



The low tide and pilings from the wharf in Diligent River was magnetic for Ann Timms as she works to develop her rendition capturing the picturesque beauty in one of her paintings during the Plein Air Festival. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)

Plein Air Artists Festival

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Balser, an award-winning plein air artist from Digby Nova Scotia sums it all up perfectly with these words: "It was lovely to see the engaging people of Parrsboro. I so enjoyed the event and feel like I barely scratched the surface as far as making paintings of your lovely landscape and seashore. Thank you for

such a wonderful opportunity to paint and explore the area".

As Executive Director, I can say, "this is going to an annual event for years to come. The artists have already expressed their desire to return, and we expect many more visitors next year to come here and experience this amazing region."

Merriam to Join SCN Team

Maurice Rees, publisher of the South Cumberland News is pleased to announce Sarah Merriam will be joining the South Cumberland News team as a subscription sales representative during the summer months.

Merriam, who is graduating from Grade 12 at Parrsboro Regional High School at the end of June will be attending Mount Allison University in Sackville, NB this fall.

Sarah will be contacting every household in Parrsboro. She will be using her income to help pay for the first year of her four year courses at



Sarah Merriam

Mount A. Well known as a strong athlete from Parrsboro, Sarah looks forward to contacting Parrsboro residents encouraging them to become South Cumberland News subscribers.

Parrsboro & Springhill Have Area Rates

By Maurice Rees

Cumberland Council meet on May 25th, after the June issue of South Cumberland News was printed, to approve the 2017/18 budget and set taxation rates. As of June 4th, the general tax levy is \$19,722,723. The basic general or residential rate throughout the municipality is \$1.04/\$100 assessment, while the commercial rate was set at \$2.63/\$100 assessment.

Within our coverage area, Springhill and Parrsboro, the two former towns merged into the municipality last year, each have special area rates. Springhill is \$.86 for residential and \$2.18 for commercial. Parrsboro taxpayers face additional rates of \$.46 and \$1.17 for residential and commercial. Both area rates are based on \$100 per assessment.

Additional sewer rates apply for Springhill and Parrsboro apply for each property. Springhill is \$265

and Parrsboro is \$300. Flat rates also apply for Street Lighting on the County System for Advocate, \$42.54; Port Greville, \$68.00 and Spencers Island, \$81.00

Public hearings for three dangerous and unsightly premises were held at council's meeting on June 14th.

With regard to water utilities, a budget of \$1,338,526 was set for Springhill and \$365,063 for Parrsboro. Construction is underway in Parrsboro to lay new sewer lines to be connected to the new \$Multi-Million new sewage treatment system.

A report from staff indicated that as of May 31, there was \$23,388,505 outstanding in taxes, which is up from \$21,968,045 for the preceding year. Part of the increase is attributed to the merger of Springhill and Parrsboro into the municipality within the last year. Tax collections in May 2017 totaled

\$107,606.

A May 31, 2017 Tax revenue analysis shows 4065 properties owing \$20,414,237. A total of 222 properties are in the preliminary tax sale process with \$1,318,267 in outstanding taxes. A further

\$914,095.16 is committed with arrangements on 411 properties.

Deed Transfer Tax by-laws for Springhill and Parrsboro were repealed to permit the county to have one set of rates. A property at 25 Eddy Street, Parrsboro was the only one from our coverage area.



This family of Canada Geese and goslings enjoy a sunny afternoon swim on Newville Lake. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)

Parrsboro Band Day, Sunday July 23

By Patricia Burke

The Parrsboro Band Association will hold their Annual Band Day and Bar-b-que on Sunday, July 23, 2017 at the bandstand in Parrsboro from 12-4 pm. There will be sausage, hot dogs and our famous Strawberry shortcake available at 12 noon.

Music will start at 12:30 and will end around 4 pm. Watch for the poster which will have a list of the confirmed groups. We will be selling tickets on 25 lbs. Of lobster that will be drawn for at

4 pm. There will be free coffee all afternoon and there will be rest room facilities on site.

Memberships will be available and T-shirts as well. At the time of writing not all groups have confirmed so watch for our poster for the list. Art in the Park will be back again this year.

The contact person is Sharlene lake at lakesharlene@hotmail.com. Price for the table will be \$10. If you bring your own there is no charge.

Joggins Fossil Institute to Celebrate 9th

The Joggins Fossil Institute celebrates the 9th anniversary of the opening of the Joggins Fossil Centre and the inscription of the Joggins Fossil Cliffs as a UNESCO World Heritage Site on July 7th. Activities begin at 2:00 p.m. with Dr. John Calder, Department of Natural Resources. Dr. Calder will be reading from and signing copies of his popular, reissued book, The Joggins Fossil Cliffs: Coal Age Galápagos, which is available in the gift shop.

At 7:00 p.m. local historian Dara Legere will present an illustrated lecture on the August Gale

of 1927 and the Voyage of the Minas Princess. The August Gale of 1927 was one of most ferocious storms ever to hit the Atlantic Provinces. Mr. Legere will outline the toll it took on Nova Scotian fishermen and ships and how one sailing ship from Spencer's Island, the Minas Princess, made it through the storm and emerged, totally wrecked, with a heroine from Joggins on board.

Refreshments will be served during both presentations which are free and open to the public.



The annual ceremonial review of Parrsboro # 689 Air Cadets was held recently. (Zena Grindlay Photo)

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