

# REES' Pieces

## Locally, they are Professional

The month of May 2013 will probably go down in Canadian history, when there was a new crisis nearly every day. Never has there been so many big headline stories. I'll deal with provincial and federal politicians simply buy saying those involved in bathroom brawls, submitting inappropriate claims for taxpayer's money should be removed and face the full effect of the law. Locally, we have a different breed.

Just as there were plenty of political stories coming out of Halifax, Ottawa and PEI, I must congratulate Colchester's municipal council on handling a difficult situation carefully, logically, and with fairness and understanding.

Of course, I'm referring to the sewage use bylaw more commonly known as the Fracking fiasco. In spite of being put into a difficult situation by the province and the feds whose legislation and approvals to permit fracking wastewater to enter a municipal sewer system, committee members under the leadership of Tom Taggart, Councillor District 10 stepped up to the plate and demonstrated to all Canadian politicians how to act in a professional way.

There was no messing around, no spin doctoring. The committee was a big help to fellow councillors to navigate through numerous presentations to council, a lot of criticism from the public as to why council approved the release of fracking fluids in the first place. According to the laws in place at the time of the application, the municipality's director of public works had no choice but to approve. The only out would be a series of public meetings, which were arranged after council, updated and changed the by-law. As in most bylaws, an appeal process is part of the entire fabric. Once the mechanism was put in place to receive objections from the public, two nights of public meetings gave residents and opponents an opportunity to be heard. The committee must be complimented for the excellent way of handling of the matter.

Council needs a good pat on the back for working closely with the committee to arrive at the decisions they did. Their professionalism demonstrates how an appeal process should work. Regardless of one's position, it would be impossible to criticize any members of council for a valiant professional process.

Hopefully, council's decision will send a strong message to the provincial and federal governments they cannot continue to "run and hide" by downloading situations to municipalities. The order of approvals needs to change. Instead of "top down" all processes such as this should be "bottom up".

Colchester County has many things doing for it, and right now they have a council who works for the betterment of the citizens and the area. Sure they have and will continue to make mistakes, but in this one they have worked hard to protect the environment.

Their next challenge to protect the environment is to use their skills to find a simple yet effective way to curb illegal dumping. Tom Taggart's comments on Page 5, about other municipalities having a problem with increased incidents of illegal dumping should send a message to all of us.

Nova Scotia has plenty of beautiful scenery and tourists comment about our pristine environment and beauty. We cannot allow the few who are engaged in illegal dumping to tarnish our image. At the same time, I recognize as a society, we don't like to "rat on" our neighbours, but it is getting to the point, that we all need to do something.

Things we could all do. Take pictures and send to your local councillor, identifying where the garbage is located. Or send photos to the Shoreline Journal and we'll publish, but send to the appropriate municipal staff member.

Here's one way to put a damper of some future illegal dumping. Scan through the garbage and make note of any names or addresses. If refuse is coming from a business, another aspect of the law is they are supposed to shred all paper with names and addresses.

I wonder how people would feel if all the names found in illegally dumped garbage were published. It would not prove or indicate who did the dumping, but simply that person's name was found in the garbage.

Is that a solution that would work?

**Maurice**

Debert Military Museum season opening was held on May 25th. Rain hampered the usual outdoor service, with all activities moved inside. The Museum is opened upon request for the month of June.

Once a summer student is hired for July and August, open hours will be Tuesday until Sunday.

(Harrington Photos)



A Legion Colour Party was present for the opening of the Debert Military Museum. Left to right- Sgt-At-Arms Bill Wood, George Cooke, Dave MacPhee, Dan Martell, Charles Moore and Ron Eastcott.



District 9 Councillor Doug MacInnes offered his congratulations and support to the Museum volunteers who help keep this important part of Debert's history available for the public.



A small but enthusiastic crowd gathered inside out of the rain for the Debert Military Museum Opening.



Bill Wood laid a wreath in memory of the Korean War Veterans. This is the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War.



Andrew Totten loves spending time of the Military Museum. He is checking out a sonobuoy, used to track submarines, which was donated to the Museum by his grandfather Royce Totten.

## Market Fluctuations a 'Fact of Life'

**By Kim Inglis**

We all understand that stock market fluctuations are a fact of life but that doesn't stop investors' hearts from beating faster when markets are unsettled. Negative media reports further increase tensions, causing knee-jerk reactions and irrational behavior. Calm investors use this to their advantage and profit from the emotional swings of the jittery.

One way is by incorporating momentum investing into an overall portfolio strategy. The basic premise of this approach is that large increases in the price of a stock will



be followed by additional gains. The same applies on the flip side for declining values. The strategy takes advantage of the impact of behavioral finance, and seeks to capitalize on the continuance of existing market trends.

Some parts of behavioral finance have been likened to jumping on the bandwagon, where investors who are considering a stock purchase use short-term performance as a confirming signal. Likewise, long-term investors look to recent performance as validation of their original thesis for purchasing the stock. This "follow the herd" mentality, with investors buying into a rising stock simply because they don't want to lose out on a perceived opportunity, ultimately drives prices up. Momentum investors seek to profit from it.

Momentum investing isn't

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