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# The Shoreline Journal

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## FRONT PAGE BRIEFS May 2018

**Stress Relief:** Wife: "What are you doing?" Husband: "Nothing." Wife: "What do you mean nothing? You've been staring at our marriage certificate for over an hour!" Husband: "Yea, I'm checking the expiration date."

**A 20-year-old man** from Bass River faces charges of Robbery with a Firearm following an armed robbery on March 21 in Valley. On March 30, Nova Scotia RCMP shared details of the armed robbery and photos of the sedan on social media and through a news release. The social media posts were shared more than 350 times. As a result of the social media posts, the suspect was arrested on March 30 and the vehicle was also located. Early in the investigation the passenger of the vehicle was identified, this suspect and victim are known to each other, he is still being sought by police.

**WCCDA - West Colchester Community Development Association** which was re-organized last year, will hold its Annual General Meeting at Victoria Hall, Bass River, 7 pm, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Interested local residents are invited to attend and become members. A brief general meeting will be held prior to the AGM to permit new members to vote at the AGM.

**Aleta C. Cromwell**, Truro has been selected as one of fourteen of the province's top lawyers being awarded the prestigious Queen's Counsel (Q.C.) designation. Minister of Justice and Attorney General Mark Furey announced the Q.C. appointments on April 3. An official ceremony will be held at the Lieutenant Governor's House in May. An independent advisory committee makes Queen's Counsel recommendations to cabinet. Criteria include a minimum of 15 years as a member of the bar of Nova Scotia, demonstrated professional integrity and good character.

**Truro & Colchester Chamber** of Commerce president, Joanne McRae, says the \$828-Million infrastructure funding agreement signed by the province and Ottawa on April 10<sup>th</sup> said, "The long-term funding will allow the provincial government flexibility to allow for investment in a wide range of projects that will benefit the region such as climate related disaster mitigation, culture and recreation infrastructure and

*continued on page 6*



A couple of grain bins are shown being reassembled along Hwy 4 in Glenholme. The younger Millen farmers, sons of Curtis and Ann Millen have started to make their mark on agriculture in West Colchester. They are planning on becoming self sufficient in growing grain for their beef and pork operations. (Harrington Photo)

## Medical Recruitment – a Priority

By *Maurice Rees*

Deputy Mayor Bill Masters wants Colchester to become proactive and ensure Colchester is rated highly on any search for additional medical professionals coming to Nova Scotia. Not trying to raise ex-

pectations, he suggested there should be a committee established comprising municipal units, the medical profession, community groups and the general public from Colchester to place greater emphasis on medical recruitment.

While chairing council committee on April 12th, he asked councillors to for a few minutes to bring forward some conclusions he has determined of what is not happening. He referred to a CBC report of the success in Goderich, Ontario

after they addressed the problem and hired a recruiter. The town of 8,000 is now home to 18 doctors, a significant increase from 8 prior to its recruitment initiative.

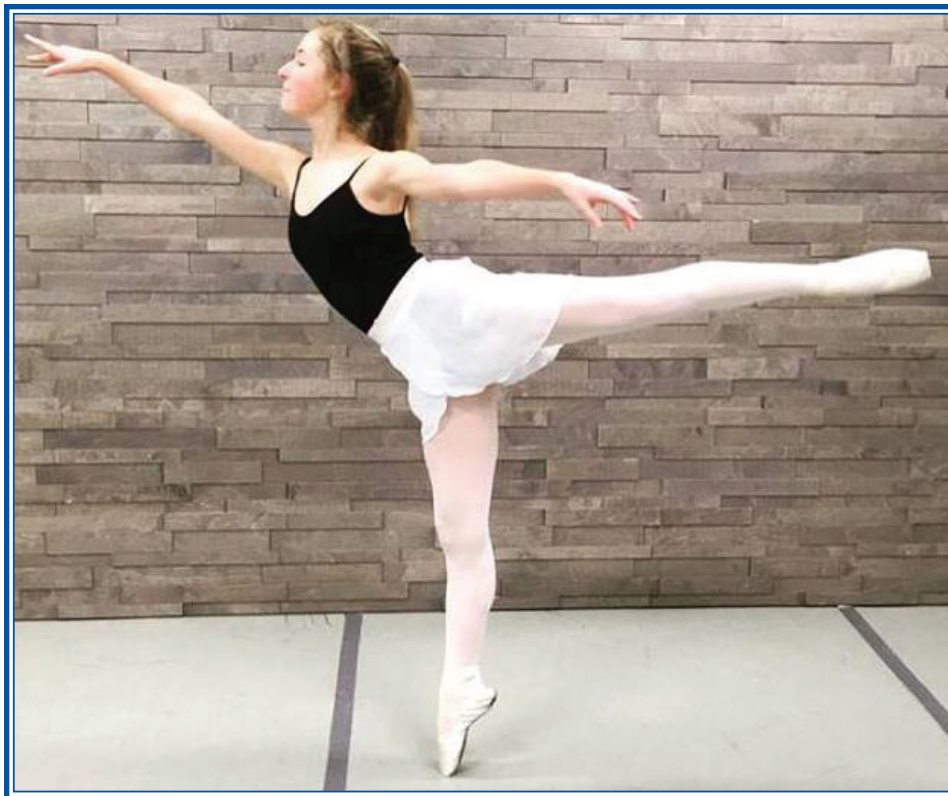
The \$19 million, 100,000 sq. ft Maitland Recreation Centre was built and a \$2.1 million investment was made in the Goderich library, doubling its size. Maitland Valley Medical Centre - 18,000 sq ft modern facility is home to 15 doctors, 3 nurse practitioners and family health team.

The Ontario community examined what doctors required or wanted in order to relocate. One of the priority items was recreation and cultural services. As a result they built a new library and recreation facility.

Speaking on what he had learned about Goderich and what was required to entice doctors, Masters said Colchester already has most of the infrastructure, such as RECC, new library, modern new \$200-Million hospital and much more.

Masters said his findings concluded Colchester is not even listed as needing more Medical Doctors as a result of some on-line research and he pointed to the fact, the provincial health authority had not even attend a conference / workshop on doctor recruitment.

*continued on page 4*



Emma Purdy of Masstown is thrilled to have been accepted to attend the School of Alberta Dance this summer a for three weeks intensive program. See story on page 2. (photo submitted)

## Ripley: Sell Wood Heat Not Chips

By *Maurice Rees*

Ian Ripley, general manager, Athol Forestry Cooperative Ltd, didn't speak at the Central Woodland Conference to inform attendees Athol Forestry provides a wide array of forestry services to landowners including woodlot management plans, forest improvement services (planting, thinning, harvesting, etc.) and consulting services such as woodlot assessments, timber marketing and scaling of forest products.

Instead he spoke of the

larger picture, not selling wood chips, but rather develop a province-wide initiative to sell wood heat.

Ripley said, "Our premise is woodlot owners need to step out of the market of selling low value forest products and into the market of selling heat. We then can become price makers for our forest products and not price takers that others are offering".

Athol and other cooperatives are exploring developing a "turn-key" program for property owners and landlords to consider an oil to woodchip conversion. Professional foresters see the opportunity to improve the provincial economy, reduce energy costs, help improve the rural economy and not send hard earned money to overseas oil producing nations.

Selling the initial concept is the largest hurdle they

face, but with their knowledge of Nova Scotia's forests they are convinced the correct approach is to eliminate the need for fossil fuels to heat larger public buildings or a series of individually owned properties in existing downtown locations.

During his presentation, "Wood Chip Heat for Public Buildings", Ripley provided as an example the Tatamagouche Hospital as ideal for oil to woodchip conversion. Citing how the project could evolve, Ripley said, "The heat and hot water required could be produced with less than 150 cords of seasoned wood per year. A project of this size would have a capital cost between \$400,000 and \$600,000. The project site's layout and distances are factors that drive the range in installation costs".

He continued, "The ideal project, a conversion, would

*continued on page 23*

## Council To Support Humboldt

By *Maurice Rees*

At council committee meeting on April 12th on motion by Councillor Boutilier, council agreed to support the tragedy in Humboldt with a \$2,900 contribution. Originally Boutilier suggested a contribution to the GoFundMe initiative. However county solicitor, Dennis James advised councillors, the municipality could not contribute that way, but it would be okay to send directly to the Town of Humboldt.

In speaking on the motion, Councillor Stewart, who also serves as UNSM president voiced disapproval as he did not it was appropriate, and in 2016 council did not support residents of Cape Breton, who suffered major loses during a Thanksgiving Weekend storm.

*continued on page 3*

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