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Chebucto News

Vol.27 • No.7
March 2026

Armdale • Bald Rock • Ferguson's Cove • Harrietsfield • Herring Cove • Jollimore • Ketch Harbour
• The Pennants • Purcell's Cove • Portuguese Cove • Sambro • Spryfield • Williamswood

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Ducklings, photo by Sam Ramsay

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(See Nature on page 2)

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Legion Membership update

As we told you last month the Earl Francis Memorial Royal Canadian Legion Branch 152 in Spryfield in conjunction with the National Office has announced that during their 100th Anniversary, all new members can join The Royal Canadian Legion for free for 2026. At the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday evening February 10th 62 new members were sworn in as a result of this membership drive. Free membership for 2026 will be available through out the rest of the year.



Sixty-two new members were sworn in at the February 10th meeting of the Earl Francis Memorial Legion Branch 152

Nature

(continued from page 1) by an adult.

Space is limited; tickets will be available beginning at 12:30pm. Call the library for more information at 902 490-5244.

Tuesday, March 17, 2026
1:00PM – 3:00PM
Captain William Spry
Public Library



Chebucto News

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Religious Services for March

Send your submissions to chebuctoeditor@gmail.com for Aprils issue by March 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., 902-477-1783 emmanuelanglican-church.net, Sunday Morning Worship:
 8:00am Quiet, contemplative, traditional communion service
 10:00am Lively, contemporary communion service with music. Livestreamed. Children are welcome to join our Children's Choir, which meets during this service.
 Emmanuel Church is an affirming church. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship.

Stella Maris Roman Catholic Parish at St Michael's Catholic Church
 Weekend Masses: Saturday: 4pm Sunday: 8am and 10am
 Weekday Masses: Tuesdays: 7pm Wednesdays and Thursdays: 9am 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 at 10:30 am.
 Our services are live streamed on Facebook (St James United Church Sambro NS) and YouTube. Weekly bulletins with the order of service are on our website: www.sambrojollimorepc.com; email address: office.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com; phone 902-868-2791.

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)
 Open Door Community Church invites you to join us weekly for a time of fellowship, contemporary worship music and Bible based teaching for today's life. Please join us Sunday mornings at 10:30am

Wayfarers' Church (328 Herring Cove Road)
 Sunday Worship 10:30am
 website: wayfarerschurch.ca

email: friends@wayfarerschurch.ca

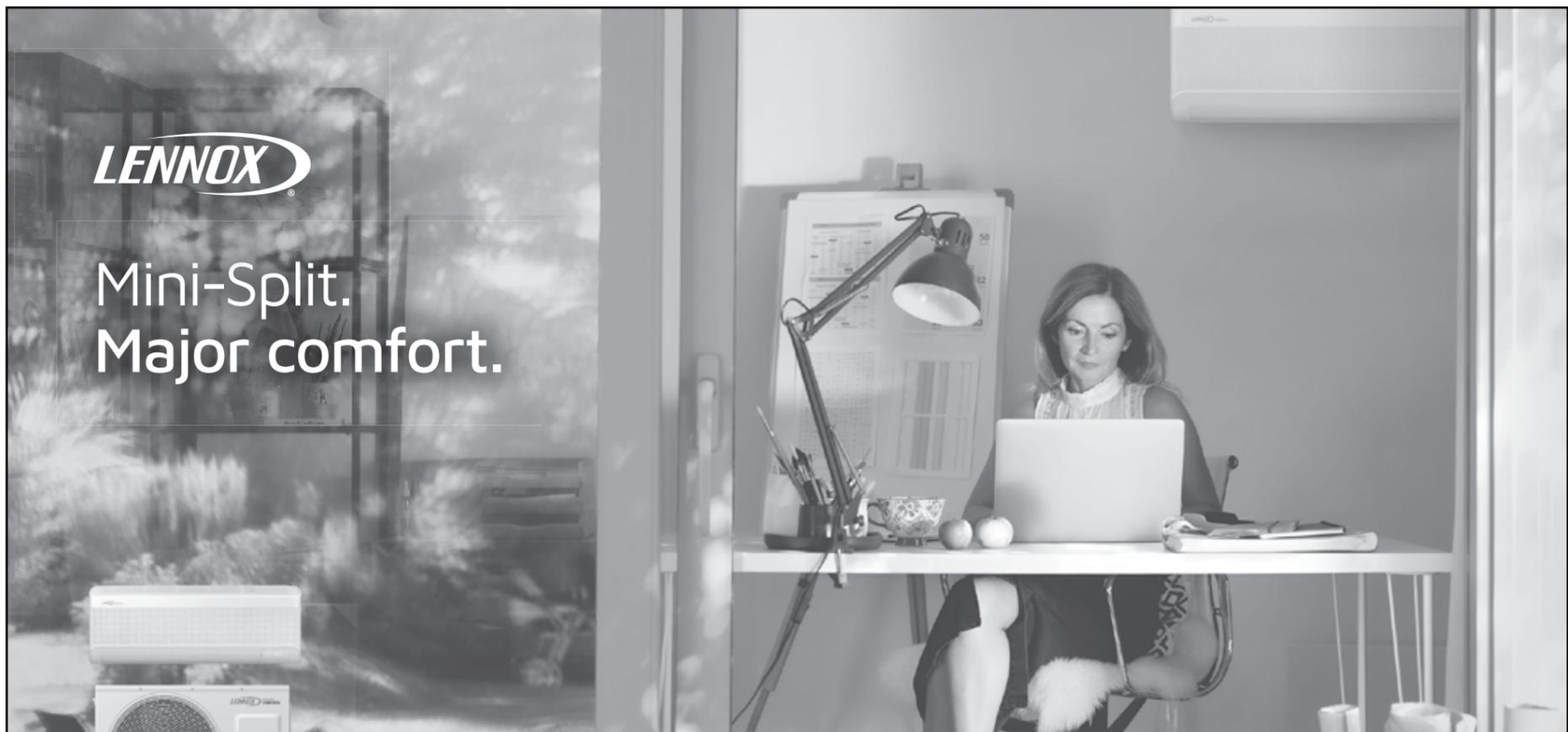
Searching for Truth Church (2 Auburn Ave)
 Church for everyday people. Fridays at 7pm

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.)
 Sunday Service – 9:30 AM
 Online Services on Zoom:
 Sundays – 8:00 – 9:00 AM
 Wednesdays – 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Do you like to write?

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DISCOVERING OUR PAST

Church and cemetery records reveal birth place of early Irish

by Iris V. Shea

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

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

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

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

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

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

On 4 July 1820 William Dempsey, son of Patrick and “Bridgit”, a native of the parish of Castle-Ellis, County Wexford, Ireland, married Catherine Latter, daughter of Henry and Catherine (McCleane) Latter of Herring Cove, in the presence of John Loughman, Michael Hacket



Photo courtesy Mainland South Heritage Society. Edward Pearson Johnson Sr., wearing dark overcoat and top hat, served as lighthouse keeper at Chebucto Head for 35 years. His grandfather, William Johnson, came from County Wexford, Ireland. Edward Johnson died at Chebucto Head in early May, 1906, aged 76, not long after this photo was taken.

and Anne Philpot. The church record neglected to mention that Catherine was the widow of James Philpot at the time of her marriage. Her first marriage took place in a Church of England and was not recognized by the Roman Catholic church.

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

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

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

Thomas Oakley was buried by Rev. James Dunphy from St. Mary’s Church in Halifax, Sept. 24, 1823. The death record states “Thomas ‘Oacley’ was a native of Tipperery, Ireland, died in the poor house.” From the marriage record for his

their son James Oakley to Elizabeth King, was found in Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Prospect, NS, February 14, 1825. Elizabeth King was the daughter of Frederick King and Elizabeth Perrin of Herring Cove. The couple settled in Herring Cove. The Oakleys of Spryfield descend from James and Elizabeth (King) Oakley.

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

A gravestone in Holy Sepulchre cemetery in Ketch Harbour was inscribed with information about Timothy Sullivan’s origin... Timothy O’Sullivan, from the Parish of Borehaven, County Cork, Ireland, aged 98 years, died 11 Aug, 1875. His wife, Catherine Harrington, died in 1880 at the age of 103 years. The Sullivans lived in Portuguese Cove.

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

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Birds of the Backlands – Pileated Woodpecker

by Joshua Barss Donham

The Pileated Woodpecker is the largest species of Woodpecker in North America. The size of a crow, it has a call that sounds like a jungle monkey that can carry for a kilometer. These birds have a commanding presence. The word ‘pileated’ means ‘capped’ – both males and females sport bright red helmet-like crests. The male has a cheek patch, called a malar streak, that continues to the base of his bill. The females’ malar and forehead are black.

Backlands: Pileated Woodpeckers nest near East and West Pine Island Pond, which spills into Powers Pond. In summer they can often be heard calling to one another as they range up and down the valley in the Backlands northwest of Herring Cove. Pileated woodpecker calls are often described as sounding like laughter, a loud ‘Cuk, Cuk, Cuk, Cuk’, rising and falling in volume and pitch.

Habits: The Pileated Woodpecker, as with our other woodpeckers, uses drumming to communicate, to attract a mate and to declare its territory. Different woodpecker species drum at differing rates, or beats per second. The Pileated Woodpecker is a slow drummer, at 15 beats per second. Our smallest woodpecker, the Downy, drums at 18 beats per second, the Flicker at 23 and the Hairy Woodpecker at 26. Woodpeckers have evolved a specialized skull structure of spongy bone plates that absorb the force of impact when they hammer on a tree.

Pileated Woodpeckers nest in dead trees. Both male and female take part hollowing out a nesting cavity which can take well over month to complete. Rarely do the woodpeckers use the same nesting site more than once.

Abandoned nests provide shelter, roosts, and nesting sites for over 30 other species such as the Wood duck, Hooded Merganser, Common Goldeneye, Saw-whet Owl, Northern Flicker, flying squirrel, red squirrel, American marten and even the little brown bat. Wasps sometimes build their nest in empty Pileated Woodpecker tree hollows.

Pileated Woodpeckers are non-migratory. In winter, however, they range further afield in search of food than during the nesting season. They will even visit backyard feeders, particularly if suet is on the menu.

Menu: The Pileated Woodpecker’s diet consists mostly of insects, ants, and



Pileated Woodpecker, Halifax Backlands, Spryfield Photo: Joshua Barss Donham

wood boring beetle larva. Carpenter ants are their preferred food. A tree with distinctive rectangular holes and a pile of large wood chips at the base is the work of a Pileated Woodpecker. So how far will they go in pursuit of ants? Boring deeply into the wood, they have been known to topple dead standing trees.

History: Pileated Woodpeckers are associated with mature and old growth forest. During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, most of the land in Eastern North America was logged for timber and cleared for agriculture. The Pileated Woodpecker population plummeted. As forests regenerated in the early 1900s the woodpeckers began making a slow recovery. Now they are often found foraging in second growth forests where there are still large trees as in the Backlands, where sections burned by forest fires have begun to regenerate, while some of the larger trees from the original forest have survived.

In Canada, since 1970, their numbers have risen steadily. Likely, they are also adapting to fragmented forests and living near human activity. Fortunately for birdwatchers, Pileated Woodpeckers are becoming a more frequent sight in patches of forest in our suburban areas and in our local parks – Spryfield Urban

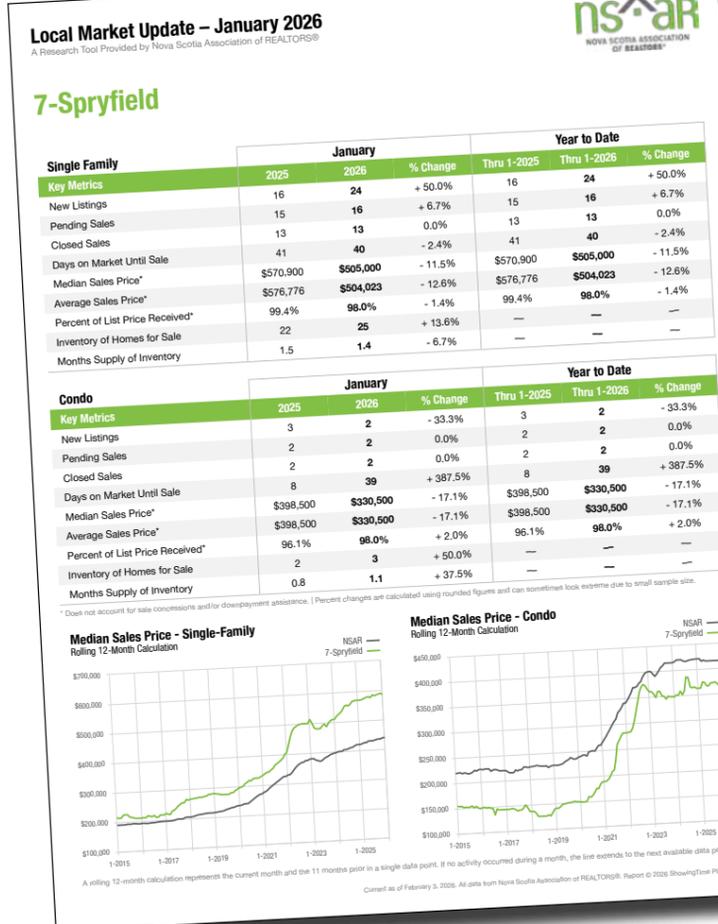
Farm, the Frog Pond, and in the Shaw Wilderness Park on Williams Lake.

Learn More:

Watch a pair of Pileated Woodpeckers foraging in mid-winter in the Halifax Backlands. <https://tinyurl.com/26urjnm>

History of Fisherman’s Road - Old Military Road in the Halifax Backlands. <https://tinyurl.com/yfr9vv2d>

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Free Spring information session on technologies to help you hear better

by Uta Stewart, Audiologist

An upcoming information session to discuss hearing technologies is coming to your community. Many people have hearing challenges, whether they admit to them or not. Maybe this is YOU or someone you know? Hearing challenges affect not only the individual but their families and friends as well. Untreated hearing loss can result in social withdrawal, reduced participation in community life and difficulties at home and work.

Sadly, it takes an average of 7 years from first noticing a hearing concern, to actually doing something about it. That is a long time to miss out on conversations, relationships and everyday experiences.

There are now so many technologies available to people with hearing issues that it no longer makes sense to ignore the options. So, what are the options? It all begins with getting a hearing test. Sometimes the issue is as simple as wax, which can easily be treated. Sometimes the issue is a middle ear infection, again, which can be treated by the family doctor or an ear, nose and throat specialist (ENT).

But sometimes the issue involves the inner ear and requires the use of amplification devices, like a hearing aid or a bone conduction device. Hearing test results will indicate the type of loss and the next course of action.

With the increased use of socially acceptable items that people put in their ears to listen to music or stream phone calls such as earbuds, Bluetooth earphones and bone conduction devices, the use of hearing aids no longer has the stigma it once did. They are now so tiny that unless you really look for them, they are not noticeable.

In addition to hearing aids, one may be a candidate for a surgical intervention such as a cochlear implant. A cochlear implant is a small implanted electronic device that bypasses the damaged part of the ear and stimulates the hearing nerve directly and the brain recognizes that as sound. Cochlear implants have been available to people since the late 1970s and have become more and more common.

Children as young as 9-12 months can be implanted and there is no age limit on adults as long

as they are able to undergo a day surgery. Many people, however, are still not aware of this life-changing technology.

With increasing interest in new technologies, four audiologists from the HRM area will be hosting an information session to answer your questions about hearing, where to get a hearing test, types of technology available, accessibility, funding sources and more.

When and Where? Saturday, April 11, 2026 at the Herring Cove Community Centre (30 Latter Pond Lane, Herring Cove) from 1pm - 2pm.

Contact Uta Stewart uta.stewart@medel.com for more information.

Audiologist Uta Stewart is the Clinical Account Manager for Atlantic Provinces with MED-EL Canada Corporation

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 highlights our recent strategic outlook review and an update on the 2026 version of our exciting Adventure Club fundraiser.

Wishes program whereby we supply Christmas gifts to children and families.

- Chebucto Connections: We support their Pathways to Education Program, a community-based program helping students reach high school graduation.

That is not to say that we have neglected our commitment to other causes, such as Water and Sanitation, Peace and Conflict Resolution. Our 60+ year history is replete with hundreds of service projects that cover the full spectrum of global needs.

That said, we think the way to a better world is to create life-changing opportunities for youth – at home and abroad!



You read it first here: The Rotary Club of Halifax Northwest has declared Youth Services as our primary avenue of service. That is not to say that we will abandon other opportunities, but when we are faced with difficult decisions with respect to the projects we will support, on balance, Youth Services will prevail. From our perspective, "Youth" is a very broad term, which encompasses young (pre-school) K-12, and young adults, as well as Rotary's Maternal and Child Health Area of Focus.

Our club, "the little club that can", has a history of supporting youth services. A few examples:

- Adventure in Citizenship: For well over a decade, we have been sending a student from a local high school to Ottawa to participate in a program organized by the Rotary Club of Ottawa whereby 200 students from across the country meet to learn about what it means to be a Canadian.

- Polio Eradication: Every year we contribute to Rotary's polio eradication program, which has been running for over 35 years. We have reduced polio cases by 99.9 % and will not stop until it is fully eradicated.

- Chebucto Family Centre: Our club has supported the centre through contributions to their food bank, and through our Christmas



A reminder of our Adventure Club fundraising campaign: we are selling tickets for trips to the Dominican Republic (\$4500 value), Saint Lucia (\$6000), Cozumel Mexico (\$4600), Ireland (Causeway Coastal Route) (\$6000), Italy (Venice, Florence and Rome) (\$5400), and the Mayan Rivera, Mexico (\$4000). Check it out at our Adventure Club website at rotaryadventureclub.ca for more details.

Our Rotary Club of Halifax Northwest welcomes everyone to explore community service with us! We pride ourselves on being diverse and inclusive – and we're friendly! We currently meet in person every Tuesday from 1145 to 1 pm. at Station Six Restaurant on Herring Cove Road in Spryfield. Why not join us for a "trial" lunch! For more information contact Roger Chiasson at rogerchiasson305@gmail.com or 782 234 9408.

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Cuttell Community Update

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

In Halifax, late winter can feel a bit like Groundhog Day. One storm blends into the next, the shovel stays by the door, and patience wears thin. March 20th marks the official first day of spring, whether it feels like it or not. We've weathered another winter together, and there is a silver lining worth noting. All that snow plays an important role in replenishing groundwater as it melts, supporting wells, streams, and ecosystems. It's an often-overlooked benefit that matters more than we may realize.

With spring approaching, there's a lot happening in District 11.

Good news for affordable housing in Spryfield. I was pleased to bring forward an alternative motion supporting a municipal grant to Rooted Community Development Partners, helping them purchase a six-unit building in Spryfield. The goal is to maintain existing rents and protect long-term affordability for current and future tenants. Preserving existing affordable housing is especially important in Spryfield, where many lower-cost rental units have been under pressure from rising costs and redevelopment. Halifax is currently developing a housing strategy. The Housing Strategy will focus on actions within the municipality's jurisdiction while responding to priorities and investments of the federal and provincial governments, and the community housing sector. Learn more at engagehalifax.ca/housing-strategy

The Spryfield Pool reopened after a closure for repairs. Like many aging facilities, it faces ongoing challenges related to accessibility, capacity, and infrastructure. Staff have worked hard to get it ready, and programs and the everyday activities are back up and running.

Pothole update. HRM has contracted two companies to address potholes on municipal roads, including Herring Cove Road and other Priority 1 streets. Crews are actively working as conditions allow. Please watch for trucks and traffic control to keep everyone safe. I appreciate residents who have reported potholes through 311. Continuing to report issues helps ensure nothing is missed. Potholes remain a priority for me.

Community safety and traffic continue to be important items. I recently met with HRP West Divisional Commander Inspector Kim Robinson to discuss community safety and traffic concerns raised by residents. Using HRP data, we reviewed congestion and parking near Parkhill and Williams Lake Road, as well as speeding hot spots in Governor's Brook, along Purcell's Cove Road, and throughout the Sambro Loop. Between 2023 and 2025, more than

2,000 Motor Vehicle Act Summary Offence Tickets were issued in the Sambro Loop alone. With additional officers on the HRP traffic team this year, enforcement will remain a focus as we wait for word about photo radar from the province. Also discussed were theft and vandalism, including incidents at Kidston Lake. Our district now has a new dedicated Community Response Officer, and we've committed to regular meetings to stay connected and coordinated on local issues.

Last month there was a significant step forward for transit service around Sambro Loop. The Microtransit Service Plan proposes an adaptable service using mid-sized vehicles to connect rural residents to fixed-route urban transit service. Four priority areas were identified, including Sambro Loop. An initial pilot will roll out in Lucasville, with other priority areas to follow. The

The Maguire Report

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

Community Updates and Events

Spring is shaping up to be a busy and exciting season across our community. Tickets open to the public on March 8 for this year's St. James Dinner Theatre production, *The Haunting of Sambro Island*. Performances will take place April 24, 25, and 26, as well as May 1 and 2. This much anticipated local tradition includes a full three-course lobster dinner, live music, and an original theatrical production that always delivers both laughter and memorable moments. The organizers are also currently seeking musicians to join the St. James Dinner Theatre Band. If you play electric or acoustic guitar, bass, drums, or accordion, you are encouraged to contact the St. James United Church office at 902 868 2791 to learn more about getting involved.

Vendors and crafters are also invited to participate in the upcoming Cove Community Market on April 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Herring Cove Community Centre, located at 30 Latter Pond Lane. This market continues to grow each year and provides a great opportunity for local artisans, small businesses, and entrepreneurs to showcase their products while connecting with neighbours. Anyone interested in reserving a table can contact Heather LeBlanc at HLeBlanc@hccommunity.ca for additional details.

Families are encouraged to mark their calendars for the Sambro Elementary Spring Fair on June 6 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 3725 Old Sambro Road. This annual event is the school's largest fundraiser

report proposed two interconnected microtransit zones around Sambro Loop, east and west, both linking to the South Centre Mall as a key connection point. Together, these zones would effectively restore loop connectivity in an area that lost conventional bus service in 2017. My focus is on securing a clear timeline and affordable funding pathway for Sambro Loop. Speaking of transit, there are also some service changes coming to Routes 24 and 9A/B next year to address both on-time performance and overloading. More information to come.

HRM's Environment and Climate Change team, in partnership with TransCoastal Adaptations and the Ecology Action Centre, has launched Living Lakeshores. This initiative aims to increase the resilience of freshwater shorelines while building community understanding of natural restoration approaches. Living Lakeshores promotes nature-based solutions that preserve water flow and sediment movement, enhance habitat and biodiversity, and reduce pollutants entering aquatic

environments. As climate change brings more frequent flooding, these approaches will be increasingly important. In District 11, Kidston Lake and Long Pond are included in the Lakeshore Naturalization Project. Cunard Pond will continue to be monitored following completion of the Williams Lake Dam project and may be considered in future years.

February was a long month for Budget Committee, with reviews of the 2026/27 capital and operating budgets and business plans from every municipal department. The budget is scheduled to be finalized in March. I'll share more details on what this means for District 11 in my next update.

Quick reminder to sign up for the Suburban Plan newsletter and get engaged in shaping the future of our communities. Find more information here: engagehalifax.ca/suburban-plan

Got a municipal issue or concern? Please email me at patty.cuttell@halifax.ca or call Michelle at (902)233-8364. It's a privilege being your Councillor.

Program continues to evolve and improve as it serves students across the province. After delivering more than 3.6 million lunches this year, the program is introducing new meal options and reusable packaging as part of ongoing enhancements. These improvements focus on meal quality, sustainability, and operational efficiency. By reducing waste and refining how meals are prepared and delivered, the program is strengthening its impact while ensuring students receive nutritious, reliable options during the school day.

Looking Ahead to the Provincial Budget

As we prepare for the upcoming provincial budget, I want Nova Scotians to know that every decision is being made with care and a clear understanding of the pressures families are facing. We are forecasting a deficit of more than \$1 billion. That is not a figure anyone takes lightly. However, as Premier Houston has stated, in tough times you defend people first. Many provinces and the federal government are facing similar fiscal realities, driven by rising costs, global uncertainty, and growing demand on public services.

This budget will continue to invest in Nova Scotians where it matters most, including health care, education, skilled trades, and community infrastructure. People expect strong public services and opportunities for their children, and we are committed to delivering both. At the same time, we recognize that our natural resources are central to our long-term path to prosperity. Nova Scotia has advantages that have not always been fully realized. We must now responsibly maximize those opportunities to grow our economy,

(See Maguire on page 8)

and promises a fun filled day with games, prizes, a barbecue, concessions, a petting zoo, inflatables, a bake walk, auction items, and much more. Community support makes a real difference for our local school, and anyone wishing to contribute or volunteer can reach out to sambrop-ta@gmail.com.

Strengthening Skilled Trades in Nova Scotia

Our province is taking important steps to strengthen skilled trades training and prepare more Nova Scotians for in-demand careers. The government has announced the creation of a new Institute of Skilled Trades at the Nova Scotia Community College. This initiative will modernize and enhance trades programming by bringing greater focus and coordination to training across the province. Over the next five years, \$25 million will be invested to upgrade equipment, improve classrooms and workshops, and ensure students and apprentices are learning on tools and technology that reflect today's workforce needs.

Skilled trades are essential to our economy. From construction and manufacturing to industrial and service trades, these careers offer strong wages, stability, and meaningful opportunities close to home. This investment reflects a long-term commitment to workforce development, economic growth, and helping young people and career changers access rewarding paths right here in Nova Scotia.

Improving the School Lunch Program

The Nova Scotia School Lunch

Premier's Message

by Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia



Premier Tim Houston

Nova Scotia Power (NSP) has announced there will be a new CEO taking over shortly.

While I wish the new CEO more success than his predecessors, I am concerned this announcement is less about real change and more about deflecting from a long-standing pattern of failure. Successive CEOs have been unable to deliver reliable, affordable power for Nova Scotians, all while collecting excessive amounts of personal data and then seemingly failing to adequately protect it.

Time will tell whether this CEO is prepared to break that cycle – or whether NSP will continue to

do what it has done for years: ask households for more at a time when many are already struggling.

This CEO transition will take place as the independent Nova Scotia Energy Board decides on Nova Scotia Power's most recent request for a rate increase.

The Board is essentially the judge and jury in this situation. They are a group of well-paid experts who are responsible for making these decisions. They make their own, independent decisions and do not take orders from the government. As Nova Scotians, we must live with their decision. If a government were to take the extraordinary step to overrule the regulator, it would risk creating chaos in the market. This is especially damaging at a time when we are working to generate good-paying jobs in Nova Scotia by pointing to a strong, stable regulatory regime.

This is why I have worked hard to show them evidence and make the case that the requested increase must be rejected.

My position has not changed: The Board should reject the requested power rate increase that they are currently considering.

On February 6, Nova Scotia Power filed its final arguments in this latest rate case, and the message is the same as always: the monopoly wants more. More staff. More capital. More profit. But the facts in the public record tell a very different story – one Nova Scotians deserve to hear.

First, NSP claims there's "no justification" for lowering its return on equity. That's simply not true. The Department of Energy's position is based on expert evidence from Dr. Sean Cleary and the simple fact that Nova Scotia Power has received large reductions in the risk it faces – from fuel costs to a new storm rider to financial assistance – yet still wants a nine per cent return. The Board is free to set a lower return on equity, and the record supports doing exactly that.

Second, NSP says it had "no reason" to update depreciation schedules for nearly a decade. Meanwhile, Federal and Provincial climate policies shifted dramatically. Coal regulations tightened. Transition timelines accelerated. New generating technologies became lower cost. Yet Nova Scotia Power kept using depreciation assumptions from 2010-2011. Their own 2020 Integrated Resource Plan referenced a 2040 coal phaseout – even though Federal regulations had already moved the country toward 2030. The facts suggest the utility's planning did not reflect either the policy reality or changing technology. It's worth noting that new technology

is becoming cheaper, which NSP is tracking but not acting on.

Third, Nova Scotia Power's filing ignores the biggest structural change in our grid: The rise of independent renewable power. Wind developers – not NSP – are financing and maintaining much of the new generation coming online. That means less capital burden on the monopoly. But you wouldn't know it from their rate application, which asks for more in every category of capital spending, increasing to more than \$700 million over a decade.

And while all this is happening, NSP is asking for more than 500 new, full-time positions in a single year – despite being a monopoly with no competitors; with no marketing needs; with wind power suppliers generating more of its energy; with Nova Scotia's Independent Energy System Operator taking over system operations, planning and procurement; and with significant IT functions outsourced or handled by its parent company.

The Board's decision in this rate case matters.

But our real opportunity does not lie in depending on a Board to protect us. The real opportunity is to create options and competition.

Mayor's Message

by Andy Fillmore, Mayor of Halifax Regional Municipality

Mayor Fillmore: As we build our municipal budget, we need to focus on the basics

Everything is more expensive now – and we're all feeling it. Water rates, power bills, groceries, fuel, childcare. It all adds up, and it's hitting household budgets hard. At City Hall, we're in the middle of building this year's budget. While doing that, we need to be clear-eyed on how our decisions impact your own household budget.

Right now, we're looking at a potential 10.9% increase on the average property tax bill. That's money out of your pocket – and if you rent your home, that increase shows up on your monthly rental bill. And this isn't a one-off. Unless we rein in our spending, your tax bill could increase by up to 10% in 2027, and 12% in both 2028 and 2029. For me, that is too high.

That's why I've been pushing for a leaner, more disciplined budget: a bare-bones plan that focuses on the basics. Things like roads, snow clearing, transit, emergency services – the core services you rely on every single day. It also means pressing pause on some of the things we'd like to do so we can afford the things we need to do.

I'm proposing targeted cuts to grants and contributions, implementing a hiring freeze on municipal bureaucracy, challenging projects with major cost overruns (like the Halifax Forum or the bike lane network),

Today, we are relying on a single, highcost provider at a time when global competitiveness depends on diversified, affordable energy. Other jurisdictions are attracting industry with flexible, distributed, multifuel systems. Nova Scotia is not.

This is why we need to continue to push our energy opportunities. We have worldclass wind and tides. We have natural gas resources under renewed study. We have Nova Scotian families and firms installing their own energy – heat pumps, solar, batteries and beyond. We have offshore potential.

Nova Scotia powered Canada once before. We can lead again – if we stop treating yesterday's monopoly as the only option for tomorrow's economy.

The question that belongs to all of us: whether we continue relying on a single utility whose business model depends on rising electricity rates, or whether we build a modern, diversified energy system that puts Nova Scotians first.

The facts are clear. The opportunity is real. And the future will belong to the jurisdictions that act – not the ones that wait.

Tim Houston

Premier of Nova Scotia

Supporting Your
Community

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WE CARE

and finding other ways we can generate revenue so we're not relying only on your tax dollars.

The goal to all of this is simple: reduce the tax burden without compromising essential services.

As Council continues its budget discussions, I want to hear from you. Your voice matters.

You can reach me anytime at mayor@halifax.ca.

Maguire

(continued from page 7)

create jobs, and generate sustainable revenue that supports public services.

Balancing compassion with fiscal discipline is essential. We need to invest in the present while preparing for the future, and we must manage spending carefully so that we do not place an unfair burden on the next generation. This budget reflects that balanced approach. It is about defending Nova Scotians during challenging times, strengthening our economic foundation, and ensuring our province remains on a responsible and sustainable path forward.

I am so proud to be your MLA
Brendan Maguire

9024440147

brendan@brendanmaguire.ca

Share your thoughts and
opinions with us:
chebuctoeditor@gmail.com

LOCAL OBITUARIES

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

Ronald James Snelgrove II (R.J.) February 17, 1996 - January 7, 2026

It is with broken hearts we announce the sudden passing of Ronald James (R.J.) Snelgrove II, on January 8, 2026. R.J. was fiercely protective of his family and friends and there was no difference in who he loved or blood, but his daughter, Bella, was who had the most of his heart, he loved and adored her dearly. His heart was tremendously huge for anyone that he considered his inner circle. R.J. lived life to the fullest and loved adrenaline and next the calm of a waterfall. He was extremely funny, spontaneous and the life of the party. R.J. maintained the same core group of friends who have laughed, helped and listened and we are forever grateful for Shannon, Todd, Stevie, Santana and Jasmine. R.J. was cherished by his parents and family, who loved him no matter what. He will be remembered by his mom for always saying "Hey Beautiful" to her. All of his family and friends were very important to him.

R.J. is survived by his beautiful daughter, Isabella "Bella" and her mother, Angelica, his mother, Sheila Hiles, his father, Ronald James Snelgrove (Michelle), brothers, Col-

ten Snelgrove, Carlos Hiles (Liz), Donald Verge (Felicia), and Darrell Knowles, and his sisters, Taneille Lawrence (Norman) and Melissa Melvin. He is also survived by his girlfriend, Natasha "Tasha" Cooper, his paternal grandmother, Margie Stone (Allan), maternal grandmother, Sylvia Livley, his aunts, Sarah Snelgrove, Anna Bottomley, and Joann Gilfillan and his uncle, Gordie Livley.

R.J. was predeceased by his brother, Gregory Hiles, his sister, Jessica Hiles, his paternal grandfather, Ronald Snelgrove, his maternal grandmother, Hilda Duffy, maternal grandfather, Edward Duffy, and his special friends, Brandon Hatcher and Taylor Sampson

R.J.'s time on earth was short but he left a lifetime of memories and laughs.

In memory of R.J., donations are being accepted to help his daughter, Isabella, and can be made at the event or by visiting the "Go Fund Me" that has been set up.

John "Johnny" William Walsh Johnny, 67, left this world peacefully on January 16th, 2026 surrounded by his loving family at the QEll Hospital.

Johnny spent many safe miles on the road for Seaboard Harmac Chemical Transportation where he worked for 25 years. His love for motors and the freedom of the highway always brought him back to his homestead on Mayor Avenue, where he could often be found enjoying music and the yard with family and friends.

Johnny was a devoted member, alongside his family to the Spryfield Legion where he even served as a member on the executive board. Johnny's love for the community touched many lives and he was well known as the Spryfield Cowboy.

Johnny leaves behind his loving wife Debbie (Kline) Walsh of 47 years. He was a pillar of strength and support for his family. Together they raised their beloved son Lee Walsh. In the years to follow they were blessed with two grandsons Colby John and the late Skyler William, whom Johnny absolutely treasured. He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather, always there to offer guidance, love and a hearty laugh. He cherished family gatherings and brought warmth and joy to those around him.

Johnny was the first born son to Carol (White) and the late William "Billy" Walsh. He is survived by his siblings Janet (Richard) Blackburn, Cheryl (Paul) Walsh and Robbie (Wendy) Walsh. As well as his life long friend and cousin Linda (Mark) Cassibo. He will be greatly missed by his in-law's Carlotta and

Ron Kline, along with many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

A special thank you to Heather Hallett, who has showed such immense support for Johnny and Debbie.

Shirley Maria Miller

December 5, 1932 – January 13, 2026

Shirley Miller passed away in Melville Heights on January 13, 2026 at the age of 93. She was born in West Pennant to loving parents, Lillian Irene and Joseph Carlton Gray. While attending St Patrick's High School in Halifax Shirley lived with her Aunt Marion where she developed her life-long connection with her cousin Mary (Mills) Trott.

Shirley worked as an accountant at the Children's Hospital in Halifax. Later she moved to Cornwall, Ontario where she worked for many years at the Freeholder newspaper as the ad manager. She married the love of her life, Harold Miller in Cornwall, where they both finished their working careers.

They retired and moved home to West Pennant where they both enjoyed good times spent with family and friends. Her nieces and nephews will always remember the excitement of the summer visits by Uncle Harold and Aunt Shirley and the drives to "town" to buy special gifts. Shirley dearly loved each and every one of her family members and referred to them as "her people". Shirley, you are deeply loved and will be forever remembered.

Shirley was predeceased by Harold and by her brothers, Melvin and Claude; sister, Madeline; and, her brothers-in-law, Don McGrath and Brenton Gray. After her sister Madeline passed away, Shirley took great care of Brenton. Madeline had told Shirley, "You'll be doing this after I'm gone". Shirley and Brenton were great friends and spent lots of time together. Brenton's family is forever grateful for the wonderful care Brenton received.

Shirley was also predeceased by her loving nephew, Joseph Gray. She adored Joe and missed him greatly. To the present time Shirley maintains a strong relationship with Joe's wife Maria Mulder.

Shirley is mourned by her sister, Margaret McGrath, sisters-in-law Linda Gray (nee Gilkie) and Patsy Gray (nee Snair); as well as two nieces and many nephews; many great nieces and nephews; as well as many great great nieces and nephews. Shirley is mourned by many cousins, including Ron Mills who, in later years, drove Shirley for groceries, appointments and other errands. Shirley is also mourned by family members from Harold's family especially granddaughter, Cheryl Miller-Myers (Gordon). Shirley is mourned as well by her special cousin, Mary Mills-Trott. Shirley

was attending school in Halifax and boarding with her Aunt Marion, when Mary was born. This was the beginning of a lifelong relationship of mutual love and caring. In later years Shirley turned to Mary for assistance with living her golden years. They were always there for one another and Mary will miss her greatly.

We can't think of Shirley without remembering how much she loved the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Blue Jays. She also loved a quick trip down to the Casino to play her favourite machines. At Christmas time, Shirley was known for making her special cherry pound cakes, which she shared with all the family.

Thank you to the staff of Melville Heights who took such good care of Shirley these last two years. Shirley often praised their kindness and helpfulness.

Nancy Lorena Marryatt

It is with love that we announce the peaceful passing of our mother and grandmother, Nancy Lorena Marryatt (Gray), on January 19, 2026, at the age of 85, following a short illness at the Halifax Infirmary. Born in Sambro, Nancy was the daughter of the late Austin and Gertrude (Findlay) Gray.

She worked for several years at Simpsons-Sears before starting her family in 1967. Nancy then became a devoted stay-at-home mother, dedicating her life to raising her children. She was a faithful member of St. James United Church, past UCW member and a former member of the Ladies Auxiliary for the Harrietsfield-Sambro Fire Department. Nancy had many pen pals around the world, personally handwriting letters for over 30 years. She lovingly knitted countless preemie hats and dolls for the IWK, as well as scarves and headbands for family and friends. She also enjoyed darts and card games with friends.

Nancy is survived by her children Crystal (Sam), Tessie (Mike), Myles, and Lee (Jason); grandchildren Austin (Gabby), Dale (Gillian), Connor, Jillian, and Paige; sisters-in-law Marg Gray and Joan Marryatt; many nieces and nephews; and special friends Eunice Laing and Karen Weaver. She was predeceased by her beloved husband Hugh, with whom she shared 48 years of marriage; her brothers Keith and Granville; sister-in-law Carol; and her cherished cat Charlie.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the doctors and nursing staff of 4.1 at the Halifax Infirmary for their compassionate care. Sincere thanks are also extended to Closing the Gap Healthcare and VON, whose support allowed mom to remain in her home over the past few years.

In lieu of flowers, donations in mom's memory may be made to St. (See Obituaries on page 10)



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OBITUARIES

(continued from page 9) James United Church, Sambro, the Sambro Imagination Library at the following link <https://bit.ly/3BymJii>, or a charity of choice.

Winnifred Irene (Parker) Prime born December 9, 1935, passed away peacefully at home on January 31, 2026, surrounded by the love of her family.

Winnifred is survived by her loving husband, Delbert Prime; her children, Cyril (Teresa), Cheryl (Donald DeYoung), Shawn (Melissa), and Kevin (Jai); as well as nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren who will lovingly remember her.

For most of her life, Winnifred was a devoted homemaker, although she also worked at Zellers, served as a hockey coach, and volunteered with the Heart & Stroke Foundation.

Winnifred was especially known for her kindness and nurturing nature. She cared for small children while her own were in school and faithfully looked after the lot rentals at the Spryfield Trailer Court for over 20 years. She also had a gift in the kitchen and was lovingly remembered for her homemade sweets—cakes, cookies, and pies—as well as her homemade white and brown bread and rolls, which brought comfort and joy to many.

Winnifred will be sadly missed and forever loved by her family.

James (Jim) Lawson

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our dad James (“Jim”) Lawson on January 19th, 2026, at the age of 87. Dad was born on June 3rd, 1938, in Sydney, Nova Scotia. He was a devoted father, grandfather (Papa) and friend who touched many lives with all whom he met.

Dad worked for Devco for 36 years at accounts payable and then moved on to work at accounts receivable.

Outside of work dad enjoyed his love of nature which included bird watching and all living things. Dad loved playing baseball in a local Sydney baseball league as well as a local Sydney bowling league. Dad excelled in bowling and was loved by all his teammates as one of the greatest bowlers.

Our dad taught us morals, good work ethics and how to have fun no matter

where we were. He spent a lot of time with his grandchildren Samantha and Sara Hatt. We all had many adventures together renting cottages, having BBQ’s and planning picnics at the beach. We traveled around Nova Scotia enjoying the beauty that was all around us.

Growing up, dad loved to take us fishing, camping and sitting around the campfire telling jokes. We ate

good food and had deep and meaningful conversations.

There wasn’t a person who walked by that dad did not talk with. Dad loved people and would greet them to find out where they were from. He would always compliment them on how they looked.

Dad is survived by his children Cherie (Arnold), Glen (Teresa); grandchildren Ashley, Samantha and Sara; older sister Betty; many nieces and nephews; as well as lifelong friends who were like family to him.

Jim’s family would like to express our deepest gratitude to the staff at Ivy Meadows Nursing Home for their exemplary care and support given to Jim and family during the latter days and hours of Jim’s life. Dad will be forever missed and always loved.

Kenneth Collins Barron “K.C” Keating

Age 45, of Harrietsfield.

With heavy hearts we announce the passing of K.C on January 30, 2026. A wonderful father, son and brother.

He will be greatly missed by his pride and joy Barron, 7, his amazing loving son. He is survived by his mother, Darlene Kelly (Johnny); father, Kenneth Keating (Lynn); his older brother, Neal; his younger sister, Rebalyn (Ryan); stepbrothers, John (Kelly), Jamie (Amanda); nephew, Morgan, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins and families.

K.C was predeceased by maternal grandparents, Edna Kelly and Darrell Kelly; and paternal grandparents, Collins (Collie) and Vera Keating (Greencorn); and Uncle, John Barron (Duzzie).

Growing up in Harrietsfield, K.C was well known to his friends as Snay. K.C enjoyed playing ball with his brother Neal for the Yahoo’s and other teams over the years. K.C was in the process of taking a Truck Driving Course which gave him great pride. Barron was so excited about his daddy driving the big trucks. He was a courier for many companies ATS, MedExpress, All Points, and many other jobs over the years. K.C enjoyed the Pittsburgh Penguins. Playing ball since he was little with his brother Neal and playing in all the ball games in the years together. K.C loved taking Barron to his baseball games, especially when he got called up with the older kids to play.

His favourite shows were The Family Guy, Mr. Bean, Married with Children, Garfield, etc. K. C’s most precious times were spent with his very loved, special son, Barron, getting snuggles while watching their favourite shows together. Barron meant the world to K.C and always will. He will live on in Barron.

K.C will leave a very giant void in our lives with his loud, infectious

laugh that would light up the whole room. You could always hear K.C before seeing him.

Cecil Edward Caines

of Halifax, Nova Scotia, passed away peacefully on January 27, 2026, surrounded by his family.

Cecil was a devoted and loving husband to Doreen for 65 years, and a proud and caring father to Brian, Eric and Suzanne (Jeffrey Simpson). He was a cherished grandfather to Justine, Anna Marie and William, and a great-grandfather to Logan. He will also be fondly remembered by his many nieces and nephews, in-laws Donna and John Bently, extended family and friends. He was predeceased by his beloved son, Eric.

Cecil spent many of his early years on the Halifax Commons, where he developed his love of sports as an avid baseball player and track and field runner. Throughout his life, he remained active and en-

thusiastic about sports, also enjoying hockey, basketball, golf and boating. He enjoyed the many trips across North America and around the world he was blessed to have taken over the years.

His career began with CN Rail in Halifax, which led to a promotion and time spent living in Montreal. After returning to Halifax, he worked for Libby’s as a food salesman before pursuing his entrepreneurial spirit and opening a hardware store, Centennial Hardware, on Herring Cove Road, which he operated for 12 years. During that time, Cecil studied nights and weekends to become a stockbroker. He went on to work with Qualico Securities for several years before establishing his own property and development company, Cemanco Properties, which he ran proudly alongside his son Eric for 25 years.

Cecil will be dearly missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew him.

SageWell comes to Sambro

By Lorrie Boylen

For over 30 years, the Halifax based non-profit SageWell Association has helped adults over 55 stay active and engaged through social, recreational, educational, and food support programs.

Formerly known as Chebucto Links Senior Support Association, SageWell developed from a small, neighbourhood-based initiative into a recognized community hub. Its programs are designed to reduce isolation, promote wellness, and help older adults maintain independence and a strong sense of belonging.

In 2024, SageWell identified a growing need for consistent, accessible programming for older adults living in rural communities. Transportation challenges limit local services, and geographic isolation can make it difficult for seniors to participate in programs that support social connection and well-being.

In response, SageWell stepped up and is expanding its outreach beyond the urban core to ensure rural seniors are not left behind.

Drop-in programs are now offered in the basement of St. James United Church in Sambro every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Participants enjoy board games, cards, coffee, conversation, bingo, and trivia. As additional funding is secured, more activities will be offered.

Registration is not required, and attendees can come and go as they please, making the program welcoming and accessible for older adults with varying schedules and

needs. Attendance is currently free of charge, but starting in April, a nominal \$2 fee will be charged.

A selection of frozen meals is available for adults 55+ to preorder each week, either online or through Trisha on Thursdays.

SageWell is led by Executive Director Kathleen Reid. Her people-first leadership led to the expansion of both in-person and virtual programming, placing a strong emphasis on inclusion, accessibility, and rural outreach.

Program Coordinator Trisha Gray, a Sambro native with over 15 years of experience in the health care field, provides program support. Trisha’s work is grounded in a strong commitment to dignity, wellness, and community connection. She plays a central role in coordinating SageWell’s programs, welcoming new participants, and ensuring services remain responsive to the needs of older adults.

As a non-profit, SageWell relies on community donations, grants, and local support to sustain programming and support future expansion. If you or your business would like to support the program, secure donations can be made through www.sagewellns.ca/donate.

For more information on programs, go to <https://www.chebucto-links.ca>

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

Be a part of your community newspaper. Send us your comments and/or ideas. Email the editor at: chebuctoeditor@gmail.com

The Jason Doherty Memorial COMMUNITY EVENTS PAGE



MARCH

Food Banks:

- St. Paul's Family Resource Institute (173 Old Sambro Rd). Food Bank clients call the Food Bank line, 902-477-5090, on Tuesday and leave a message. Those messages are answered on Tuesday and then the food orders are filled with pickup on Wed. between 9 am and 10 am
- Chebucto Family Centre (3 Sylvia Ave) has an Emergency Food Cupboard which can be accessed every two weeks.
- Emmanuel Food Bank: (322 Herring Cove Rd). If you would like help with food, please call 902-477-1954 before 10 am Tuesday 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 - All Memorial pool tournaments are open to members of any legion along with family members of the person being memorialized.

Harrietsfield Williamswood Community Centre events:

- Currently taking bookings. Please call, email or message us through our Facebook page, phone at (902) 446-4847, or email hwcc@outlook.com
 - Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Easter egg hunt, cookie decoration, easter temporary tattoos and the Easter Bunny! Saturday March 28th (rain date Sunday march 29th) 10am and 11 am
- Please email hwcc@outlook.com or FB message to register today!
- Mobile Food Market *free produce to community members! Tuesday March 10th & 24th 1pm-3pm
 - Our "Community Votes" Gold winning After school program has part time and full time spots available! Grades Pre-primary to six! Contact Cara at hwcc@outlook.com
 - We are looking for new volunteer Board Members to join our team! Do you care about your community and want to make a

difference? No experience needed- just a big heart and willingness to help!

Emmanuel Anglican Church (322 Herring Cove Road) events:

- Our hall is available for rental. Please call 902-477-1783 or go to <http://emmanuelanglicanchurch.net/>

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

- Seniors Social Tea. Join us for refreshments, snacks, and friendly conversation in the Stella Maris Hall. The second Wednesday each month, 1-3pm. All are welcome. More info: david.h@stellamarishalifax.com

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

- Please contact St. Paul's directly for up-to-date information on water availability. The outdoor tap is now off for the winter months.

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

Dinner Theatre 2026, "The Haunting on Sambro Island" Featuring a 3-Course Lobster Dinner, an Original and Entertaining Show, and lots of Great Music. Price \$50.00. Dates: April 24, 25, May 1, 2 at 6:30 PM and April 26, 4:30 PM. Auction Items available at each performance. Tickets go on sale March 8th at <https://tinyurl.com/sambro2026>

For more information call St. James United Church, Sambro at 902-868-2791

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' Convenience Store 179 Heb-

ridean Dr. Herring Cove Road, Cove Market 565 Herring Cove Road, Uncle Buck's 5 Denith Road, Beaver Enviro 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

- Our UFMSS is looking forward to sharing a huge "milestone" with our members, volunteers and everyone in our community in 2026. On April 18th, 2 - 4 pm, we will be celebrating the 30th. Birthday of our Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield at the Capt. Wm. Spry Community Centre. Please join us for memories, birthday cake and reconnecting with past members and volunteers.

- 2026 Memberships are now available - Individuals \$15.00, Students & Seniors \$10.00, Families \$20.00, Groups & Organizations \$55.00. For more information, please call Pat at 902-497-3683 or email urbanfarmspryfield@gmail.com
- Annual General Meeting - March 16th. 7-8pm. Everyone welcome!

The 30th Birthday of our UFMSS will be held on Saturday, September 19th 2-4pm as part of our Harvest Fair/School Farm Day event. Come enjoy the Barnyard Bunch of farm animals, games, contests, harvest food, entertainment, bubbles and a huge birthday cake! Students, seniors, families, past and present members, volunteers and everyone in our community is welcome to this special event at our urban farm located across from Kidston Estates. Rainedate - Sunday, September 20th.

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 Morriscey 902-229-5851

Board Members needed for Hand in Hand Thrift Store: Currently, we are seeking volunteers to serve on the new Board of Hand in Hand Located at 440 Herring Cove Rd, Spryfield, Halifax. Hand in Hand Thrift Store has long been a valued part of the Special Works of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Halifax Particular Council.

For the last 30 years plus, Hand in Hand has been providing clothing and household products to our neighbours in need. It also provides employment and volunteer opportunities. Funds raised support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Much more than just a retail outlet, it is a safe haven and meeting place for the community. Service would involve approximately 6-8 meetings annually. The focus of the new board will be to provide direction and a renewed vision.

Please consider contributing your time and talents to this very worthwhile cause. This is a great way to provide meaningful service to your community. Thank you for your consideration.

Contact: Ray Burke: Society of St. Vincent de Paul-Halifax Particular Council President at: 902-646-0155 or rh-burke.54@gmail.com

Herring Cove Community Centre Event: Join several local audiologists as they answer your questions on hearing loss, learn about the latest technology options including cochlear implants, get communication tips and where you can obtain services and funding support. This free event is on Saturday April 11th 1-2pm at the Community Centre, 30 Latter Pond Lane in Herring Cove.

Family and friends welcome! For more information contact: Uta Stewart at uta.stewart@medel.com

Indoor Flea Market, sponsored by the Jamaican Cultural Association of Nova Scotia, will take place on Saturday, May 16th from 9am to 3pm at Emmanuel Anglican Church, 322 Herring Cove Rd. To donate items or for more information, please go to jcans.ca

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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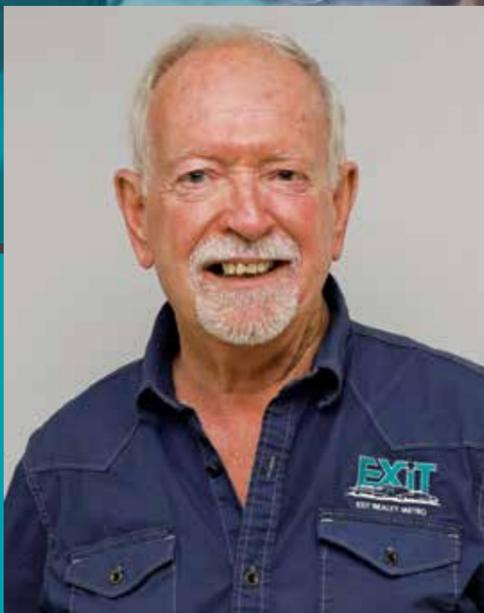
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