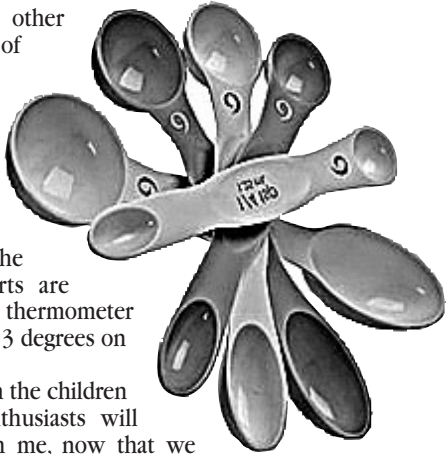


Dorothy's Kitchen Korner

WOW. What a warm winterless fall, other than a couple of snow flurry days, we have been able to enjoy. Looking ahead a few days before and after Christmas, the weather experts are suggesting the thermometer will get up to 13 degrees on Christmas Eve.



Even though the children and skiing enthusiasts will not agree with me, now that we have gone this long without any major snow accumulation, I hope it continues this way. With so many people travelling to spend Christmas and Boxing Day with family, we certainly don't want to have poor driving conditions. Much better to have a green Christmas than a number of people facing danger and maybe even stranded along the highway over the holidays.

If we recall our memory we faced a similar situation last year. Does that lead us to conclude a weather pattern similar to 2015 will follow us into the New Year? Last year winter didn't start until the end of January and then it didn't stop. Seemed like it snowed every day for six weeks. If it wasn't snowing we were trying to dig ourselves out.

Speaking of a green Christmas, the province's Christmas tree industry certainly are in the green. The low value of the Canadian dollar has certainly increased exports, especially to USA. It looks like 2015 could be a banner year.

While thumbing through my cook books, I came across a number of recipes, which Hazel Hill had sent to me some time ago. Thinking ahead to the cold winter months, and a desire to include as much fiber in the diet as possible, I chose her great recipe for Refrigerator Bran Muffins. They are favourites of Maurice's because just a few can be made at one time and you can have warm muffins, whenever you want.

Refrigerator Bran Muffins

3 cups Quaker All Bran

1 cup boiling water

2 eggs slightly beaten

½ cup molasses

2 cups buttermilk or sour milk

½ cup salad oil

1 cup raisins, dates, currents or prunes

2 tsp baking powder

2 tsp baking soda

½ tsp salt

1 cup brown sugar

2 ½ cups flour, unsifted, (may use 1 ½ cups whole wheat flour and 1 scant cup enriched white flour).

Pour boiling water over bran in large bowl, stir to moisten evenly. Allow to cool. Add eggs, molasses, buttermilk, salad oil & salad oil. Blend well. Stir together: baking soda, salt, baking powder, sugar & flour, then stir into bran mixture. Store in a tightly covered container in refrigerator for up to five weeks. When desired spoon batter into greased muffin cups and bake at 425 for 20 minutes.

If you have a favourite family recipe and would like it published in the February issue, please send on or before January 19th. If you are dropping off recipes to the store, please note we are located at 94 Esplanade - three doors away from Murphy's Fish & Chips or send to:

The Shoreline Journal, Box 41, Bass River, NS B0M 1B0;
Fax: 902-647-2194 or email: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

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Upcoming Deadlines and Publishing Dates

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March 2016	February 23	March 2
April 2016	March 22	March 30
May 2016	April 19	April 27
June 2016	May 24	June 1
July 2016	June 21	June 29
August 2016	July 19	July 27
September 2016	August 23	August 31
October 2016	September 20	September 28
November 2016	October 25	November 2
December 2016	November 22	November 30
January 2017	December 12	December 20

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The Shoreline Journal

Notes from our National Capital

Busy 2 weeks in Ottawa

The first two weeks of the 42nd parliament certainly got off to a fast start. The very first piece of legislation was to enact the promised middle class tax cut. This was followed up by the long awaited announcement a national inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women and girls will finally begin right away.

At almost the same time, the prime minister announced a new merit-based appointment process to replace the partisan appointment process which has been used for so long. This move will improve the Senate's capacity to serve Canadians in the way it was originally intended and also will restore public confidence in that institution.

Then came the first two planeloads of Syrian refugees to Canada as part of a commitment to bring 10,000 Syrian refugees to Canada by the end of 2015. By any standards this is a lot of action in a very short time considering that this is the federal government.

Speaking of refugees I have had inquiries from many communities

Notes from our Provincial Capital

The Importance of Communities

Throughout the holiday season we are constantly reminded of the importance of communities and at no place is it more evident than "along the shore".

Christmas celebrations, baking and craft sales, school concerts, donations to needy families and brightly decorated homes and businesses help to make the true meaning of Christmas more evident.

The recent Christmas Choir concert at Peniel United Church in Five Islands is a great example of those communities coming together in the spirit of Christmas. This choir under the direction of Valerie Pugsley has become an annual event and folks "along the shore" are invited to be members of that choir. Others are invited to join with the choir for this special event.

This year communities of Portapique, Bass River, Economy and Five Islands were well represented in the choir of 28 members. Each brought their musical talents to this special choir. It was a

News from our Municipal Council - District 10

Water removal a concern of council

I would like to begin by saying THANK YOU to Maurice for his article that spoke to the issue of water rights and the amount of water removed from our aquifers in Colchester County. This is an issue which has been a concern, or at least on the minds, of Council from my very first days there. Let me first say council has over the years had two presentations from Dept of Environment (DOE). As a result, I am totally satisfied this valuable asset is being properly monitored by DOE and monitoring indicates there is currently no concern as to over consumption.

However, the fact, that to date, this valuable resource is basically been given away is quite surprising. At a time when Governments at all levels are searching for new sources of revenue to provide services to our residents this appears to be a no brainer. Any other resource removed from the ground is a charged a Royalty.

News from our Municipal Council - District 9

Two of our Top Issues

Council has been discussing two particular topics lately which I would like to elaborate on this month.

The first is the amount of garbage being tossed out of vehicles onto our county roads on a daily basis. This has been an ongoing issue for sometime, which seems to have escalated over the past few years. We have had a conversation around the council table about the fact some fast food drive-thru locations have removed their garbage receptacles from their drive-thru lanes. I would like to clarify the removal of these receptacles are a small part of the overall problem and I certainly wasn't singling out one particular drive through over another in comments I made at a recent council meeting.

Don't get me wrong on this, it's an issue which needs to be addressed by every resident, who cares about the appearance of this beautiful County we call home. The fact that most of the litter we see on our road sides comes from the fast food industry

in Cumberland Colchester about sponsoring a refugee family. Even the smallest communities are showing an interest in this process and have started to raise the funds to attract a new family. The news broadcasts showing the refugees being interviewed as they arrive in Canada are very moving and encouraging. It is also encouraging that so many of our communities are showing interest and this seems to be what is happening across the country.

I understand that refugees who have formerly lived in a rural setting will be directed to rural areas of Canada. Those refugees who are more used to living in bigger towns and cities will be directed to a location in one of Canada's cities. Welcoming committees are being established at each location in order to ensure there is a friendly face to help them settle in.



Bill Casey

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wonderful demonstration of communities living, working and celebrating together.

Small communities with big hearts make this season of giving a reality. Let's pause for a moment and think about our neighbours in our communities and recognize that some of them may be in need.

One of the strengths of our province and its rural communities is that we care for one another. Please take time to make Christmas for those less fortunate. The sense of satisfaction that you feel in your heart from giving to others is one not easily forgotten.

As your MLA I wish to extend my sincere best wishes to you and your family for a safe and happy holiday. It is a time to enjoy family and friends, to create memories and to help those less fortunate.



Karen Casey

Karen Casey, MLA, Colchester North

I am clearly not advocating charges to water used by industry or agriculture. Only the water which is being re-sold as drinking water, pop or that sort of thing. I would like to suggest one cent per litre with the revenue to be set aside for communities that are not fortunate enough to have fresh drinking water available. I want to be clear; this is not a criticism of the current government. In my time on council this has been presented to both of the previous two governments with no success. Water is and will always be a very valuable resource. We should not give it away and allow large companies to profit with no compensation to the communities.

It is very unfortunate, but the West Colchester United Arena is in need of your support. This Arena, built in 1976, has been very successful and a very important part of our community. However,

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Tom Taggart

should make this a larger issue for that industry compared to others, in my opinion. Whether there is a garbage receptacle located in a convenient place or not it doesn't give anyone the right to toss their garbage onto the side of the road.

It has been suggested at council the real problem here is attitude. We as a community have to work together to help change this attitude and educate the public on the issue of littering and the detrimental affect it is having on our environment and our tourism industry. Everyone on council agrees on one thing when it comes to the issue of littering, it has to be dealt with.

Council will be moving forward in the near future with initiatives to help curtail this growing problem. After all we can't invest tax payers dollars into tourism initiatives such as the Bay of Fundy

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Doug MacInnes

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