

I Heard It At The Company Store

By Wendy Cox

I heard that Spring might actually be coming to Nova Scotia this year!!

Hold onto your hats its been a windy one so far! The last six weeks have been the longest wait for warmer weather. But i have faith.

In the meantime put some of these dates on your upcoming calendar. You'll want to book May 11th for a 7pm concert at Bass River Victoria Hall featuring Graham Nicholas and Jerry Legere. These two extremely talented folk/roots, country musicians from Ontario are looking forward to Victoria Hall as one of their Maritime tour venues.

They have heard from artists who have had the pleasure of playing in the hall, what wonderful acoustics it has and what a great audience it is to

play for. And the hall is excited to kick off this year's concert series with these two talented artists. You will also want to mark Sun. June 17th on your calendar for an afternoon with Matt Minglewood. What a great father's day present! And keep in mind The Secrets will be around in July for a visit! Watch for posters on these and get your tickets at Dominion Chair Store or call Wendy at 902-647-2720.

The Portapique Community Hall has been busy planning a Mother's Day Tea from 2pm-4 pm. Get tickets from Rilla 902-647-2721 or Audrey at 902-668-2925. The hall is also hosting ukelele lessons with Phil Black on Monday evenings. I am sure we will be on the next concert series after our lessons, isn't that right Elisabeth, Glenda and

Micheline!!

A few other things to mention that are happening in the area. The Bass River Heritage Society have been busy cleaning up their Heritage Park site making way for new exciting things for that corner of the community! They are also replacing the flags/banners that were on the poles entering either side of the community. If anyone wants to order a new one for their own while we are ordering for ourselves. Let Karen McFarlane know at 902-647-2149 they are \$45 each.

The 50km yard sale weekend has been set for July 14-15 so get your stuff ready to sell! Also the Economy Bazaar will be opening June 3rd. Antique corner is open now so watch for traffic. its starting! Be patient with those tourist drivers and be safe.

Wood Heat ideal for Existing Downtown Buildings

By Maurice Rees

Following his presentation at the Central Woodland Conference, the Shoreline Journal focused an interview with Ian Ripley on the possibility and suitability of woodlot owners providing a "turn-key" conversion from fossil fuels to wood for heat in existing clusters of buildings in the downtown core throughout Nova Scotia.

When asked about the suitability for existing buildings in a downtown core, Ripley replied, "The concept is very well suited to what you have suggested and is often called a district heating system. Potentially, there is a regulatory concern in Nova Scotia regarding the sale of energy (heat) to multiple customers. The URB hasn't had to deal with heat sales to multiple customers and may need to review it to see if it's of concern to them".

When the potential concern regarding UARB was raised, this reporter asked would it be possible for existing property owners in a downtown core to form a separate company to provide heat to multiple shareholder buildings to which Ripley replied, "Everything else you have mentioned is certainly do-able and a great example of how this could be implemented. An additional area of concern, which PEI raised from it learning the hard way, is that

operators who buy their own fuel, often buy the least expensive fuel possible and it causes the system to underperform".

He continued, "Perhaps, green wood is cheaper, but the heat plant fouls and burns twice as much wood as it should. PEI's solution was the owner/operators of the heating plant had to be responsible for the fuel quality (and ultimately the heat plant's effectiveness)".

When asked about cost comparison and operational methodology, Ripley replied, "With regards to cost, we have been looking at a cost comparative to heating oil at \$1 per liter. We wish to install and operate the wood boiler and sell hot water heat to building owners. Hot water heat can be metered like electricity".

At the Central Woodland Conference, additional information supplied by Ripley included: The rule of thumb is 1000 liter of oil can be replaced by 1.5 cords of wood. So, an application that uses 100,000 liters of oil per year will require 150 cords of wood.

Like oil storage, woodchips

are delivered to site as required - in the dead of winter - perhaps every 4-7 days and in the shoulder heating season, perhaps every couple of weeks. This is site and project dependent and one size doesn't fit all.

Under the woodlot owner/operator model, woodchips compete very well when oil is approximately \$1 per liter. The benefit to the building owner is that wood prices have been flat for the past 40 years, where fossil fuels have been volatile. Through a long-term energy supply contract, wood heat can be flat with only annual CPI increases. Ripley concluded his presentation with the warning: "The difficulty other jurisdictions have encountered with building owners being responsible for purchasing woodchip fuel is sometimes they buy the cheapest fuel available, sometimes wet and sometimes containing rocks or metals which affect the performance and longevity of the boiler. Typically, these projects have failed or have been ineffective in competing with fossil fuels".

Jobs Available for Students

The Province of Nova Scotia is now hiring students across the province for the spring and summer. Positions are throughout the province, both rural and urban, in a variety of departments. University, college and high school students are encouraged to visit the government website, fill out their profile and upload their resume so they are ready to apply for jobs as they become available.

Postings for apprentice, co-op, internship and summer student positions began in Jan-

uary with 185 posted to date and more to be posted throughout the spring. There are positions in a wide range of sectors from research and communications, business and community development, plumbing, technology, agriculture and engineering.

In addition to summer positions, government is also focused on hiring younger workers year-round by removing barriers like unnecessary experience requirements in job postings. This began in 2015, when government hired

70 younger workers in entry-level positions. Almost 60 per cent of the initial group hired in 2015 still work in government, many of whom have moved into permanent positions and been promoted.

Since fall 2013, more than 2,900 public service positions have been filled by younger workers. To view current entry level postings, as well as other public service opportunities, visit

<https://jobs.novascotia.ca/go/Entry-Level-Opportunities/503017/>



A portable lift was used recently to check the roof, chimney and flashing at the United Church, Glenholme. (Rees Photo)

Church Services for May

By Christine Urquhart

Church services for the month of May are all at 10 am at Debert United Church.

Our Church sells gift cards for many places, including Petro-Can, Giant Tiger, Sobey's, Atlantic Superstore, and many, many more! Our Church gets a percentage of the amount of the cards for doing this and you get to have gift cards to use or give away!

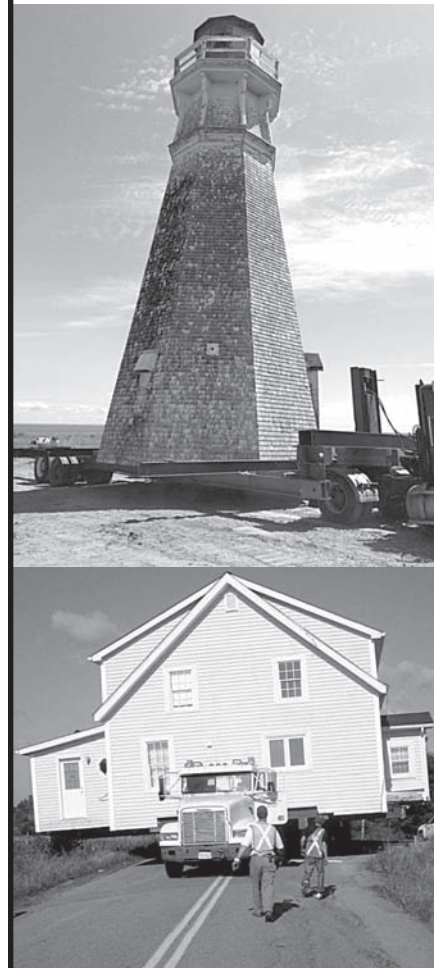
If you are interested in getting some gift cards contact either Chris Urquhart 902-662-3550 or Joy Reid 902-662-3515.

SUNDAY WORSHIP
COME AS YOU ARE!

We welcome you to each or any of our services.

Mervil Rushton House Movers

We raise and move anything anywhere!



Do you have a lighthouse you need moved?

- Houses and cottages raised
- Foundations installed
- Cottages raised and leveled
- We move mini homes

We buy and sell buildings to be moved.

(Instead of going to the expense of tearing down, contact us and we will move it).

Mervil Rushton House Movers

4449 Rte. 204,
RR #3, Amherst, NS B4H 3Y1
(902) 447-2067

EMAIL: mervilrushtonhousemovers@hotmail.com

School is in ... Please DRIVE CAREFULLY

COLCHESTER'S QUALITY CARWASH

Wanda's Bayview Carwash

Calling all cars, trucks and SUVs!
Top of the line Landa Pressure Washer and quality brush washed!
Cars & SUVs \$8. Full Size Vehicles \$10 and up.

Spring-Summer Sale
FREE
spray-on wax
with each wash!



While we wash your vehicle, you can enjoy the view of the bay on our patio furniture!

"Where you always get your Money's Worth!"

Find us on **Facebook**

13133 Onslow Road
Check FaceBook for hours
or call: 902-890-2334