OBITUARIES

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MURRAY, Gregory Dean "Greg" - 69, Hart Lake, passed away Thursday, February 6, 2025 at his home in Hart Lake. Born in 1955 in Truro, Nova Scotia, Greg was raised by his father, Lonnie, and stepmother, Anne, who taught him how to be a kind, caring and responsible person. Greg is survived by his wife, Cathy (MacGregor) Murray; his children, Chrissy (Michael) Castellano and Brad (Shawna) Murray; grandchildren, Riley, Luke, Jesse, and Bennett; his sisters, Susan (Aubrey) Ryan, Belinda (Blaine) Geddes, Joanne Newell; his in-laws, Joanne (Chuck) Sinclair, Patricia (Jeff) Yuill, David (Darlene) MacGregor, Christine (Jim) Flemming; several nieces and nephews and extended family, Tryphenia (Stephen) Belli and half sister, Felegan Belli LeRoy. He was predeceased by his father, Lonnie Murray; stepmother, Anne Murray; brother-in-law, Blaine Geddes. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall - Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro, where Greg's family received friends on Tuesday, February 11, 2025. A celebration of life will take place at 4 p.m., Saturday, June 14, 2025 at Yuill Crest Farms, 3143 Hwy 236, Old Barns, NS B6L 1K1. More information to follow. Tributes, words of comfort and memories may be shared at: **www.mattatallvarnerfh.com**

NORRIE, Robin Margaret, June 14, 1964 – February 12, 2025. It is with deep sadness we announce the passing of Robin Margaret Norrie of Truro, Nova Scotia. Robin left us on February 12, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of kindness, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to her community. Born to Rod and Eleanor Norrie in Truro, NS, Robin grew up with a passion for the water, becoming a competitive swimmer/coach with the Truro Centurion Swim Club and a member of the Acadia University Varsity Swim Team. She also spent summers swimming and boating at Shortt's Lake. Many can claim that Robin taught them how to swim. She carried this love of recreation into her professional life, where she dedicated over 30 years to advancing the field of recreation in Nova Scotia. Her tireless work and advocacy led to her receiving the esteemed 2024 Honourary Lifetime Member Award from Recreation Nova Scotia. Robin is survived by her parents, Rod and Eleanor Norrie; by her partner, Todd Walters (children Megan Ann Walters, David Samuel Walters); her sisters, Charlotte Isnor (Richard) and Jackie Norrie; and her nephew, Nathan Cavanagh with whom she had a special connection. Robin graduated from Cobequid Education Centre (1982) and received her Bachelor of Recreation at Acadia University (1986). Her career in recreation and politics took her as far north as Wabush, Labrador, to Parliament Hill and back home to Truro. For the past decade, Robin was the Manager of Recreation for Province of Nova Scotia. Robin had many lifelong friends and she had a very large close knit family who were often kept entertained by Robin's incredible ability to weave a tale to fill the room with gales of laughter. Robin enjoyed many family trips travelling many parts of the world and was a super fan of Billy Joel attending many live performances with her dear lifelong friend, Stephen MacKeigan. A visitation was held Friday, February 21st from in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. A funeral service was held Saturday, February 22nd at 2pm in the First United Church, Truro, NS, followed by a reception in the church hall. A celebration of Robin's life and interment will be held at a later date, where family and friends will come together to honour her remarkable contributions and the joy she brought into the lives of so many. In lieu of flowers, donations in Robin's memory may be made to Canadian Cancer Society or charity of your choice. A special thank you to Robin's care; Dr. Butler and his medical team at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre in Toronto, Dr. Best at the Nova Scotia Cancer Centre and the Palliative Care Unit of the Colchester East Hants Health Centre. To leave a condolence message, please visit the Colchester Community Funeral Home website: **www.ColchesterCommunity.com**

LYNDS, John Phillip - The family of John Phillip Lynds, 66 of North River are saddened to announce his passing on February 14, 2025, surrounded by his family at home. John was born in Truro, NS to the late J. Stewart Lynds and Lola May (Cummings) Lynds. He will be dearly missed by his two daughters, Kelsey and Meghan Lynds as well as his best friend and mother of his two girls, Janine Lynds; his sister, Cindy (Todd) Handren; brother, Marcel (Lynn) Lynds, his nephews, Quinn (Angela) McCarthy, Drew (Lauren) McCarthy, Trevor (Lindsey) Lynds, Jeremy (Bailey) Lynds and niece, Taylor Lynds as well as many great nephews and nieces. John started working with the Department of Transportation at the young age of 17 painting bridges. He continued on his career with the survey crew, snowplow operations and retired at the age of 61 as an inspector. This retirement was short lived because he decided retirement wasn't for him, so he took a job with Wood, transporting core samples. John had a great sense of humor, was kind, caring and compassionate, always doing special things for others. He loved playing pranks, loved old cars and toys (skid steer, motorcycle, and Jimny to name a few). Let's not forget his love of dogs and Tim Horton's coffee. Funeral service was held February 21 at Abundant Life Victory Church, 54 Dunromin Ave., Bible Hill with reception to follow. Donations in John's memory can be made at the Colchester Community Funeral Home to the Kidney Foundation of Canada or to a charity of choice.

ELLISON, Doris Angela - 92, Bass River, passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 15, 2025, at Wynn Park Villa, Truro. Born in Centre Burlington, Hants County, she was the daughter of the late Harold and Constance Jollimore. Doris cared for seniors for much of her life and she enjoyed reading and doing word puzzles. Doris is survived by her husband of 37 years, David; children, Grant Reynolds, Centre Burlington; Christine (Tom) Powers, Hubbards; Sandra Reynolds, Ontario; daughter-in-law, Norma Reynolds; several grandchildren and great grandchildren. Along with her parents, she was predeceased by her son, Michael Reynolds. Interment will be held at a later date. If so desired, donations in Doris' memory to Canadian Cancer Society are welcomed. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall - Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro. Tributes, words of comfort and memories may be shared at: **www.mattatallvarnerfh.com**

PUTNAM, Lorne Alwyn - September 19th, 1932 - February 9, 2025 - Lorne was the eldest son of Albert Arthur, and Gladys (Rath) Putnam. Born on September 19th 1932, he was a life-long resident of Masstown. Lorne was a farmer all his life as well as a heavy equipment operator. In his younger days Lorne played ball and hockey for Onslow. He was a member of Masstown United Church, where he served as Elder, choir member, and Sunday School teacher. He was a 4-H leader in the community as well as a founding member of the Onslow Belmont Volunteer Fire Brigade. Lorne served as chairman of the West Colchester Rural Development Association for a number of years. Later Lorne joined St. James Presbyterian Church, where he served on the board of managers. He was involved in the Men's Club, the Tuesday Morning Fellowship Group (with Letitia), and the Men's Ecumenical Bible Study Group. In his last few years, Lorne resided in the East Cumberland Lodge (Pugwash, N.S.), from July of 2023, and then finally, at Cedarstone (Truro, N.S.), from November 2024 until his death.
Lorne was predeceased by brothers Gene, and Merle, and by sister, Reta. Left to mourn are his wife of 65 years, Letitia, and sons Scott (Charlena), and Brad (Barbara), grandsons Jeremy, and Jake, and great-grandson Leonardo. Lorne also leaves behind sisters Marina (Masstown), and Carole (Chilliwack, B.C.), as well as several nieces and nephews. A graveside service will be held at Masstown in the spring.

Debert Aviation Centre Occupancy 78%

In a report to council committee on February 13th, Jenn Mantin, Economic Development Officer stated the recent leases for 2025 have increased occupancy rate to 78% at the Debert Aviation Centre. The following details lease revenue at the Debert Aviation Centre: Oceanside Aviation Ltd. Monthly $8,115.00 and $97,380.00, annually; Air Cadets Gliding Program $9,639.00, monthly and $115,668.00, annually and JD Irving $4,000.00, monthly and $48,000.00 on an annual basis for a total annual revenue of $261,048.00

Operating Expenses are projected to be $140,000 for the 2025-26 fiscal year, which include fees for utilities, maintenance, snow removal, insurance, and management fees. A portion of the utility fee is recouped by Quartey tenant utility payments.

Regarding the Debert Airport Martin reported to council committee: Colchester has engaged Colliers International to complete a commercial property assessment of Debert Airport, to provide a valuation that will aid Colchester in seeking investment in the Airport. Consultants completed their site visit in January 2025, and the report is expected to be complete in February 2025.

Xplore's Rural Broadband July 2026 completion

Jenn Martin, EDO, report to council committee on February 13th indicated completion by July 2026 is planned for the long overdue, CoVid-19 delayed, Colchester-Cumberland Rural Broadband Project which has made considerable progress over the past 4 months.

Fibre Build Overview: 294 km out of 623 km of Fibre to the Premise (FTTP) & IX Fibre Build – 47% completion; 3 out of 4 Regional Aggregation Sites - 75% completion (Parrsboro remains); 995 out of 4209 addresses serviced with FTTP - 23% completion;

Fixed Wireless Build Overview: 18,256 out of 19,500 households serviced - 94% completion; 19 fibre connected towers & 4 Macro towers - 100% completion; 5 out of 36 micro towers - 16% completion. Program completion is planned for July 2026, with Colchester's portion of the build is scheduled to finish January 2026. However, Xplore's rate of Fibre deployment is on track for an earlier completion.

Recent Project Milestone's (Colchester specific): FTTP service to an additional 199 premises was made available along the Economy FSA 1 Route; 15 km of strand has been placed from Wallace to Tatamagouche; 23 km strand (86%) and 3 km (6%) cable placed to date along the Tatamagouche Route; 15 km (76%) strand placed from Tatamagouche to Brule; 23 km (46%) cable placed to date from Tatamagouche Southeast towards Nuttby and Splicing for the Millen Mountain Fixed Wireless Tower is complete.