

PHOTO FEATURE



Great Village Elementary Grade Primary Class performing at the Volunteer Tea on June 13th. (Harrington Photo)



Great Village Elementary Grade One/Two Class performing at the Volunteer Tea on June 13th. (Harrington Photo)



Great Village Elementary Grade three/Four Class, under the direction of Mr. Black, performing at the Volunteer Tea on June 13th. (Harrington Photo)



Getting a ride from mamma, as she keeps her young chicks close by! (Harrington Photo)

Service Dog Act Proclaimed

The rights of service dog users to live, shop, commute and access the same places and services as other Nova Scotians was protected when legislation came into effect on June 27. There is growing diversity in the types of service dogs providing support to Nova Scotians, including people who have autism, mobility issues, post-traumatic stress disorder and seizures. Service dogs are specially trained to assist individuals with everyday activities such as ringing doorbells, assisting with balance and stability, alerting or responding to seizures or diabetic episodes and other tasks.

The act has established a registrar responsible for overseeing application, certification and visual identification for service dog teams. The identification will help people and businesses determine which service dog users qualify for rights protection. The act also outlines penalties for denying rights and for falsely representing a dog as being a member of a service dog team. Emphasis will be put on education, awareness and warnings in early stages while Nova Scotians better understand the new law and the rights of service dog users.

To obtain a certificate to access rights under the Service

Dog Act, service dog users can get an application from the website or by contacting the Service Dog Program Office. Some dogs may need to be tested to ensure they meet the required standards.

Certified teams will be issued provincial identification cards, which will provide a consistent, simple way to verify that a dog is certified and meets a high standard of training and behaviour. Provincial

identification cards will be provided free of charge. This is intended to reduce misunderstandings and delays in certified teams enjoying full use of publicly-accessible facilities.

A public awareness and education campaign has also launched today, June 13, to help Nova Scotians better understand the important work service dogs do and how to properly interact with a service dog team.

For more information, please visit: novascotia.ca/service-dogs

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The Shoreline Journal

Paul MacNeil, Chair Newspapers Atlantic Board of Directors, presents Maurice Rees, Shoreline Journal, with the 2018 New Revenue Idea Award. The award was presented during an awards ceremony in Halifax on May 31st. The Shoreline has won several similar awards since 2008. (Submitted)

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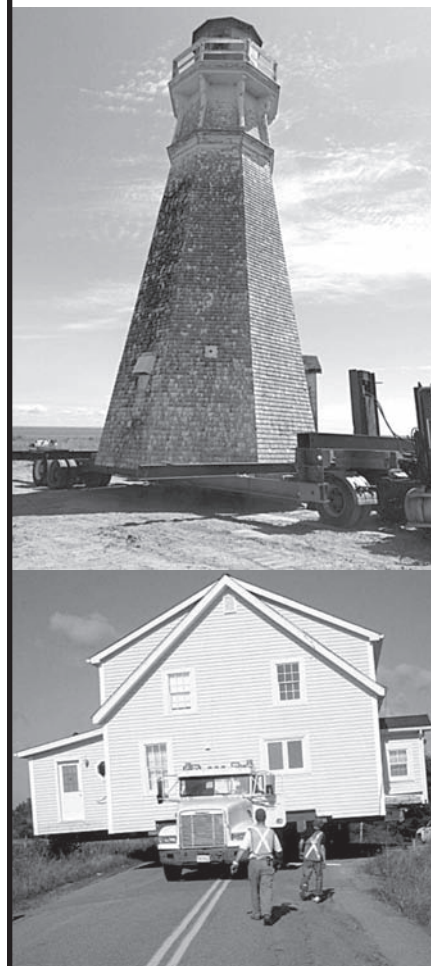
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