



Approximately 60 old and new family/friends came together July 1st at "Smith day on the bay" reunion in Bass River. On a beautiful sunny day, old memories were shared and new ones were made. The night ended with a bonfire and fireworks show over the bay. The above photo was taken with a drone. (Stephen Harris Photo)

PHOTO FEATURE

The Annual Chiganois Talent Show was held Friday, May 25th. (Harrington Photos)



Singing the Unicorn song. Shaelyn Little, Maddie Chaisson, Quinn Faber and Violet Hadley.



Rappers Kenny Bowers & Carter Myatt.



Dominick Roode was one of two artists who completed artwork during the show.



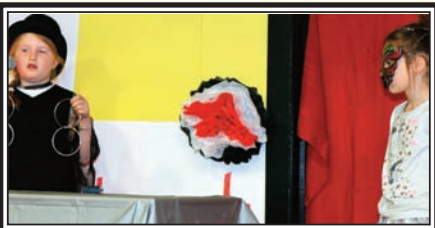
Rappers Libbie-Mae Shaw, Allie Rant and Scarlett Michelin.



Scarlette O'Brien, Jacqueline Upham and Sarah McSwain did a great job on their song.



Rappers Cooper Blackie, Spencer McGee and Keegan Johnson.



Magician Kelly O'Brien and her assistant Violet Moniz-Gratto performed some magic tricks.



Alex McCully was busy displaying her artistic talents during the Talent Show.



Cayden Cavanagh and Wyatt Rogers had the break dancing moves!



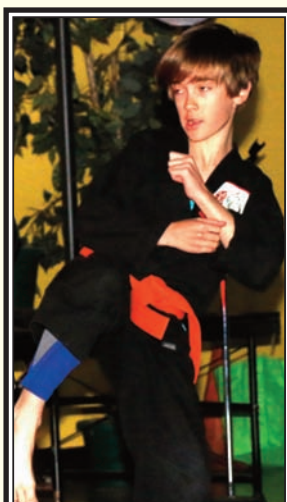
Isabella Taylor performed a fantastic musical theatre number.



Jonah Shannon performing on stage at the Chiganois Talent Show.



Howard Brogan had some funny jokes to share with the audience.



Nathan Sangster performing a wonderful martial arts demonstration.

Bus Tour Picnic – August 19th

By Harriet McCready

When trains were still operating between Springhill and Parrsboro, once a year for decades, all the miners and their families would board a passenger train in Springhill and spend the day in Parrsboro. Now 60 years since trains stopped running, it will be an historic bus tour, on August 19th, carrying passengers as close as possible to the former rail line.

Along the way, volunteer historians Ed Gilbert, Ken Henwood and Kerwin Davison, who collectively have about 240 years of story-telling expertise, will bring to life the facts and the funnies of the days of rail. Passengers will be picked up at the Springhill Seniors Centre at 1:00 PM and returned at 6:00 PM after a delicious picnic lunch at Ottawa House By-The-Sea.

Other features of the season include a Sunday Series Talk on August 12th by Ken Henwood of the Springhill Miners Museum and displays of model trains at Ottawa House. Authentic-sounding train whistles, engineers' caps, and other items will be available for purchase throughout the summer.

Springhill coal and the railway that carried it to Parrsboro were of great economic benefit to the area and forged a strong social link between the towns.

The railway was built to transport the coal and in 1877, the first year of operation, 900 ships left Parrsboro with Springhill coal bound for ports in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and along the Eastern Seaboard, fueling industry and heating homes.

For more than 80 years, until its last run on June 14th, 1958, the coal trains of the Springhill and Parrsboro Railway whistled and rattled and roared past forest, fields and farms to the vessels waiting at the Parrsboro Wharf. They also carried lumber, freight, mail, passengers and limestone.

Tickets for the Miners' Bus Tour and Picnic are \$20.00 (picnic

alone is \$10.00), and must be purchased in advance - available at the Isabel Simpson Heritage Centre in Springhill or call 902-597-8044 or 902-254-2376.

For further information on any of the seasons events, find the Ottawa House By-The-Sea Museum on Facebook, check the website at www.ottawahousemuseum.com, call 902-254-2376.



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