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Congratulations Karlee Burgess

By Maurice Rees

Colchester is always proud of any of its residents who achieve success at any level and for any reason. Now the congratulations are to be bestowed upon Karlee Burgess for her contribution to win the 2020 World Junior Curling Championships gold medal.

Karlee Burgess, the young curler from Brookfield, is by far Canada's most decorated

Junior Curler at the national and international levels. She is the first junior woman in the history to win 3 Canadian Junior Championships.

She graduated from South Colchester Academy, Brookfield in 2016 and currently is a full time student at Dalhousie University studying a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology. This year from September 2019 until now, she is a visiting stu-

dent at the University of Manitoba. Even though she has been keeping a hectic schedule and doing a lot of travelling with curling she has been able to keep up with her studies maintaining a GPA of 3.66.

This is the last year Karlee qualifies for the junior curler category. She has concluded her junior career by throwing third stone on the Mackenzie Zacharias' Altona (Man.) Curl-

ing Club rink to win the 2020 World Junior Curling Championship gold medal. Her cousin, Lauren Lenentine from Prince Edward Island is the team's lead/vice-skip.

Karlee's success story goes back 15 years, when she started curling at the age of six. Her entire family is passionate about the sport of curling. As Canada's most decorated Junior Curler, Karlee has continued to add to her success, which includes six-time Nova Scotia U21 Provincial Champion; one time Manitoba Junior Curling Champion 2020; 2015 Canada Winter Games Silver Medalist, 2016 Canadian Champion, 2016 World Junior Gold Medalist, 2016 Youth Olympic Games Gold Medalist, 2017 World Junior Bronze Medalist (Fifth), 2018 Canadian Champion, 2018 World Junior Gold Medalist, 2019 World Junior Silver Medalist (fifth), 2020 Canadian Champion (playing third).

Her name is entered into the record book as the first junior woman in the history to win 3 Canadian Junior Championships. Joan Mead Award winner 2019, Allstar second at the 2018, 2019 Canadian Jun-

continued on page 11



A Canadian stone is in play during the championship game of the 2020 World Junior Curling Championships in Krasnoyarsk, Russia (Craig Burgess Photo)

FRONT PAGE BRIEFS March 2020

STRESS RELIEF: - I changed my car horn to gunshot sounds. People get out of the way much faster now.

Planning is underway for the 2nd Annual Wellness Fair in Bass River, April 18th from 10am-2pm at the West Colchester Consolidated School. There will be a variety of organizations, businesses and community groups available to share information about their programs/services. This event is free to attend. For more information, or to book a table at this event, please contact Mandy Moore: AmandaM.Moore@nshealth.ca.

The January issue contained an error which we wish to correct. The Great Village Fire Brigade Ladies Auxiliary prepared and served the food at the Shoreline Journal's Christmas dinner held in the Great Village Legion. All proceeds were donated to the Great Village Legion.

The Great Village Fire Brigade Ladies Auxiliary will be holding their Annual Spring Merchandise Bingo on Monday, March 16 at 7 pm at the Great Village Legion. Tickets are \$10 and need to be bought in advance. Please call Kathy at 902-668-2341 to reserve your ticket.

A newly approved production through the Nova Scotia Film and Television Production Incentive Fund for Books of Blood Productions Ltd. has been approved for funding commitment of \$2,440,674 based on an eligible Nova Scotia expenditure of \$9,210,092 for the thriller movie of the week, Books of Blood. Based on Clive Barker's acclaimed and influential horror anthology Books of Blood, this feature takes audiences on a journey into uncharted and forbidden territory through three uncanny tales tangled in space and time. It is produced by Fox 21 Television Studios and Fuzzy Door. The Hulu original film will premiere in fall of 2020. The production was shot in Halifax Regional Municipality and Hants County in the fall of 2019

continued on page 6



Local entertainer Jackie Putnam has been busy performing at many venues this past year including the 50th Anniversary Celebration at Masstown Market last August. Her musical talents, colourful outfits and familiar tunes make her one woman show very popular with the crowds. This coming year looks even busier as Jackie gets ready to release her debut EP, see Jackie's story on page 2.

Colchester to Invest \$2.79-Million

By Maurice Rees

The "best kept" secret about a major broadband initiative for Colchester and Cumberland counties finally became reality on February 7th, a week later than the January 31st date projected by the Shoreline Journal's headline story in the February issue. Colchester will invest \$2.79-Million towards a total cost of \$60.2-Million. The Municipalities of Cumberland and Colchester have taken a huge step toward their goal of being one of Canada's most digitally connected rural places. It will take nearly three years to complete the construction and build-out of the entire network.

The project was approximately two years in the making, following a meeting at the Peg, Masstown which involved staff and elected officials from both counties, Karen Casey, MLA and Deputy Premier; Bill Casey, MP at the time and two representatives from Develop Nova Scotia to seek input and learn about the capabilities of Xplornet Communications. The meeting was organized by Maurice Rees, Publisher and Bill Casey, MP. That 2017 went so well many felt the initial consensus agreeing to move forward was a "done deal", but many hours of negotiating would be required.

The counties are teaming up with Xplornet Communica-

tions, Woodstock and Develop Nova Scotia as financial contributors, regulator and network builder. The \$60 million investment in the region comes from Xplornet Communications Inc., \$34.3-Million; Nova Scotia Internet Funding Trust, \$19.9-Million; Municipality of Cumberland \$3.21-Million and Municipality of Colchester, \$2.79-Million for a total of \$60.2-Million.

The Municipalities of Cumberland and Colchester's shared vision, through a Memorandum of Understanding, is that the entire geographic area will be served by a state-of-the-art continuously upgraded communications network that

continued on page 4

Largest Capital Plan in Province's History

February 25, Finance Minister and Deputy Premier, Karen Casey tabled the 2020-2021 budget in the Legislature. ON February 18 she released details on the forecast of capital expenditures for 2020-21. At \$1.042-Billion it is being billed as the largest single-year capital funding in the province's history.

It focused on improving access to health care, schools, highways and public infrastructure. Highlights of the plan include: \$154.4 million to support the QEII New Generation and the Cape Breton Regional Municipality Health Care Redevelopment; \$54.3 million for construction, repair and renewal of other hospitals and medical facilities; \$19.7 million to replace medical equipment and ambulances; \$265.6 million to build, renovate and purchase schools.

continued on page 3

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