

New Animal Shelter in Upper Nappan?

Submitted by Darrell Cole

Cumberland municipal council heard a presentation from volunteers with the L.A. Animal Shelter about a planned campaign to build a new shelter at its facility on the Smith Road in Upper Nappan.

Mark Casey said the shelter has provided an important service to Cumberland County residents since 1987, providing a warm, nurturing surrounding for stray, neglected, sick and abandoned dogs and cats across the county.

The estimated cost of the new shelter is \$1.1 million which will be funding partially by \$200,000 by the shelter's reserves. Casey said the organization is asking for leadership contributions of \$150,000 each from the municipality as well as the Town of Amherst. It will also have a number of private contributions before going to a public capital campaign later.

The footprint of the building will be approximately 4,000 square feet with about 500 square feet of outdoor kennel space under the roof.

Mayor Murray Scott said council will take the information presented and include it in its budget deliberations.

Municipal council forwards youth research project request

to regular meeting

Cumberland municipal council has agreed to forward a motion to its March 29 regular council meeting to approve \$13,500 in funding for the Pathways to Resiliency research program.

Amherst's director of Community Living Sharon Bristol made a presentation during Wednesday's March committee of the whole meeting, explaining the project is a recommendation from the intermunicipal Poverty Action Committee that centers around gaining qualitative data from youth ages 12 to 19 in Cumberland County on what barriers are faced by today's youth.

It will help inform municipalities on what resources may be required to make the community more vibrant to youth, provide insight into the complex challenges between education-life skills-employment and ultimately help build a framework that helps make youth more resilient.

Through application to Mi-tacs funding, 50 per cent of the project's cost would be covered with the three municipalities making up the difference with Amherst and Cumberland County each contributing \$13,500 and Oxford \$3,000.

The Poverty Reduction Action Committee, of which Coun. Jennifer Houghtaling is the municipality's representative, has developed a three-year strategic plan that has identified three pillars of concerns to be addressed including food insecurity, housing/homelessness and youth outreach and education.

Council forwards Pugwash Farmers' Market request to regular meeting

Municipal council has agreed to forward a request from the Pugwash Farmers' Market to its March regular meeting.

The market has applied for \$15,000 in funding from the Christie Community Foundation to develop a market community hub, which would serve as a gathering and resource space for the community.

The co-operative was established in 2006 and has steadily grown to become the largest and most attended market in Cumberland County. Each week, more than 35 local producers use the venue to sell local produce, preserves, eggs, baked goods and handmade goods to more than 800 residents and tourists.

Cumberland County asking Parks Canada for improved signage for Beaubassin

The Municipality of Cumberland is sending a letter to Parks Canada to request additional signage on the Trans-Canada Highway directing visitors to the former Acadian village of Beaubassin near the provincial border at Fort Lawrence.

The municipality was requested to write the letter by the newly-formed Cumberland Acadian Society. In a letter to Mayor Murray Scott, society president Leon Landry said the society does not understand why the National Historic Site at Fort Beausejour has

excellent signage while there's only minimal signage for Beaubassin, which is also a National Historic Site.

Darrell Cole, Corporate Communications Officer can be reached at dcole@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca 902-297-1333

Plein Air Festival, June 20-25

Submitted by Del Klassen

The Parrsboro International Plein Air Festival (PIPAF) will be held in Parrsboro, NS - June 20-25. PIPAF is the largest plein air festival of its kind in Canada and attracts applications from elite level artists from across North America.

Couple these artists with the physical splendor of the Parrsboro Shore and a wealth of beautiful paintings created over four days is the undeniable result. It's a perfect opportunity for collectors and appreciators of quality art not only to purchase one of these wonderful pieces but also to follow artists over the course of the festival and watch them paint our stunning landscapes and seascapes.

The 30 artists, chosen by the blind jury judging method, work from dawn and into the night for four days and compete for over \$7000 in prizes. The best results are submitted for judging at the Awards Night Gala on Saturday evening, June 24. This year's festival judge is the well-known Kathie Odom, professional plein air artist from Tennessee. Kathie will also judge the two-hour Quick Draw, a painting competition open to all interested artists, on Sunday June 25.

Festival organizers are delighted to find that many of this year's artists are from Atlantic Canada. This years festival artists are:

Nova Scotia: Mary Ann Archibald, Michel Doucet, Cheryl Flemming, Kate Georgallas, Oliver Hatton, Grant Lounsbury, Benjamin Pitman, Adam Tragakis, Anne Wedler, and Edward Wedler.

New Brunswick: Louise Hicks, Marlene Jantzen, Theresa MacKnight and Chris Marson.

Quebec: Pauline Boudreau, Chantal Julien, Mary Martin, Carole Perreault and Humberto Pinochet.

Ontario: Sheila Davis and Robin Knox.

British Columbia: Brian Buckrell.

Artists from USA include the following:

Florida: Natalia Andreeva.

New York: Tarryl Gabel and Diane Leifheit.

Wisconsin: Tom Kubala and DK Palecek.

Georgia: Mary Negron.

Pennsylvania: Mick McAndrews.

Massachusetts: Maria Nemchuk

For more information including the detailed schedule of events - www.parrsborocreative.com
Call Administrator Del Klassen at 902-728-2007

What's in your well water?

Safe water is essential for a healthy home.



Bacteria, viruses, and parasites can make their way into your well water and can make you and your family sick. In addition, long-term exposure to unsafe levels of naturally occurring chemicals such as arsenic, uranium, lead and manganese can cause serious health effects.

How often should I test my well water?

Testing should be done every six months for bacteria and every two years for chemical contaminants.

How do I take a sample?

Pick up testing bottles from a local hospital or water testing laboratory and follow their instructions for collecting and dropping off samples.

What contaminants should I look out for?

Bacteria, arsenic, uranium, lead, and manganese are some of the main concerns that can have short and long-term health effects, especially for children and pregnant women.

For more information on testing well water, visit NovaScotia.ca/Well-Water-Testing



Cumberland Names McCormick, Rose VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Continued from page 1

Parrsboro and Springhill.

She has created and sourced funding for Food For Thought, a weekly food bag program that provides students in need nutritious foods for their family at no cost.

McCormick, nominated by Springhill's elementary schools, is resourceful in applying for grants and funding and recognizing the need for milk products, produce and protein, she developed a coupon for the purchase of these products.

Her energy and passion for helping others has inspired so many in the community to also offer their time to help those in need.

Rose, a resident of Brookdale and a Grade 12 student at Amherst Regional High School was nominated by the SOAR Community Health Board, of which he is an active volunteer.

He is respectful, open to listening to new ideas and always contributes to the conversation. His energy and commitment are an inspiration.

With SOAR, his focus has primarily been on poverty reduction advocacy and his work helps many people across Cumberland County living in poverty by helping to remove barriers and eliminate

stigma that's associated with living at or below the poverty line.

He has also helped with projects that have an immediate impact on people, including Coats for Cumberland that helps people - especially children - stay warm in the winter and the Community Christmas Dinner that not only feeds people but brings them together on Christmas Day for some fellowship and helps build community at a time when many are alone.

This year's recipients included: Anna Hergert and Chris Kent - Nominated by Hike Nova Scotia; Carol Hurley - Nominated by Red Cross; Donald Forbes - Nominated by the Parrsboro Lions Club; Dylan St. Peter - Nominated by Local Resident Chef Randy Gangoo; Mike Spears - Nominated by Amherst Red Cross; Sharon Smith - Nominated by the Cumberland Y Service Club; Charles Kennedy - Nominated by the Wallace Area Development Association; Helen Thompson - Nominated by the Springhill Sr. Citizen and Retired Pensioners Club; Melissa Kingan - Nominated by the Springhill Senior Citizens' Organization; Heather Cochrane - Nominated by the Springhill and Area Lions Club; Jessie Hiltz - Youth Volunteer Nominated by Maggie's Place;

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South Cumberland NEWS