

# OBITUARIES

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**ATKINS**, James "Paul" - age 70, passed away at home on January 13, 2024, after a long battle with cancer. Predeceased by parents, Margery and Walter Atkins; daughter, Paula; brothers, Joe and Pete and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. Paul is survived by his wife, Linda; his daughter, Amber; his granddaughter; stepchildren, Stephen and Tracy, sister, Diane; nieces, Nancy, Michelle, Patricia and Christina; brother, Bernie and sisters, Marjorie and Jeannie. Paul spent his entire work life with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers for 52 yrs. He loved to hunt, fish, tie flies, work on antique cars and Nascar Racing. Special thanks to all of the people that took care of Paul at the Colchester East Hants Health Centre in Truro, the VON nurses and Earth Angels. Also, to all that visited him - he truly enjoyed those visits. If desired, donations in Paul's memory may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society. If you are able, plant an oak tree to honour Paul. A graveside service will be held at a later date.

**LEIGHTS**, William Joseph "Jobie" - Age 79, Crossroads / Upper Stewiacke, passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends on January 13, 2024. He was the son of the late Albert and Charlotte (Savoury) Leights. Wm. Jobie is survived by his wife, Faye (Walker); children, Darren (Natasha), Brian (Rhonda), Timothy (Tracey) and Kevin (Jennifer); grandchildren, Sarah, Amanda, Ashleigh, Brady, Danielle (Matthew), Morgan (Grant), Danae, Maren, Gunnar, Emeril, Wade and Nara; siblings, Onslow (Roberta), Charles (Maryanne) and Mary; as well as many nieces, nephews and honorary grandchildren. He was predeceased by brothers, John and Arthur and sister, Ada. Jobie retired from the Canadian Forces Ammunition Depot, Bedford after 32 years of service. He was an avid outdoorsman, who loved fishing, hunting and spending hours in his garden. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Kidney Foundation Canada. Cremation has taken place. A celebration of life was held January 28<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St. Truro, NS. Minister Marty Clark-Ettinger officiating. Online condolences at [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com).

**RUSHTON**, Terrence James Patrick "Pat" - With profound sadness we announce the passing of Terrence James Patrick "Pat" Rushton, at the age of 40 years. The only son, and baby of the family of Debbie and the late Terry Rushton. Our most beloved son, brother, family member and friend passed away after a courageous battle with cancer on Sunday, January 14, 2024, surrounded by his family. He passed as he lived, on his own terms. Those who knew Patrick, even a little, lost a shining light in their lives. Patrick lived life large and he could be found at local ball fields, hockey rinks, golf courses, disc golf courses, snowboarding and at one point in his life, the wrestling ring (T.J. Bricks). A music lover and performer, he let out alot of his emotions through writing and performing his Rap music (HIGH JINKS). He was a long-term employee of The TDL Group and was willing to travel to other provinces when help was needed. Along with his mother, he is survived by sisters, Tammy (Alfred) Grue, Becky (Shaun) Eagles; his beloved nephews who were like his brothers, Aaron (Stevie) and Bryan (Allie) and niece, Josie; aunts, uncles, many cousins and his best bud, Dewie. The family would like to thank the Palliative care team, Dr. Shivakumar, the nurses and staff of 8A for the wonderful care given to Pat, also to the nurses and staff at Colchester East Hants Health Centre's MDU and Oncology for their compassion and support. A very special thank you to Dr. Don Rowe, who did everything in his power to make Pat as comfortable as possible and make his last wishes happen. We will always be in awe of such an amazing man. Donations in Pat's memory may be made to Canadian Blood Services. There will be a celebration of life on January 21<sup>st</sup> from 4-8pm in the Debert Legion, Debert, with a brief memorial service at 5pm.

**SIMPSON**, William Isaac "Bill" - Age 77, Debert. It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved father and grandfather, William "Bill" Isaac Simpson, Masstown on Monday, January 15, 2024, in the Palliative Care Unit of the Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Bill was born on June 6, 1946. Bill is survived by his children, Darren (at home), Marie (at home) and Marilyn (Donnie), Hartland, NB; grandchildren, Krista, Kelsey (Matt), Stephen, Nathan (Amy) and great grandson, Lincoln; siblings, Merna Pope (Surrey, BC), Lee (Barb), Great Village, Maynard (Janice), Debert, Anne (Gerry) Barkhouse, Lower Debert and Dale (Juanita), Debert and their families; brothers-in-law, Dave (Dot) Barley, Gary (Janet) and Reggie and families, also many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife of 53 years, Doreen (Barley); his parents, Wesley Robert and Hattie Cecelia (Scott) Simpson; brothers, Gerry and Robert (Sonny) Simpson and brother-in-law, Doug Barley. Bill worked many jobs during his life at Vipond Sprinklers, Farmers Dairy, Scotsburn Dairy and Commercial Safety College, also doing electrical work for his brother. He was liked by all who knew him and will be missed. One of his greatest pleasures was his music. He enjoyed playing the guitar and singing with the Barley Boys Band for years and many other musical groups. He enjoyed county bluegrass and rock and roll. His favourite song was, "Kentucky" by the Osborne Brothers. A special thank you to Dr. Henderson, Dr. Smith, all the VON caregivers and the Palliative Care Team for their exceptional care and support. Also, a special thanks to Walter Langille and Gerry Dykens for all their help and support during this time. Cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm in Royal Canadian Legion - Debert. Interment will take place in Masstown Cemetery in the Spring. Arrangements entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com).

**RUSHTON**, Linda Faye - January 12, 1948 - January 17, 2024. It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of our loving and beautiful mother, Linda Faye Rushton. She left this world peacefully in her sleep at home on January 17, 2024. Linda was the daughter of the late Donald and Laura "Peg" Turner of East Mines. In addition to her parents, Linda was predeceased by her first husband, Ted Rushton; common-law partner, David Fisher and brother, Donald Turner Jr. Lynn is remembered by her loving children, Angela and Terry; granddaughters, Kate (Kyle) and Brittany; great grandsons, Liam and Lennox; brother, Ralph (Janice); many cousins, nieces and nephews. Mom was a beacon of strength and kindness, always putting her children first. She brought immense joy and warmth into the lives of those who were fortunate enough to know her. Mom could always be found with a smile on her face. She spent many years working as an amazing cook, including cooking for a year on Sable Island. It gave her great joy taking in many stray cats, fishing on Bass River and spending lots of time with her wonderful family. We would like to send out a special thank you to the Palliative Care Team, Angela, Mary, Dr. Courtney Smith and her favorite VON, Thomas, for your exceptional compassion and kindness and making these past three and a half months as comfortable as possible for her. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to any animal shelter. In keeping with Linda's wishes, there will be no funeral service. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro. Online condolences may be made by visiting [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com)

**CORKUM**, Willie E. of Truro passed away in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro on January 16, 2024. He was born May 2, 1948, to the late Lawson and Ivy Corkum (Kaulback) of Petite Riviere. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his stepfather, Ivan Crawford, Wentworth; brother, Alton Corkum, of Manitoba; sisters, Joyce Emery, Halifax, and Ruby Oickle, Bridgewater; nephew, Robert Roy, of Calgary; nieces, Judy Oickle and Nancy Oickle, both of Bridgewater; brothers-in-law, Gary Roy, Vogler's Cove, Robert Oickle, Bridgewater and Leo MacKenzie, Nuttby. Left to mourn his loss are his spouse, Ruthann Mason, East Mountain; daughter, Denise (Danny) Penney, Barss Corner; son, Nicholas (Nicole) Corkum, Debert; sisters, Bev (Frank) Organ, Lower Onslow and Reta Roy, Bridgewater; grandchildren, Eva Corkum and Alex Corkum of Debert; stepsons, Taylor (Kiersten Hackett) Richardson, Halifax and Torre (Vanessa) Richardson, Gay's River; nephews, Brandy (Sara) MacKenzie of Halifax and Mitchell (Anna) Carroll, Hilden and his buddy and companion, Cooper (the dog), who never left his side. Wherever Willie went, Cooper was there too. Willie loved and adored his grandchildren, Eva and Alex, and he was a very proud "Grampa Willie". He was a good storyteller and we all enjoyed his hilarious tales of the old days and his memory was perfect with all the details that we all forgot. Willie was an electrician and worked in many places including Fort McMurray, Alberta, and Kenora, Ontario. In later years, during his semi-retirement, he was always pleased to assist friends and family and was always on call. His family will miss his experience in being able to fix/build anything. He had many good friends from childhood that he enjoyed reminiscing with about the old days. The family would like to thank the amazing staff of nurses and doctors that cared for Willie during his stay in Colchester East Hants Health Centre. We could not have asked for better attention to his care. Donations in Willie's memory may be made to the Truro Housing Outreach Society or charity of choice. A private family service will be held at a later date.

**SANDESON**, Clifford Richard - Green Creek, N.S., passed away on January 19, 2024. He was the son of Ethel (Paul) and Robert Glennie Sandeson. He lived most of his life in Green Creek where, when young, he loved to hunt, fish and walk in the forest surrounding his home. After building a home and moving to the family property in 1977, he continued to enjoy long walks in the forest and spent many hours grooming the yard and gardening. He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Bernice (VanTassel); sister, Bonnie Lee; brother-in-law, Michael DeCoste and nephew, Robert DeCoste. He is also survived by many cousins. Cliff graduated from South Colchester High School in Brookfield, Nova Scotia Teacher's College and Acadia University. He was a teacher for 35 years and always enjoyed the company of his many students. He liked to think that they brought the best out in him and hoped that he brought the best out in them. Cliff also enjoyed sharing his photography. He was a member of Image Makers Photography Club in Truro. This was the perfect place to share his photography for more than 40 years but more importantly, it was a place to learn from the many other talented members. Cliff and family wish to thank the palliative care team of doctors David Henderson and Courtney Smith, nurses Cheryl and Angela and the staff of the palliative care unit at Colchester East Hants Health Centre and the VON. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow Street, Truro where a reception for friends and family was held January 24 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Interment will take place in Green Creek Cemetery the following day at 11a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations in Cliff's memory may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society, Annapolis Historic Gardens or to a charity of your choice. Condolences to the family may be made by visiting: [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com)

**POWELL**, Carol Ann - With deep sadness and a gratitude for what she brought to our lives, we announce the passing of Carol Ann Powell, 79, on January 20, 2024, in Truro. Carol was the daughter of the late Dorothy Halliday and James McLellan. She is survived by her husband, Ted; her sons, Roy (sons, Cody and Kurtis), Greg (Deanna) and Dan (Anna) as well as by her sisters, Debbie and Lynda; brother, Randy and her McLellan half-siblings, "JJ" and especially by her treasured grandchildren, Nora, Hazel, Charlie and Libby, the lights of her life. Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her sister, Laura Lee. As a very young single mother, Carol had to work hard - and she never stopped. Moving to Montreal, Carol worked as a nanny, at Laurentian Lanes and AC Leslie. She had to move back to Truro following the deaths of her parents to help look after her four young siblings. Working during the day and taking bookkeeping courses at night, Carol worked as a bookkeeper at several Truro businesses including HR Doane, Zellers and KFC. After meeting Ted, they moved to Winnipeg where she joined the property management company, A. Akman and Sons, eventually earning her real estate licence and handling property management and condo sales. Moving back to Truro in 2003, Carol supervised the building of her new home in Manganese Mines and continued her passion for yard sales, now abetted by Debbie and Deanna, leaving early in the morning to get the best deals and then taking her treasures to sell at her "shop" at the New Glasgow Flea Market, regardless of the weather, where she was helped greatly by Debbie and Lynda and her friend, Doug. Carol was a member and volunteer with the Bible Hill Garden Club and was also Treasurer at the Food Bank for two years and more recently, volunteered at the Colchester Hospital Gift Shop. Donations in Carol's memory may be given to the Colchester SPCA or to the Colchester East Hants Hospital Foundation. Many thanks to the VKFB volunteers, paramedics and hospital Trauma Centre staff who assisted Carol. Cremation has taken place. A celebration of life and interment in Crossroads Cemetery, Valley, will take place at a later date. Tributes and memories of Carol may be left at [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com).

## Carbon-Free Colchester Implementation Showing Success

By Paul Smith

The following is an overview of activities in the Community Development Department since April 2023 as presented to Council committee on September 15th by Paul Smith, Director of Community Development. The report will be separated into several separate articles and scattered throughout this issue. This segment deals with the implementation of the Carbon-Free Colchester program.

### EV Charging Stations:

The final two EV charging sites are being installed this September/October in Debert and at the Courthouse. The chargers at the Tatamagouche library have been installed but are waiting for Nova Scotia Power for activation.

### Solar PV on Municipal & Community Buildings:

Council awarded the contract for 765 kW of solar PV to be installed by Solar Ascent over the next three years at the Tatamagouche Library, the Central Colchester Wastewater Facility, the West Colchester United Arena, and the North

Shore Recreation Centre. Phase 1 of the project will take place this fall and involves installing 25kW at the Tatamagouche Library.

Staff are preparing a Request for Proposals for third-party project management services for Phases 2 and 3, involving the installation of 500kW at the wastewater treatment plant and 120kW at each arena. The project will benefit from \$1.4 million in funding from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), a joint program by the federal government and province of Nova Scotia. Staff will request permission from ICIP in the coming weeks to make a public announcement about the funding and project.

### Climate Crew:

The Colchester Climate Crew program ran from September 2022 to May 2023 and culminated with the student-led Soil Health and DYTerrarium event at the Truro Library. The purpose of the Climate Crew was to educate and empower students while building awareness about climate

change. Eight high school students participated, ranging from ages 15-18 years old. Staff will provide a full update and program evaluation to Council later this month.

### Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund:

The Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund is a provincially funded program to support municipalities, First Nations, and non-profit organizations "to reduce or remove greenhouse gas emissions, or to prepare for and respond to the impacts of a changing climate." The next round of funding is expected to open in October. Staff are working together to identify one or two projects in the Community Energy & Emissions Plan that could benefit from the funding (up to \$1,000,000) and expect to submit at least one application.

### Solar Colchester / Cozy Colchester:

Solar Colchester and Cozy Colchester are in their third year of funding from the Federation of Municipalities. The programs have received

\$4,174,050 in capital funding and \$1,974,525 in grant funding to date. Just under 200 homeowners have participated in the programs.

In August, the programs reopened to homeowners who had enrolled prior to the June 2022 program pause. The programs will be reopening to the public on September 18, 2023. There is roughly \$1 million remaining in the budget for projects in this fiscal year, and 20% will be set aside for low-income homeowners.

Staff have begun working with the NSCC to develop a training program for contractors to build local capacity for deep energy retrofits. The program will be fully funded by the FCM grant with the possibility for additional contribution from the Province of Nova Scotia. Staff continue to research options for delivering the Solar & Cozy Colchester beyond the FCM funding period.

**Paul Smith is Colchester's Director of Community Development**