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The Shoreline Journal

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FRONT PAGE BRIEFS May 2012

The Shoreline Journal has joined the social media world by joining Facebook. You can follow us on Facebook at: [facebook.com/theshorelinejournal](https://www.facebook.com/theshorelinejournal).

Spring brings with it a large number of grass fires. Recently there was a powerful fire that got away from the blueberry fields and even started into the trees. It was near Davidson's pancake house on Newville road taking the Southampton, Parrsboro, Port Greville and the DNR to put it out.

The Parrsboro Band will hold their Annual Spring Concert on Sun. May 27, 2012 at 2pm at "The Hall" on King Street in Parrsboro. The other groups that will perform will be The Parrsboro Citizens' Choir and Parrsboro Citizens Junior Band. Music for the afternoon will feature pops tunes with vocalists singing with the Parrsboro Citizens Band. There will also be a variety of popular music. Donations will be accepted at the door with all proceeds directed to the operation of the bands. Come and enjoy an afternoon of music and song.

The Shoreline Journal is conducting two fundraisers in the month of May to assist two prominent groups: Age of Sail Heritage Museum, Port Greville and Debert Volunteer Fire Brigade. Participants in the fundraisers must postmark their entry by Friday, May 18th and will have their name automatically entered into a contest to win a total of four tickets (2 - Port Greville; 2 - Debert) to the matinee performance of the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo on June 30th.

On Thursday evening, 7:30 pm, April 26, at the Colchester Historical Museum in Truro, an illustrated public talk will be given - "There and Back Again: Along the Shubenacadie Canal in 1861" This talk is being given by Cameron Ellis, Chair, Shubenacadie Canal Commission

The Canadian Federation of University Women are holding their 48th Annual Book Fair at the Truro Curling Club on Friday May 25th 6pm - 9pm and on Saturday May 26th 9am-1pm. They will be offering used books, DVDs, CDs, puzzles and games. Proceeds for charities and scholarships.

Finishing touches to two of Parrsboro's newest businesses were happening last week. The Medicine Shoppe, a new pharmacy owned by Crystal Taylor, Parrsboro. The new pharmacy contained within CrossRoads Co-op, Parrsboro is opening the last week of April. Meanwhile Harrison's Home Hardware opened their new Parrsboro store on Monday, April 23rd.

Free listings for summer festivals, suppers and events being held between June 1 to September 30th are being offered to community groups for inclusion in the Shoreline Journal's annual regional tourism feature in the June issue. Deadline is May 15th and submitted to Maurice Rees, Publisher at 902-647-2968, fax: 902-647-2194 or maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

We welcome Wendy Cox, Bass River, as our newest monthly contributor, whose column, "I heard it at the Company Store" will become one of the "must reads" in upcoming issues. We encourage readers to pass along tid-bits of news to her on a regular basis. Wendy's column replaced Joyce Starratt's "Bass River News". Joyce's retirement was announced in last month's issue.



It's spring and smoke fills the air as the burns begin. Throughout the county blueberry land being prepared is usually the target. In Parrsboro, Gordon Sencabaugh stands by with a hose as his crew burns off the long grass in a field on Templar Street. It's a decades long tradition to remove unwanted material and promote new growth. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)

Budget Officer Assigned to CCRSB

By Maurice Rees

The March 21st decision by the CCRSB board to eliminate 125 jobs, which included all 41 librarians, certainly got the attention of Premier Dexter and Department of

Education staff. The public relations battle, which followed was then followed by the appointment of a budget officer to work with the CCRSB board.

Last year CCRSB irked edu-

cation officials by the methods it used to prepare budget cuts and revealing details to the media. The public snit was prominent and again this year, government officials rallied to reject CCRSB decisions that

balancing the 2012-2013 budget required eliminating 125 jobs, including all 41 librarian positions.

Eliminating the librarian position caught the ire of students and parents, with students holding a large afternoon "Save our Library" protest.

CCRSB Superintendent, Gary Clarke, in his April 11th report, stated those targeted for job cuts had been advised of their status. He concluded his report by stating, "As Superintendent, I am deeply concerned about the long lasting, negative impact on our comprehensive education system. It will be important that we effectively communicate the extent of these reductions and the impact they are having on our system."

CCRSB members have been forced to make decisions that are dismantling a system they have worked so hard to put in place".

The budget officer was appointed just prior to the board's meeting on April 11th. Discussions are ongoing. Any changes to the board's original March 21st decisions have not been finalized.



Debert Fire Fighters Eric Barnhill and Chris MacKay, carrying heavy back tanks, return to the truck after putting out hot spots in a grass fire on Reid Road. Extensive coverage and photos of the Debert Fire Brigade 40th Anniversary Celebrations are exclusively in the Shoreline Journal. (pg 27-31) (Harrington Photo)

Masstown Market Picked AS ONE OF 50 ACROSS CANADA

By Linda Harrington

2012 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers (CFIG). Originally conceived as an organization that would provide cost effective training programs by a small group of Ontario retailers, CFIG now represents almost all of the privately owned grocery retailers (more than 4000) across

Canada.

As part of their 50th Anniversary celebration, CFIG released a limited edition book to celebrate 50 independent grocers who are true entrepreneurs and who are in business today.

On Thursday, March 29, CFIG President and CEO John Scott, CFIG Chair Brent Battistelli and Darryl Rowe,

continued on page 3



Eric and Priscilla Jennings get their first look at the Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers' 50th Anniversary book which features the Masstown Market. Eric has recently had knee surgery and could not be present at the official presentation. (Harrington Photo)

Colchester County ANTES UP \$2.65 MILLION

Taxpayers in County of Colchester will contribute \$2.65-million for a new compost facility to be built in Kemptown in the 2013 building season. The facility will help keep food waste out of landfills by converting food waste into compost; extend the life of landfills and protect the environment.

The new facility which will take 16 months to com-

plete is phase three of Colchester's waste management master plan and will also bring about significant energy savings.

The facility is being built under the Building Canada Fund - Communities Component with the federal and provincial governments each contributing \$860,604 while Colchester's share is \$2,651,621.



Father and sons stop for a chat. Kurt, Aubrey and Noel Gratto enjoy a rare quiet moment in their busy day at Masstown Hardware. Read more in their special feature on page 16 and 17.

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