



With today's internet, one never knows where emails may originate. Apparently there is a newspaper with the same name in Shoreline – a part of Seattle, Washington. On February 24th, I received an email from Trella Hastings, who wrote: "I am a Shoreline resident and wandering photographer. I spend a lot of time at the Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. Last week was work party week, so I decided the hard-working crew should have their photo in the journal to show folks how volunteer work keeps it looking great. Here it is, if you are interested. Thanks. I enjoy the online Shoreline Journal. I advised Ms Hastings of her error, but wanted to share with readers, the Shoreline Journal goes everywhere. (Trella Hastings Photo)"

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ed a male youth in the area. The male was in possession of stolen property and break and enter tools. The youth is believed to have stolen items from numerous vehicles in the area. Police have seized a quantity of items that have yet to be claimed and believe some of the related incidents were not reported to police. Colchester District RCMP are encouraging anyone who believes they may be missing items to contact the Bible Hill office at (902) 893-6820.

Over 1,000 musicians and music industry professionals will return to the Truro/Colchester area for Nova Scotia Music Week, which will take place November 3-6, 2016. This will be the second edition of the event to be held in Nova Scotia's hub community. The provincial music festival and conference was last held in Truro in November 2014 and was the most successful to date in terms of audience participation and local community engagement. Music Nova Scotia estimates the music festival will attract over 7,000 local and visiting music fans and result in a \$2 million economic spin off for the province with an approximate \$1.1 million direct benefit to the host community. Tickets for Nova Scotia Music Week 2016 Truro/Colchester will go on sale in April.

Bill Casey, MP Cumberland-Colchester has been elected Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health. This Committee is responsible for studying and reporting on all matters relating to Health Canada and the health of Canadians. It also has oversight over the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Patented Medicine Prices Review Board.

In his monthly report to the CCRSB board, Superintendent, Gary Adams, reported Chiganois Elementary School is well on its way to implementing an outdoor play initiative which gives students the opportunity to develop their creativity imagination social interactions and learned behaviours. The more students engage in outdoor play, the more complex their ways of thinking, interactions, and understanding of people, materials environments and capabilities become. Over the past few months the staff have been gathering items to support the "loose parts" play initiative for the playground. Loose parts are materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up and taken apart and put back together again in multiple ways. They include items like: tires, containers, buckets, plastic pipes of various length, tarps, rope, tree cookies, sticks old sheets, etc.

Listeners of 10 Bell Media owned radio stations in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were inspired to make a difference to the Maritime patients and families who rely on care at the IWK, donating \$308,278.05 during the annual IWK Radiothon. Participating stations included C100 FM and 101.3 The BOUNCE in Halifax; Big Dog 100.9 FM and Cat Country 99.5 FM in Truro; FOX 105 FM, Capital 106.9 FM and KHJ 1260 AM in Fredericton; MAX 104.9 FM in Bathurst, K93 FM in Grand Falls and CJ104 FM in Woodstock.

More than \$27 million over five years is being offered to help with the costs of amalgamating the Municipality of the County of Pictou and the towns of New Glasgow, Stellarton and Pictou. If amalgamation proceeds effective Nov. 1, 2016, \$15.2 million will support infrastructure, operating and capital investments for roads and transitional costs associated with amalgamation. Equalization funding for the amalga-

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paying more for a worse health outcome.

There are many important health issues that the Health Committee could study. Organ donation, home care and Aboriginal health issues are just a sampling of topics worthy of

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person.

One change will proceed: more low income seniors will have their premiums reduced or eliminated. This means about 12,000 people who paid a Pharmacare premium in 2015 will not pay one in 2016. Overall, every Nova Scotian who belongs to the program will pay the same premium or less.

Seniors on a guaranteed income supplement will continue to be exempt from paying premiums and the co-payment will remain at 30 per cent per prescription to a maximum of \$382 per year. Today's changes are expected to cost government about an additional \$3 million a year.

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the PEG in January has been re booked for the 12 of March. Please mark it on your calendars and try to attend. We hope this will be a great opportunity for us to hear your thoughts, wishes and or concerns as well as answer your questions on any and all issues that are relevant to the County.

Now that the snow has mostly left us (I am confident not to return until next January) all our sins of the winter are full view. In particular LITTER. I am sure you have heard or read Councillor McInnis and myself have been very vocal on this, and I believe Council is also very much on board. We have also heard from the Chamber of Commerce that the business community is concerned and interested in working together to improving this. Perhaps together, Council, Business Community and Residents we can make Colchester County the Cleanest Municipality in Nova Scotia.

In closing I attended a lunch and learn this week where the guest Speaker was Don Beureaux who is President of Nova Scotia Community Collages. Mr Beureaux spoke of the need to change the narrative when we speak of Nova Scotia. We need to be more positive. All we ever hear is doom and gloom and he suggests that is not true. Some examples: IBM, most have heard

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see the Staples Brook Rd on this list. This is one section of road which was definitely paved and then forgotten about several years ago. It was also a much better road to travel on when it was gravel than it is today, in my opinion. I'll never be able to wrap my head around why you would invest in upgrading something and then never maintain it. I'll continue to bring this subject to the attention of the provincial staff and politicians and hopefully we'll see this road on the TIR list in the near future.

On a completely different note, a meeting was held by the Lower Onslow Community Centre Society on Jan 17, 2016 and they decided to organize a roadside clean up on May 7th, 2016.

Land Use Bylaw Receives 2ND Reading

By Maurice Rees

Colchester Municipal Council gave second reading to the Colchester County Land Use Bylaw at the February 25th council meeting. Most of the discussion centered on the "grandfathering" of existing agricultural / farming uses of land that is adjacent to other residences. Such uses will be permitted as long as the use continues, but if stopped for perhaps a period of five years, a re-started operation would have to abide by the new regulations.

When the new bylaw amendments are adopted, an exception is being made to the Upper Onslow area, where several pieces of land have been carved off for commercial purposes. Because farming operations were there for numerous years, they will be permitted to carry out farming business as usual without being obstructed by new bylaw regulations and are exempt from meeting the 600 meter separation distance from any area zoned residential according to the wording in Article 15.6.2.

The exemption will permit the Hill Farm in Upper Onslow to construct a new barn in spring of 2016. Amendments made to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw in June 2015 was not intended to limit continued development or expansion of existing farming operations. The Kent farm in Lower Truro would have been similarly affected.

Other aspects of the amendments will affect those with five or more hoofed animals, and 15 or more rabbits, fowls, etc would be considered as operating an inten-

sive agricultural operation and must follow zoning and setback restrictions as outlined in the bylaw. Appendix 2 outlines separation distances for animal production and manure storage units as: Area Zoned Residential - 600 metres; property line or dwelling - 50 metres; watercourses / well - 100 metres and provincial highway - 50 metres.

Third and final reading is anticipated for the next council meeting in March. Those who may have concerns can view or obtain a copy of the amendments from the municipal office.

greater scrutiny. It will be my role to ensure that the Atlantic Canadian perspective is represented on our committee, and I am excited to learn more about our health care system in the process.

Bill Casey is MP for Cumberland-Colchester

"The government listened to our concerns at the February third meeting and we thank them for responding within a short time frame," said Bill Berryman, chair of the Seniors' Advisory Council, the Group of IX. "We look forward to continuing our dialogue during the upcoming consultation process and anticipate changes which will be agreeable to seniors in Nova Scotia."

"We had put forward changes that were intended to bring more fairness and equity to the program," said Premier McNeil. "It is clear that Nova Scotians want more consultation before significant changes are introduced to this program. We will deliver."

Karen Casey is Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and MLA for Colchester North

about IBM setting up a large data center in Dartmouth. We would have heard the media tell us about all the money that the government supposedly wasted in payroll incentives. What Mr Beureaux tells us and I do not believe has been reported is that IBM committed to 300 good paying jobs and to date employ 550 and expect to double that over the next 2 years. IBM claims that the Dartmouth operation is the most productive operation in North America. They (IBM) say it is the commitment and work ethic of the local workforce.

That is something I do not remember hearing as a news story. Another story, Michelin (We all know they have been a success story in NS) claims their Nova Scotia operations are their most productive and they credit their employee's.

He gave us other examples. He made a very good case and I agree we need to focus more on the positives in our province and leave the negative story behind. Now everyone knows I am a political person, often I wonder where we could be if we just left the politic behind; quit trying to discredit others and all worked together for the common good. No political spin permitted.

Just look at the fiasco currently underway in the USA. It might make for great TV but it is scary how it is hurting their Country

Tom

Tom Taggart, Councillor District 10, Colchester County

The Community Centre has joined an initiative through the provinces Foundation Clean called The Great Nova Scotia Pick-Me-Up. We plan on cleaning the section of MacElmonds Rd from Hwy #104 to the flashing light on Hwy #2 in Lower Onslow. If there are enough volunteers we may try and clean another section of Hwy#2 in Lower Onslow at the same time. Anyone interested in coming out for a few hours on Saturday May 7th and lending a hand please meet us at the Community Centre in Lower Onslow at 9:00 am. We plan on being all done by noon with a free BBQ for all of the volunteers back at the community centre afterwards.

Doug MacInnes, Councillor District 9, Colchester County

Email your comments and suggestions to:
maurice@theshorelinejournal.com



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