

## PHOTO FEATURE

The sap was running so Lawrence Nicoll took a drive out to Davison's Pancake House and Maple products shop. They are open Friday to Sunday, and to participate in one of his early spring ventures, he decided it was time to "dig in" and enjoy their great food. (Lawrence R. Nicoll photos)



Drive up by the well weathered barn and you'll find Davison's Pancake House.



Graham Atkinson takes care of the activity selling lots of maple products and helps out wherever he can.



Bring your appetite with you, when you drive out to Davison's.



A lot of stainless steel equipment is required to reduce sap to high quality maple syrup and other products.

## Rushton Nominated for PCs in Cumberland South

By Maurice Rees

On March 3, 2018 Tory Rushton was elected on first ballot to represent Progressive Conservative Party in Cumberland South in the upcoming by-election. Rushton is a production manager at Oxford Frozen Foods; a Red Seal electrician and has 20 years' experience with the Oxford Fire Department, the last 12 years as Fire Chief. He and his wife, Tracy, live in Oxford with their three children.

"I'm grateful to the Tories

in Cumberland South for putting their faith in me to be their representative," says Rushton. "I want to thank the other candidates who put their name on the ballot and I look forward to working with each of them in the coming weeks. We have a great association here in Cumberland South and a strong Tory team."

The by-election date for Cumberland South has not yet been announced, however many speculate an early or mid-June trip to the polls.

# Letters to the editor

*This is an open forum for your opinions and comments.*

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*(The following is a copy of a letter recently sent by Bill Casey, MP to Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal for Nova Scotia, Hon. Lloyd Hines requesting immediate attention for signage for Joggins).*

**Dear Minister Hines:**

Thank you very much for your follow-up to my inquiries about the Nappan River Bridge. I appreciate your attention to this challenge.

Another concern has come up as a direct result of the bridge closure. Tourism operators in the Joggins, River Hebert, Advocate and Parrsboro areas are concerned that the signage along the detour is not as strong as it is on the main route, and as a result, they may experience a downturn in tourism this coming season. That sounds like a problem that can be rapidly attended to without any major engineering studies.

Last year this region had a significant increase in tourism and

they are concerned that they may lose their momentum. Tourism provides many jobs and is an important component of the economy of these communities. Because of the detour around the closed Nappan River Bridge there is zero signage for the areas attractions along the detour route. It is critical that signage be provided to ensure people can find these communities and world class attractions like the Joggins Fossil Center and the Fundy Geological Museum in Parrsboro. The Joggins Fossil Cliffs zone is a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site and there is currently no signage to direct visitors to the area.

It might be helpful to arrange a meeting with tourism operators to determine the best way to address this situation. I'm happy to facilitate or host if that is helpful.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if my office can be of assistance.

Thank you  
Bill Casey, MP

## Parrsboro Hall will be Busy in 2018

The Parrsboro Band Association held its AGM on February 21st with Lori Lynch, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, opening the meeting, extending a welcome and providing examples of 2017 successes due primarily to the efforts of many volunteers. Even though the board has been very successful, there are a few openings for those who like to volunteer with a highly successful community group. If becoming a board member is your desire contact Lori, Johannes or Trish.

After Treasurer, Johannes Hiesberger, presented the financial statements and answered questions reports were heard from the following committees: Film, Film Festival, Facilities, Communications, Membership, Music and Divas/events, Concert Committee, Band Day and Bernie Burke Memorial Golf Tournament.

Questions from the floor inquired as to the plans for 2018 and what the board hoped to achieve. The strategic plan had recently been completed with the board discussing for final approval. The plan is available by visiting the website, then going to this link: [https://1drv.ms/w/s!AsjwkUQwa4lrhRyD-X-GPa\\_150](https://1drv.ms/w/s!AsjwkUQwa4lrhRyD-X-GPa_150)

Plans anticipated for 2018 include: Website - continue to improve functionality; Cultural Campus - form a committee to focus on the marketing & promotion of the workshops scheduled for 2018; planning ahead for 2019; Youth programming - Investigate methods to increase youth involvement in The Hall and solicit involvement by members in individual events or projects

Other initiatives will include: promote the concert series to encourage greater attendance; continue "Concerts in the Park" summer Sunday evening series; promote use of The Hall by outside agencies for community presentations and build on the outstanding success of the Film Festival by expanding promotion of the event.

Not to be forgotten will be: market The Hall with the use of media, social media and event notifications by email; host Open Mics with the exception of the summer months; continue all current programming and events including Concert Series, Band Day, Band and Choir concerts, Concerts in the Park, Oktoberfest, Films, 5th Wednesday Illustrated Talks, St. Patrick's Day Kitchen Party, Parrsboro Film Festival and Bernie Burke Memorial Golf Tournament, Plant/Bake Sale and music lessons.

The board want to ensure continued success so it will get involved in growing the board and doing some succession planning; partner again with Classics by the Bay by providing assistance where possible and determine building requirements and application process to explore a year round liquor license.

Fund-raising has been important in recent successes and will continue with: county funding applications; apply to the Municipality to continue Tax relief; apply for grants with JCP and New Horizons for Seniors; continue current fund-raising to support continued operations, but investigate other fund-raising initiatives. The board will investigate possible funding from JCP for administrative support: part time administrator and/or individual to archive existing historic music, possibly scanning for electronic preservation etc.

(said individual could be utilized as part time point of contact on site, administrative support etc).

Renovations, depending on successful applications will

include: Bell Tower restoration; LED spot Lights on Bell Tower; maintain external appearance; replace clapboards as needed - Bell Tower this year; enhance curb appeal with flags, flowers, banners, lights; permanent Sign at the bottom of King Street; replace two windows in Main Hall for air flow and art Hangers in Hall before June, 2018.

## Thank you to Mary McPhee

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friend. But we know you will continue to do amazing things."

In an earlier issue, South Cumberland News published a letter to the editor in which he complimented Mary on the work she did at FORCE, and also to let the public know of her situation, and situations she was facing.

When I contacted Mary to see if she could supply a photo from the event, she provided a totally different version. Her opening comments were, "I want to thank you for publishing the letter by Darren Porter as a number of friends and acquaintances in the community only learned of the issues upon reading the issue. I received a lot of feedback and many people reached out to check in on me, after the issue went to print. She indicated how she learned about the upcoming appreciation event and emailed the following remarks to the South Cumberland News:

"A luncheon that FORCE held in my apparent honour, which none of my family, nor my partner were invited to was held January 8. Members of the community committee encouraged my partner to attend. In fact, they had blocked me from my email

access, and so I didn't know the exact date or time of the luncheon so the community committee members are really the only reason I knew where to go, and when.

Rob (her partner) also attended the luncheon and it was there where Matt Lumley approached him, and rebuked him for supporting me and appreciating/supporting Darren's comments, which in turn supported and appreciated me.

Rob was also told "whatever Mary tells you, just remember there's two sides to the story" and witnessed by another FORCE colleague, Matt was defensive, accused Rob of "attacking FORCE" by liking Darren's post of Facebook (which spoke of my departure). We're both very much stalked on Facebook whenever we like anything Darren posts, and they are very interested to see what we post (which is not much) but I want nothing to do with it.

*(Editor's concluding remarks: As you have just read, there are two opposing versions to the appreciation luncheon. We believe our readers and community residents always need to know the full story. Without making comment one way or the other, I chose to reprint, in their entirety, both sides of the story).*

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