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More Hangars for Debert Airport?

By Maurice Rees

During its committee meeting on June 16th, council recognized David Henderson for his diligent work at the Colchester Municipal Recovery Facility. Mr Henderson, while working on

the sorting line, rescued a number of items that may have great historical value and has turned them over to management. Among those items are two hand written diary/daily ledgers that date back to 1834, some photo-

graphs of an Alaskan Indigenous community from the early 1900's and some class photographs from the old Truro Normal College.

Councillor Tom Taggart viewed the Normal School photos to find the graduation

photo of his grandmother. Mayor Taylor presented Mr. Henderson with a framed Recognition Certificate.

At its committee meeting on June 16th Colchester Municipal Council agreed to add electronic cigarettes to its Smoke Free Outdoor Recreation Outdoor Policy. The policy had been created and approved by council in February 2012.

With municipal and school board elections upcoming on October 15th, municipal council approved a schedule of fees and expenses to be paid to people working or administering during the election process. election polls. On matter raised by Councillor Tom Taggart complained that Lower Debert and Masstown voters should not be asked to vote at the

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FRONT PAGE BRIEFS July 2016

An apology is extended to the hardworking volunteer committees at Victoria Hall, Bass River and Economy Recreation Centre executive. In the June issue they were listed as not making a presentation to Municipal council on March 3rd. Apparently I was late and missed both groups appearing before council. My sincerest apologies.

The Debert Legion's first run at the "Chase The Ace" permitted Wanda Frizzell to take home \$6,844.60 on Saturday, June 4th. The venture was successful with \$4,923.50 being raised for local charities and providing \$4,583.50 for the Legion to continue to do its work. The branch plans to start another chase in late August or early September.

Tom Taggart, Councillor District 10 was re-elected on June 5th, as a Nova Scotia Representative, on the Board of Directors, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) at the Annual Conference held in Winnipeg, earlier in June. 1,600 municipal leaders from across Canada gathered to discuss priorities and actions to build a strong country. Minister Justin Trudeau who opened the conference with a keynote speech and highlighted the importance of the federal and municipal orders of government working together on the next phase of infrastructure investments for Canadians.

Truro is close to being in the top 200 in Best Places to Live in Canada according to MoneySense magazine. The publication listed Truro in 218th place, just ahead of New Glasgow. Even though the placing is below 200, Truro and nearby New Glasgow were the only communities in Nova Scotia to make the list. Andrew Lake, president of Truro and Area Chamber of Commerce said, "The community is passionate about positioning Truro and Colchester for future success," he said. "The community has a history of demonstrating its pride, rallying behind a number of community building initiatives including being the inaugural recipient of Hockeyville and most recently the only Atlantic Canadian finalist in the Coors Banquet One Horse Town contest."

If you are thinking about being a Candidate for the school board in October's municipal elections you missed the opportunity to attend school board candidate information sessions which were held throughout the province from June 14th to the 23rd. School board and municipal elections will be held on October 15. The information sessions are for potential school board candidates to learn the role and responsibilities of elected members and the positive impact they can have on the public education system. Additional sessions in both languages will be available online after June 23.

Additional resources for school board candidates include www.schoolboardelections.ca, <https://www.facebook.com/NSschoolboardelections/?fref=ts> and @SchoolBoardElec .

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Liza Madore captured this amazing photo of a bear in Debert recently. There have been increased sightings of bears in the local area. (Liza Madore Photo) See 'Bear Sightings' story on page 20.

RECC Vying to Host 2017 World Junior A Challenge

By Maurice Rees

Council approved \$25,000 for the RECC's bid to host the World Junior A Challenge Cup, December 10-16, 2017. Bids for hosting the event are due July 20, 2016. The cup is comprised of six Canadian teams, from east and west divisions, plus four international teams. 13 games would be played at RECC during the entire tournament.

The event would require 150 volunteers. Economic impact is projected to be \$3-Million+, with other arenas also benefiting, plus the national and international television broadcasts helping to promote the area.

The event has a potential of \$842,000 from ticket sales, with expenses of \$582,000. Profit of \$234,000 would be split three ways with an additional \$26,000 deposited into a Legacy Fund. The host committee would receive \$78,000.00. Break even is selling 43% of available seats (854 per game). On a basis of 65% sell-out, revenue would be \$557,000; expenses of \$520,000, with three way profit split of \$33,000, and \$3,600 to the Legacy fund.

Host committee share would be \$11,000. Total seats available per game is 1,987. Councillor Stewart brought before council a situation evolved in Brookfield, where new Canada Post Community Mail Boxes are being installed and the old green ones are being left behind. One constituent called Canada Post, who replied to call the municipal councillor as it was the municipalities responsibility. Staff will follow up, as it appears to be happening in other areas. A similar amount was being requested from the Town of Truro, in the way of sponsorship, to cover the hosting fee, which much accompany the bid to host.

Council was asked to approve application to a June 9th call from Municipal Affairs under the new Clean Water and Wastewater Fund. Council committee was asked to act quickly, because applications

were due on June 27th prior to the month's council meeting. The urgency was because the funding formulas changed with Federal Government providing 50%; the province 25%, leaving the municipality to fund only 25%.

Three projects were permitted, so the following three were recommended by staff: (1), Debert Pump Station 30 and Forcemain replacement at an anticipated cost of \$1.3-Million. (2) Tatamagouche Sewer Replacements - Phases 3 & 4 valued at \$500,000. The third project was Debert Gateway - Servicing and Stormwater Management valued at \$750,000.00. On motion by Councillors MacInnes and Blair, the request was approved.

The monies would be spent only upon approval of 75% funding from the feds and the province.

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Casey Advocates for Norwegian Veteran

On June 17 Bill Casey, MP for Cumberland-Colchester, raised the issue of veterans' care in Question Period in the House of Commons. Casey made reference to Petter Blindheim, a veteran in Nova Scotia. Mr. Blindheim served with the Royal Norwegian Navy in the Second World War. His family wants Mr. Blindheim to be allowed by Veterans Affairs to live in the Camp Hill hospital in Halifax.

"We promised Canadians that we would repair the damaged relationship with our veterans. Can the government assure Nova Scotia members of Parliament and this House that every measure is in place for this veteran and all veterans like him?" asked Casey of the Minister during Friday's question period.

The Minister's Parliamentary Secretary, Hon. Karen McCrimmon, responded on the Minister's behalf.

Casey says that although Mr. Blindheim's case is confidential, it has touched people across the country in a personal way.

"Like every Canadian I just want to know that Mr. Blindheim is receiving everything that an allied veteran of the Second World War is entitled to," says Casey. "They were the greatest generation, and they deserve the continuing gratitude of every Canadian." For more information, contact Bill Casey: 902-397-1305.

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