer popular. In July 1974 the time had come, according to Halifax City Council, to make Herring Cove Road a four-lane artery.

Fifty years later, in the year 2024, residential housing developments continue to appear in the communities around the loop, with more vehicles using much the same road structure as in 1974. In November 2024, councilor Patty Cuttell wrote "Spryfield is the most densely populated and fastest growing area in District 11. It has a busy commercial district along Herring Cove Road and is surrounded by parks, lakes and wilderness areas."

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 news with the community we serve. This issue is about Rotary's Honouring Indigenous Peoples (HIP) project.



In 2014, a dedicated group of individuals from various Southern Ontario communities gathered in the basement of an Oshawa building to discuss the creation of a nationwide organization that would collaborate with Indigenous Peoples. From those initial discussions, HIP was born.

HIP's vision is that "all Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Peoples work together, interconnected and interdependent, for the benefit of future generations". HIP is a grass roots approach to truth and reconciliation. It is based on fostering partnerships between non-indigenous and indigenous peoples through joint efforts at relationship building, creating a learning and sharing environment about

indigenous cultures, and working together on projects of mutual interest and benefit.

National Youth to Youth (Y2Y) Program

Picture this: youth from every corner of Canada coming together to learn, grow, and make a difference. But this isn't just any learning experience—this is the Y2Y Program, where young people immerse themselves in the rich teachings of Indigenous cultures and take bold steps to protect our planet.

Imagine sitting around a campfire, listening to the wisdom of Indigenous Elders, or immersing yourself in hands-on, traditional Indigenous land-based teachings, passed down through generations. This experience isn't



just about learning the past; it's about building a sustainable future rooted in respect, connection, and action.

The HIP National Youth to Youth (Y2Y) program aims to foster reconciliation, environmental stewardship, and cultural understanding among Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth across Canada. Through shared

experiences, outdoor activities, and leadership development, the program empowers youth to become advocates for social change, environmental sustainability, and the preservation of Indigenous traditions. By bridging cultural divides and promoting dialogue, Y2Y equips the next generation with the knowledge and skills needed to work collaboratively toward a more inclusive and sustainable future.

The annual Y2Y conference this year was held in Nova Scotia. Members of our club (Halifax Northwest) and the Dartmouth East club were involved in welcoming the participants at the Halifax Airport and getting them safely on to transportation to Acadia University in Wolfville, the site of this year's Y-2-Y conference. The excitement in the youth and the adults we met was palpable. We are honoured and proud to have supported this life-changing experience for our future leaders!

Our Rotary Club of Halifax Northwest welcomes everyone to explore community service with us! We pride ourselves on being diverse and inclusive – and we're friendly! We currently meet virtually or in person every Tuesday from 11:45 to 1 pm. at Station Six Restaurant, 247 Herring Cove Rd. in Spryfield. For more information contact Roger Chiasson at rogerchiasson305@gmail.com or call 782 234 9408

Ilisley students explore music with award winning producers



This spring students from J.L. Ilisley had the opportunity to participate in 6 lunchtime Beat Production Workshops with award winning producers Keke Beats, Marz, and Rock Mejia. The students were able to explore the tools and skills used to create music and sounds such as Beats and loops, Field recording, and Audio recording, using online programs like Soundtrap and FL studio. For more information on future workshops in Spryfield contact Ben Clost at Pathways: ben@chebuctoconnections.ca or Rock Mejia: rock.m@unitycharity.com or Kate Broadbelt, coordinator for Youth on the Radar programs: kbroadbelt@gnspecs.ca

Right: Mars and Josh beat making



Ghosts in Spryfield?

Episode 6

by a Spryfielder

Back to my Spryfield house. Looking in my journal of spirit stories.

Awhile back, in the year 2000, I woke up to a dragging noise in my house. It was quite loud. My body went into an alert mode. I listened to it for awhile and when it was done, got up and checked all rooms of the house. All ok. The next day I went outside and checked all sides of the house and then thought it might be wise to check my one-acre lot. All was as it should be.

Three years later, in 2003 I woke up from a sound sleep, checked the clock and noticed it was 2 am. I looked towards the bedroom door. A large dark shape was covering the whole door, and the minute I looked at it, it swooped and sat on me, pinning me down. I said "Get off of me". I was angry, thinking 'how dare you disturb my sleep'. I started to recite the Lord's Prayer, and I could feel a "Oh, for Heaven's Sake" and it left by going out through the wall next to the bed which led to the outside of the house. I thought about this for a few moments and then went back to sleep. The next morning, feeling mischievous, I thought I should touch the spot at which the old witch left the house, and then thought 'if my hand goes through the wall – I am out of here!' The reason I said witch was because I told the story to a friend by phone, and she said, "Oh that was the old witch that likes to visit and scare people". Really? I had never heard of such a thing. Not in my house!

December 30, 2006 I was awakened at 1:50 am, to what I thought was a short alarm from our alarm system. I sat quietly and listened. The furnace was on. No phone call from Security Company. Maybe a small critter had got into our shed and was stuck? I made myself get out of bed and check the house and all was ok. Got back in bed and snuggled down for sleep, and then I heard papers fall to the floor. I assumed off of my desk. Oh well, I would fix it the next day. Then I heard similar sounds close by and also some snapping sounds near my head. It then felt like something was in the room with me and I couldn't relax to fall asleep. I spoke out loud and said that I really needed to go back to sleep. This went on for 2 hours. Finally, about 3:30 am, I felt a gentle touch on my arm. It felt like my dead mother's touch, and then she squeezed my arm. The room cleared and I was able to fall asleep. The next day I kind of yelled at the house "We do need to communicate a bit better!"

January 23, 2007 – About 10 pm. I started to work on my computer. The seat of my chair jiggled slightly. I said "Heh, what is going on?" In a few seconds I turned back to my computer and it happened again. So, I turned around to whoever and just told them all the latest news in my life. The, I said "begone", and then they left. And I say "they" because it felt like more than one spirit wanted my attention.

Osprey species about 11 million years old!

Osprey, adult, Halifax Backlands, Princeton Ave. Spryfield

Photo: Joshua Barss Donham, Backlands Coalition, April 20, 2024

Notes: Excellent fishers, dives at 125km/h from 40 meters, 70% success, mates for life.



5th Annual Good Friday Prayer Walk through Spryfield



On Friday, April 18, 30+ members from several Spryfield area churches took part in the 5th Annual Good Friday Prayer Walk. Following what is now a traditional route through the heart of Spryfield, we walked, talked together and prayed at several sites for issues ranging from wildlife and environment, residential communities and the housing crisis, policing and public safety, transit, economy, the (then) upcoming Federal election, local merchants and large retailers and their workers, schools, youth and education, and much more.

It was welcomed that this walk was in sunshine. Past walks had been in cold rain, fog and wind and still, people have faithfully joined together on Good Friday to pray about issues concerning our community.

The Spryfield Area Churches Ministerial is looking forward to the next walk in 2026, and we invite you to come join us in this time of friendship and prayer for common causes.

Spotlight on Spryfield Birdwalks in the Halifax Backlands

by Cathy Vaughan

There is a short cut to happiness – bird watching! According to the many folks around the planet who engage in this life-long happy hobby, bird watching brings endless fascination with their unique habits, quirky personalities, and appreciation of the natural habitats in which they live.

Osprey Ridge and the Norawarren trails in the Backlands of Spryfield provided a chirpy, active classroom for novice and seasoned birders. The Williams Lake Conservation Company (WLCC) partnered with the Captain William Spry Community Library (CSCL) to offer four guided walks in the wilds of the Williams Lake watershed and the Halifax Backlands.

The walks were part of the ‘Spotlight on Spryfield’ series of speakers and events which highlight the nature parks and wilderness areas we have access to in our community.

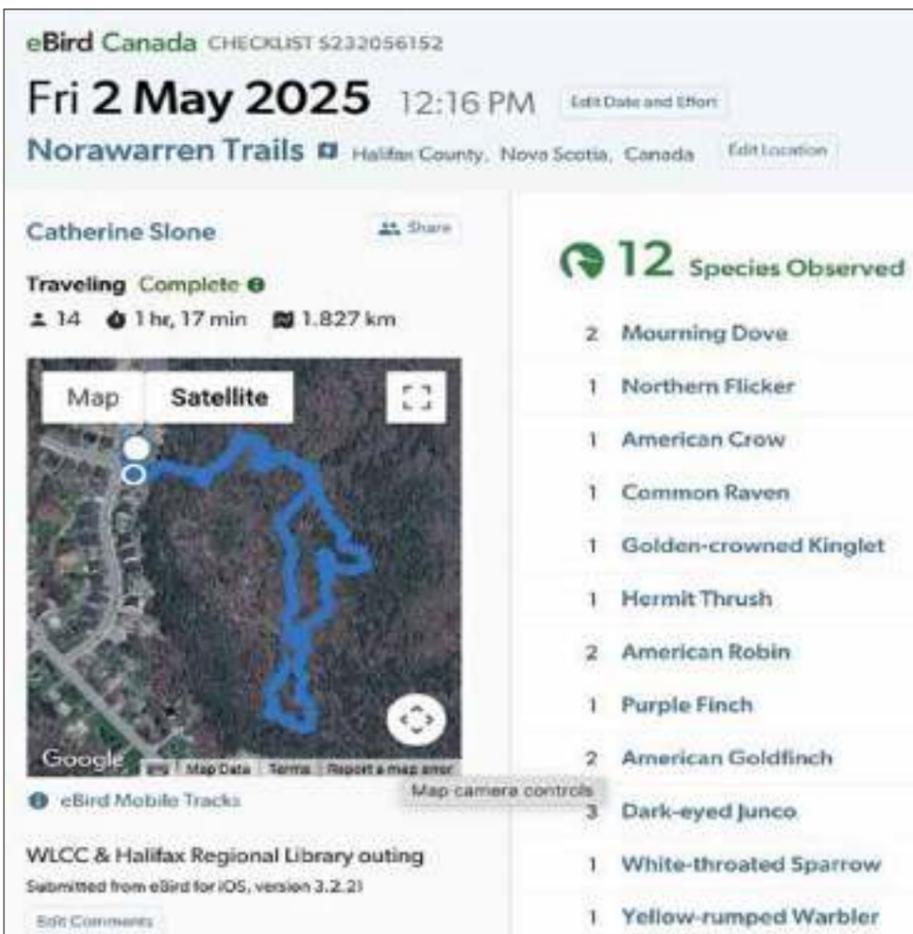
Birds’ natural habitat offers a calming effect on your busy brain as well as stirring up a curiosity about the plant life and natural surroundings that sustains local and migratory birds in the Backlands. From microscopic lichens, communities of rare Jack Pine Broom Crowberry Barrens, to stands of old hemlock - all are important to our local biodiversity and home to over 100 species of birds.

“These Backlands walks are a powerful way to directly introduce participants to this land and its bird inhabit-

ants. The data collected from each walk - how many different species of birds, and their numbers – makes a significant contribution to citizen science. Members of the general public have a role to play in tracking how bird populations are being impacted in today’s world. We are learning how critically important environments such as the Backlands are in protecting bird populations,” says Catherine Slone of Williams Lake Conservation Com-

pany’s, Bird Team.

Many of the conservation groups in Spryfield use eBird, a free mobile app, to record and share bird observations worldwide. Groups contribute their local sightings to a global database, allowing other birders to track birding activity and add their data to scientific research, conservation, and education around the world! It’s always a great day for birding!



Norawarren Trail on eBird in Halifax Backlands, birds sighted in May 2025
Photo: Catherine Slone, Williams Lake Conservation Company

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Sherlock by Wireless

Coming to TAG May 29th to June 14th: *Sherlock By Wireless: A Classic Radio Mystery*; Original radio script by Edith Meiser, Denis Green and Anthony Boucher; Edited and Adapted by John C. Sherwood; Directed by Bill Van-Gorder; Stage Managed Esther Van-Gorder; Produced by Kim Charron

This live stage performance brings to life three iconic Sherlock Holmes radio broadcasts from 1945, originally featuring the legendary Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce.

Step back in time and immerse yourself in the world of Sherlock Holmes with *Sherlock By Wireless: A Classic Radio Mystery*.

Accompanied by live sound effects, eleven talented performers will transport you to the golden age of radio. Relive the thrill and intrigue of old time radio and watch the radio actors as they create those classic images in the minds of their listeners.

Don't miss your chance to experience the magic of Sherlock Holmes live on stage! Tickets Available For members on May 1st and For the General Public on May 8th at: www.tagtheatre.com

Got Rugs? Sherlock is stumped, a mystery even he can't solve.

Sherlock is looking for a rug (a floor rug, not a toupee). Can you help?

The *Sherlock by Wireless* production

Community Centre becoming a reality

Around 2009, a group of individuals got together to form the Sambro Area Community Association ("SACA"), whose short term goal was to run the annual Sambro Sou'Wester Days festival, with a long term goal to get a community centre in Sambro.

They knew the local fire station would be moving to Williamswood when they completed building the new station there, so they set their sights on that land. The spot is ideal, and familiar to many because it's where Sambro hosts its annual Sou'Wester Days festival.

Since the land had a prior oil spill, there were tests and reports required to ensure the site was completely remediated. There were many hoops to jump through and there were times when it felt like that long term goal would never become a reality.

SACA finally acquired the deed for that land, and our MLA Brendan Maguire came through with a \$3 million cheque from the Province to put towards the new centre. Fundraising efforts continue, along with applications for additional grants and funding.

Considering the size of this project and the multitude of steps required, SACA is consulting experts for guidance.

One of the first consults were the community members themselves. Online and paper surveys, together with door to door visits and in person group consultation with all ages from youth to the elderly provided a good cross-section of wants and needs for a local facility.

A second community input meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 5 at 7 p.m. at St. James United Church in Sambro.

Following that, some future steps will include things like mapping out a rough site plan, floor plan and elevations, obtaining a development permit, detailed architectural drawing, clearing the land, determining what type of septic system is required and installing it, well drilling, and many other steps in between, before a foundation will be poured and building will start.

Travelling outside the community for activities has been especially challenging for youth who can't yet drive, and anyone of any age who either can't or aren't comfortable driving. It can add to feelings of isolation and affect mental health.

This community centre will bring our residents back together on a more regular basis. Sou'Wester Days in August is the only time some people see each other. Sambro will soon have a space to regularly hold card games, darts, bingos, clubs, seniors groups, youth groups, parent and tot groups, parties, sports activities, weddings, parties, dances and more.

We've been hearing a lot of buzz and excitement and it's certainly given the SACA committee a jolt of renewed energy after all this time and effort. Watch this space for future developments! (Lorrie Boylen is a Communications Professional, Coordinator for the Sambro Imagination Library, and CBC Radio's Community Contact for Sambro)

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You're Invited!

It's that time of year to start organizing for the **Spryfield Days Festival.**

We are looking for Volunteers, Sponsors & Participants.

If you or someone you know would like to get involved, please email or call bruce@discoverspryfield.ca 902-452-7472

Annual Heritage Tea and Display held in April

Photo credits Sam Ramsay

Mainland South Heritage Society's annual Heritage Tea and Display was held on April 26th from 2pm to 4pm at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. This well-attended event showcased the educational history of our area with photo displays highlighting the schools, teachers, and students who have called Spryfield and area their home over the years. If you missed the event, or want more information on how to help with next year's Tea and Display, check out Mainland South Heritage Society online at www.mshshistory.com



Wonderful display of the educational history of the area



Starr Bogue (left), dressed in period clothing, and Leslie Harnish (centre), welcome people to the annual Heritage Tea and Display



Allan Marryatt talks history with visitors. Mr. Marryatt was kind enough to bring a laptop full of pictures, as well as year books and other historical documents with him to share with everyone stopping by



There was a great turnout for the annual Heritage Tea and Display event

Chebucto News Community businesses serving community needs.

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Cuttell Community Update

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

Hard to believe it's June already! I know this is a busy time for families as the last day of school approaches and summer schedules begin. One of the great things about living in District 11 during the summer is the number of beaches nearby. HRM lifeguard supervision and water testing take place between July 1 and August 31, and the status of supervised beaches is updated every morning during this period.

With changing weather patterns and growing pressures on our lakes, blue-green algae is becoming more of an issue. If a suspected blue-green algae bloom is observed, the beach is closed immediately, and water samples are collected for analysis. A bloom can appear as surface scum, foam, a mat, or discoloured water. These blooms may be blue, blue-green, green, red, brown, or yellow in colour. Conditions that contribute to the formation of a bloom include warmer water temperatures, slow-moving or shallow water, and excess nutrients. These nutrients often come from sources such as lawn fertilizers or sewage, including dog waste. We all have a role to play in keeping our lakes healthy. If you notice water that looks or smells suspicious, or displays any of the characteristics described, the municipality asks that you report it immediately. Please call 1-877-936-8476 and Halifax Regional Municipality at 311.

June is National Indigenous History Month in Canada. It is a time to recognize and celebrate the rich history, heritage, resilience, and diversity of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples. It's also an opportunity to honour the stories, achievements, and strength of Indigenous communities—past and present. Indigenous Peoples have lived on this land since time immemorial. Their knowledge, culture, and stewardship continue to influence the evolving Canadian identity.

The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. HRM acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.

Historically, a land acknowledgment was a traditional practice among Indigenous groups to recognize the territory they were visiting. Today, land acknowledgments are an important way for all of us to express gratitude and respect to the Mi'kmaw people for their ongoing stewardship of the land on which we live, work, and gather.

The municipality has begun work on its 2026–2030 Strategic Plan.

This document reflects HRM's vision, mission, and values and outlines the key priorities and goals that guide how the municipality allocates resources, builds business plans, and measures progress.

The draft Strategic Plan has been informed by input from the 2024 Resident Survey, along with workshops with Regional Council and senior municipal leadership. Council reviewed the draft plan in May, and the final version is expected to be presented for approval in summer 2025.

One of my favourite annual events is coming up—Curbside Give Away Weekend, happening on June 7 and 8, rain or shine, across HRM. This is a great chance to give gently used items a second life and keep them out of the landfill.

The Maguire Report

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

The expansion of Crystal Crescent Beach with a third parking lot and new signage marks an important investment in our community's access to one of Nova Scotia's most beloved natural spaces. Whether it's families spending the day at the beach, hikers exploring the trails, or visitors soaking in the breathtaking views, Crystal Crescent is a destination that brings people together. This project ensures easier, safer access while preserving the beauty and experience that makes the beach so special. By reducing congestion and improving wayfinding, we're creating a more welcoming and accessible space for everyone. Projects like this reflect my commitment to listening to the community and responding with meaningful action. Crystal Crescent is more than just a beach—it's part of our identity and quality of life.

I will continue working with residents, listening to their needs, and investing in infrastructure that enhances our communities. Together, we're building a stronger, more connected Halifax Atlantic—one project at a time.

This past month, we paused together as a nation to mark the National Day of Mourning—a day to remember and honour those who lost their lives, were injured, or fell ill because of their work. Behind every name was a story, a family, a community, and a future forever changed. It was a time not only for remembrance, but also for reaffirming our commitment to creating safer workplaces for everyone, because every worker deserves to return home safe and sound. We held in our hearts the families who grieved, the communities who mourned, and the workers who carried the memories

Here's how you can participate:

1. Post your items on the Interactive Map or in the Facebook event
2. Place clean, reusable household items at the curb with a clearly visible "FREE" sign

3. Remove any unclaimed items from the curb by Sunday at dusk. Please follow proper Curbside Etiquette. Make sure the items you give away are in good, usable condition, and keep anything you don't want taken well away from the curb to avoid confusion. Events like this are a perfect example of the circular economy in action, helping us reduce waste and share with neighbours.

Keeping our paths and multi-use trails clear of overgrown vegetation has been an ongoing challenge. Last year, I brought forward a motion to develop a proactive maintenance program for non-turf vegetation adjacent to trails on parkland. I'm happy to report that Council sup-

ported this recommendation. Previously, vegetation control was complaint-based and handled by various municipal business units, depending on which department was responsible for the area. This created inconsistencies and sometimes disjointed maintenance. The new program is designed to ensure more consistent upkeep and improve the walking, rolling, and recreational experience, as well as helping with invasive species management and litter control.

Need help? Get in touch! If you have a general municipal concern, your first call should be to 311. For issues that require further attention or support from my office, please don't hesitate to contact us. My coordinator Michelle and I are always happy to assist. 902-233-8364 | patty.cuttell@halifax.ca

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable start to your summer.

Happy June, everyone!

of their colleagues. We also renewed our promise to advocate for stronger protections, better conditions, and a culture of care, respect, and responsibility. May we never forget. May we always strive to do better. And may we continue to stand together in remembrance.

Nova Scotia Health has confirmed a case of measles in the Halifax Regional Municipality, involving an unvaccinated individual who recently traveled internationally. Public health is conducting contact tracing and advising anyone who may have been exposed to monitor for symptoms such as fever, cough, or rash. Those who are not fully immunized or unsure of their vaccination status are urged to contact their healthcare provider. The risk to the general public remains low.

Congratulations to Prime Minister Mark Carney on his election victory and to Shannon Miedema on becoming the new Member of Parliament for Halifax. This is a significant moment for Canada and for our region, and I extend my sincere best wishes as they begin this new chapter of public service. Their leadership presents an opportunity to bring fresh ideas, renewed focus, and a deep commitment to the people of this country.

As a representative at the provincial level, I look forward to working collaboratively with both Prime Minister Carney and MP Miedema to ensure that Nova Scotians—and all Canadians—benefit from strong, united leadership. By strengthening partnerships between federal and provincial governments, we can break down unnecessary barriers, streamline efforts, and deliver real results for the people we serve. This moment offers a chance to build

bridges across regions, political lines, and communities. Together, we can focus on what truly matters—affordable living, accessible healthcare, a sustainable future, and a more inclusive Canada. I'm optimistic about the road ahead and committed to working in the spirit of collaboration.

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LOCAL OBITUARIES

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Betty Louise Rice

March 11, 1934 - April 13, 2025

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Betty Louise Rice, at the QEII Hospital on April 13th, 2025, at the age of 91. Born in Halifax, NS, she was the eldest child of her late mother, Bernice Rice, and parents by heart, Richard Leahy (Pop), and Florence Leahy (Bon). Betty was predeceased by her brothers Donald Rice (Flo), and Gordon Rice; her sisters, Vivian Avery (Anslem), and Barbara Evans (Ralph). She was also predeceased by her niece Cathy Mabie, nephew Brian Avery, great niece Hillary Welsh and great-great nephew Grayson Mackenzie. Betty is survived by her nieces Paula Rice (Paul), Michele Avery, Lisa Walker (Jeff), Carrie Garand (Richard), Debra, Terry, Patricia, Tammy, Julie, and her nephew Darrell Evans (Christine), as well as many great nieces and nephews.

Betty presented herself to the world as polished and fancy; intelligent and very astute to world events; but to all of us, she was just "Aunt Betty" and she was very proud to

be called that. She will be dearly missed by all of us.

Betty was proud of her long career at McDermotts Insurance as a private secretary and insurance agent until her retirement. She was a very devoted, active parishioner at St. James Anglican Church, Halifax. She played the organ, sang in the choir, worked for many years in the church office and was a volunteer on various committees. Her church family was very important to her and her church, St. James Anglican played a significant role in her life.

Betty lived a full life. She was an avid musician, singing and playing various instruments with piano being her favorite. She attended the Royal Conservatory of music, was a singer on The Sing Along Jubilee, a member of The Kingfishers (they even produced an album!), performed on the first Christmas Daddies Expo in 1967, and many other music events.

Betty loved to travel with her friends on bus tours. She travelled as far as Europe, toured many places in the US and Canada and visited every nook in the Atlantic Provinces. She loved Sunday drives, treats, and taking the old road. She would always say that the "journey was the best part of the trip". She made wonderful memories and always had stories to tell.

Betty had a love for animals; therefore, it seems fitting, that in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Bide-Awhile Animal Shelter.

Florence Catherine "Flossie" Power

1926-2025

In Loving Memory of Flossie Flossie, a radiant light in the lives of all who knew her, passed away peacefully at the age of 98. Married to the love of her life, Doug, for over 75 years, their enduring bond was a testament to true devotion and companionship. Together, they built a life full of love and joy and raised a beautiful family who now carries forward the warmth, kindness, and positivity that defined Flossie's spirit.

A beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, great-great-grandmother, and friend, Flossie was deeply cherished by her family and community. Her vibrant personality left a lasting impression wherever she went. Known for her positivity, gentle heart, and unwavering kindness, she had the rare gift of making everyone feel truly seen and loved. Flossie loved life and lived it with curiosity and action. Many remember her swim-

ming and skating on Powers' Pond. She played baseball, bowled, curled, golfed, and fished. She also loved music and was often heard listening to Tom Jones and Engelbert Humperdinck. Throughout her life, Flossie had a deep faith. She loved God. As a result, she loved people. In turn, people loved her. She lived God's love.

Her compassion for animals was pure and lifelong. She loved to spoil her dogs and was always feeding the wild animals, including the deer in her yard. This love for animals was so strong that even in her final days, she found comfort and joy in being surrounded by the small gathering of cherished stuffed animals at her bedside.

In her early years, Flossie worked at Moir's Chocolates. Without a doubt, this is where she developed her insatiable sweet tooth, which has been passed down to most family members. Flossie was a gifted artist, capturing the beauty of life in her paintings. Her home was often filled with the comforting aroma of her famous tea biscuits and her award-winning apple pie, all of which were always made with love and shared generously.

Flossie is survived by her daughter, Linda Cleveland; son, Gordon (MonaLee); 12 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; 8 great-great-grandchildren; sister, Sybil Higgins; brother, Ray Hill; son-in-law, Bill Steele; and many nieces and nephews. Flossie was predeceased by her parents, Harry and Alfreda (Richards); her husband, Doug; son, David; daughter, Coleen Steele; sisters, Rose MacDonald, Barb Gerrior, and Joyce Smith; brothers, Gordon Hill and Percy Hill; and son-in-law, Barrie Cleveland.

As we say goodbye, we take comfort in knowing that Flossie is reunited with her beloved Doug. Her legacy lives on in the hearts of all her family and all those fortunate enough to have known her. Forever adored, always remembered, and deeply missed. We love you, Mom. We love you, Nanny.

Elizabeth Rita Grant

Words cannot adequately express the

heartbreak we feel over the loss of our mother Elizabeth (Betty) Grant (MacLellan) born November 2, 1932. She was the loving wife of Joseph Grant of Afton, Antigonish, with whom she spent 55 years before his death in 2013. She was a humble farm girl from Big Marsh, Antigonish, and was the last surviving member of her immediate family. Her parents were John George MacLellan and Annie Kate MacLellan (Delaney). She was the youngest girl in a family of 14. Her siblings were Alec, Walter, Mary Ann, Eddie, Sally, Florence, Sr. Catherine, Georgina, Roddy, John R., Fr. Willie, Gertie, Chisholm, and Elizabeth. She is survived by her 7 children: Joanne (George) Feniyanos, Katherine (Stephen) Coyle, Debbie (Mike) Hart, Darlene (David) Fiander, Donna, Josephine (Derek Wilke) and Daniel. She was Grammy to grandchildren Nazha, Emile, Joanna, and Sylvanna Feniyanos; Jordan, Noah, and Jacob Coyle; Matthew, Michael, Nicholas, and Emma Hart; Max, Hannah, William, Joseph, and David Fiander; Alexander Grant; Mark and Luke Fiander and Ben and Jake Wilke. She also had 7 great-grandchildren: Samuel, Sadie, Charlotte, Michael, Cameron, Myla, and Alice. Mom was the epitome of human kindness and resilience. We are so grateful for every moment we spent with her, but it still wasn't enough. We're left with an emptiness that will never be filled. She still lived in the family home which was the backdrop of so many special childhood memories and way beyond. It was where the action was. Family was everything to her. She was authentic before it became fashionable. She had a strong sense of self. Like our father, she had a remarkable work ethic and a solid moral compass. She always said, "We were on the same page." She lived her life with an incredible sense of gratitude. She found joy in simple things like sitting around the table with a cup of tea and a biscuit followed by a fierce game of cards; rocking children, first her own, then her grandchildren; and making every holiday the most special. How lucky we are to have someone who makes saying goodbye so hard.



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The Jason Doherty Memorial COMMUNITY EVENTS PAGE



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COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR JUNE

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.
- Pre-teen End of Year Dance (Grades 3-5 only) *A parent must sign children in. Thursday June 12, 2025, 6:30-8:00 pm \$5 at the door, \$1 Canteen items
 - Mobile Food Market Thursday June 5th 4pm-7pm and Tuesday June 17th 11am-2pm
 - 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 June 14th, 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:

- June 14th: Halibut Supper: Dine in or Takeout. Includes roll and dessert. 4pm to 6pm. Adults \$20 Cash Only
- Harbour View Voices Community Choir presents "Sounds of Spring", a Choral Concert featuring the Choir and special guests on Sunday, June 15 7pm at St. James United Church in Sambro. All are welcome, admission is free. An offering will be taken and donations of non-perishable food items are gratefully accepted.

Salvation Army (328 Herring Cove Rd) events:

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

Stella Maris Roman Catholic Parish events:

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

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

- For those needing drinking water, the outdoor tap is now on.

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

- Annual Forever Young Senior's Club Penny Auction and Spring Fling 50s/60s/70s dance; Location: Royal Canadian Legion Spryfield Branch 152, 7 Sussex Street Spryfield; Date: Saturday May 17, 2025; AuctionTime: 2:00pm to 4:00pm – doors open 1:00pm; Home Made Baked Goods Table; Dance Time: 8:00pm; Cost: \$8:00/Person; Best Costume Prize/Spot Dances. Join us for a fun filled afternoon and evening.

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.

- "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 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
June 6 – Forever Young Senior's Club Bingo. Doors open 5:00pm, early bird games 6:30, regular games 7:00pm

Register now for Basketball Camp, June 23-26 each evening from 6:15-7:45 pm at the courts behind Springvale Elementary (92 Downs Ave). The camp is for children ages 6-11 years old who will learn/enhance their basketball skills and practice them in scrimmages. All skill levels welcome. Cost is \$10/player. Hosted by Living Hope Community Church. To inquire and register, please email halifaxhal@hotmail.com or call 902-830-5669. Join us for fun on the courts!

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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Deep Sea Fishing

Experience the thrill of deep-sea fishing with our expertly guided expeditions. Whether you're a seasoned angler or a novice fisherman, our charters offer the perfect opportunity to reel in the catch of a lifetime.

An Ocean of Difference *What makes Crystal Crescent Charters Ltd. stand out?*

At Crystal Crescent Charters Ltd., we take pride in our deep-rooted local expertise. With over 40 years of maritime experience and generational knowledge, our crew led by Dennis Garrison ensures you're in the hands of seasoned professionals who know these waters like the back of their hand.



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