



The Thompson family and friend came dressed for the PJ's party at the Truro Junior A Bearcat game on Dec.1st at the Rath Eastlink Community Centre.

12 less, But \$17-Million More

By Maurice Rees

So far this calendar year (Jan 1 to Oct 31) Colchester has issued 12 less building permits but the value of the 498 permits (\$97,007,295) is \$17-Million higher than last years 510 permits valued at \$80,050,156. The information was contained in the Building Inspectors report circulated to council at the November 30th meeting.

The month of October's 48 permits valued at \$10,587,000 was responsible for \$4-5-Million of the \$17-Million in year to date. On a comparison basis October 2022, 37 permits were issued valued at \$6,056,036.

In October's list of various categories, single residential and garages topped the list with 13 each. Residential was valued at

\$4,412,000 an increase of approximately \$2-Million to October 2022, \$2,710,000.

This year garages doubled to \$1,085,000 up from \$445,000 a year ago.

Three permits for farm buildings totalled \$2,609,000 was ten fold last year's two permits valued at \$236,000.

In the fiscal year, April 1 to October 31, there are 413 permits at \$80,115,691 compared to 415 last year at \$67,318,638.



Recent RCMP Activities

As notifications are received from RCMP we will capture what has been reported to provide a monthly overview as follows:

RCMP charges man with Possession of a Controlled Substance

Colchester County District RCMP has charged a man with Possession of a Controlled Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking following a theft from a hardware store in Truro. November 13, at approximately 2:30 p.m., Colchester County District RCMP, assisted by RCMP Northeast Traffic Services, responded to a report of theft that occurred at a hardware store on Robie St. RCMP officers learned that two people stole merchandise before fleeing the scene in a Hyundai Genesis.

An RCMP officer quickly located the suspect vehicle, which was occupied by one man, in a nearby parking lot. The man was safely arrested after he attempted to reverse over a retaining wall and got stuck. When the 36-year-old Dartmouth man was searched, RCMP officers located and seized more than 30 grams of Methamphetamine, a knife and stolen batteries.

Lawrence Donald Cameron has been charged with: Possession of a Controlled Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking (Methamphetamine); Possession of Property Obtained by Crime; Operation of a Conveyance while Impaired by Drug; Dangerous Operation of a Conveyance; Assault a Peace Officer and Theft.

Cameron appeared in Truro Provincial Court yesterday and was remanded in custody. He was scheduled to return in court on November 22, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. The investigation is ongoing; officers are searching for the second suspect.

Colchester County District RCMP respond to vehicle fire

Colchester County District RCMP responded to a vehicle fire in Kemptown. At approximately 9:10 p.m., Colchester County District RCMP, fire and EHS, responded to a report of a vehicle on fire in the eastbound lanes on Hwy. 104 in Kemptown. RCMP officers learned that a vehicle was parked on the side of the road when it caught fire causing a road closure. The fire was extinguished and no injuries were reported. Hwy. 104 was closed for several hours, while firefighters worked to extinguish the fire.

Missing hunter: Fred Coldwell

Colchester County District RCMP is asking for the public's assistance in locating 75-year-old Fred Bishop Coldwell. Coldwell left his home the previous day to go hunting in a wooded area off Truro Rd., McCallum Settlement, and has not returned; his ATV was located yesterday afternoon in the wooded area nearest civic 1759, Truro Rd. He was later found.

Man wanted on province-wide arrest warrant

On November 8th, East Hants District RCMP obtained a warrant for the arrest of a man in relation to incidents of intimate partner

violence from that occurred between November 2022 and November 2023 in Lantz.

Ralph Martell, 32, who may be residing in Pictou County, is charged with Assault with a Weapon, Assault and Failure to Comply with Conditions of a Release Order (11 counts). Martell is described as 5-foot-8, 145lbs, with dark brown hair and blue eyes. Martell was subsequently apprehended.

Truro Heights man arrested on child pornography charges

The Nova Scotia RCMP's provincial Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit has arrested a man for child pornography offences on November 17th. ICE, with assistance from Enfield RCMP and RCMP Digital Forensic Services, searched a home in Truro Heights after being notified by United States law enforcement officials and a social media platform that the Nova Scotia man was communicating with children online for a sexual purpose.

Following the search and subsequent investigation, Laurie Whidden, 49, was charged with: Possession of Child Pornography; Transmitting Child Pornography; Luring a Child; Making Sexually Explicit Material Available to a Child; Agreement to Commit an Offence Against a Child and Failure to Comply with Prohibition Order

This is the second time Whidden has been charged for such offences. Whidden appeared in Truro Provincial Court. He remains in custody and will return in court on January 10, 2024.

In Nova Scotia, it's mandatory for citizens to report suspected child pornography. Anyone who encounters child pornography material or recordings must report it to police. Failing to report suspicious activity could result in penalties similar to failure to report child abuse set out in the Child and Family Services Act. The RCMP encourages citizens to be a voice for children who are victims of sexual exploitation by reporting any suspected offences to their local police or by using Canada's National tip site for reporting online sexual exploitation of children: www.cybertip.ca.

Wild Blueberry Customers Impacted by Excessive Moisture

Farm Credit Canada (FCC) is offering support to customers in the wild blueberry sector in Atlantic provinces and in Quebec who could be facing financial hardship as a result of widespread excessive moisture during the 2023 growing and crop season, in addition to pollination issues and poor-quality harvest.

High inventory and the anticipation of a lower market price may also contribute to cash flow shortfalls, particu-

larly in the fall and winter. FCC's support will provide producers and processors the relief needed to make their loan interest payments while they navigate through financial losses.

Wild blueberry customers in the Atlantic provinces and Quebec are encouraged to contact their FCC relationship manager or the FCC Customer Service Centre at 1-888-332-3301 to discuss their individual situation and options.

New Willow Lodge to open in 2031

Tom Taggart, MLA for Colchester North, on behalf of Seniors and Long-Term Care Minister Barbara Adams, announced a new 96 room facility scheduled to open in 2031 will replace the existing Willow Lodge. The new 96-room facility will provide care to 35 more seniors living in the area. Each resident will have their own room and private wash-room.

"It's an honour to be a part of government's plan to invest in long-term care," said Mr. Taggart. "This is great news for the people of Tatamagouche and our neighbouring communities. These new care rooms will bring ease and comfort to our loved ones and reduce pressures on our hospitals, helping to improve healthcare for everyone."

The new home is part of the recent addition of 2,200 rooms to the Province's long-term care infrastructure plan. This plan expansion includes new long-term care homes

that will add about 800 rooms to the long-term care system and the replacement of older homes with new, modern facilities that will have about 1,400 rooms. All these new homes are expected to be ready by 2032. The original plan included homes with about 3,500 rooms expected to be ready by 2027. Together, these new spaces will help to meet the care needs of the province's aging population.

"We are excited with the news of receiving a new, modern and efficient resident-centred home. This announcement is a testimony of respect, not only for our Willow Lodge residents but our care partners who deliver optimum care, and the community at large. We appreciate all the hard work that has gone into making this necessary commitment to ensuring our seniors are receiving their due respect today and into the future.", Janine Jaconelli, Executive Director, Willow Lodge



MARY KAY®

Wishing all a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

DEANNA MARTELL
Independent Beauty Consultant

3689 Highway #4
RR 1, Debert
BOM 1C0
(902) 662-2252

Baird's Septic Tank Pumping
Residential & Commercial
Septic Pumping - Portable Restroom Rentals



Thank you to our customers for your patronage and to everyone

Merry Christmas
and all the best in the **New Year!**

www.septictankpumping.ca
Upper Onslow • 902-895-8559



Chase's
Color Centre Ltd. Downtown Truro's Paint & Wallpaper Centre

To our family, friends and customers:
Thank you for your support in 2023.
Have a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!

897 Prince Street, Truro • 902-895-4678
www.chasescolorcentre.ca

Millen Farms

80 Little Dyke Road, RR #1, Great Village



Thank you to our family, friends and customers for your support this past year.

Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year.

902-662-3848

PROTECT & PRESERVE YOUR FAMILY MEMORIES



Home Videos Transferred to Digital Disk


JD MacLean & ASSOCIATES

Print Layout/Correction Audio - Video Production

jmaclean@eastlink.ca
128 Oakwood Drive
Truro, NS B6L 1N4
902-893-3466

TURNERS' EXCAVATING AND TRUCKING

41 Onslow Mt. Road, Belmont



All Gravels, Backhoe, Dozer, Roller, Septic Plans And Installation, New Land Development, Driveways, and Culverts.

Cells (902) 890 5409, (902) 890-7348, (902) 897-7688