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South Cumberland NEWS

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Pier Road, Parrsboro had a surprise family visit us. The family of Turkey Vultures soared and did Pirouettes in the sky. They have grown from 5 a couple of years ago to 15, and what a sight to see. They almost never flapped their wings, yet travelled effortlessly up and down the area. (Lawrence R Nicoll Photos)

Cumberland By-Law Under Attack

By Maurice Rees

What seemed like an innocent article, on Page 2 in the April edition, on Colchester Council giving first reading to a Unsightly Premises By-law

has gained traction, not in Colchester, but Cumberland with several residents upset at the lack of action on Cumberland's Unsightly Premises by-law.

Bill Kempt, a loyal Shoreline Journal reader in Pugwash started the ball rolling by emailing approximately 30 colleagues highlighting our story Colchester had approved

first reading. Included in his e-mail list were business owners, retired business owners and professionals, member(s) of Cumberland Municipal Council and Maurice Rees, Shoreline Journal publisher.

Initially, we treated Bill's effort as a "Letter to the Editor" (see Page 4, of the Shoreline Journal in this issue), because people were expressing their opinions. The saga continued to increase in size, so much so the chronological order of e-mail exchanges have grown to be spread over several pages. At time of this writing, a week in advance of the deadline, the document is approaching 4,000 words. If printed as solid type would occupy more than one page of nothing but text.

Data not included in our April issue story was details of the fees and penalties as outlined in the by-law. We've go back and got deep in the small print of the by-lay to extract the "fees and penalties" section as outlined below:

A fees section is set out, which is intended to allow the Municipality to recover costs incurred other than the amounts paid to contractors for the work done. These costs could include costs for staff time (for example, a per-visit charge for each time the Building Inspector has had to attend the property) or hearing costs. The fees will be set by policy, and it is recommended that they be incorporated into the existing Municipal Fees Policy. The by-law then allows that outstanding fees may be recovered through taxation.

A penalties section sets out monetary penalties for non-compliance with either an order or the payment of fees. There is an escalating scale for owners (including common owners of multiple properties) starting at a fine range of \$500-\$1,000 for a first offence, \$1,000-\$2,500 for a second offence, and \$2,500-\$5,000 (the maximum allowable under Part XV the MGA) for a third offence.



Linda McCormick and Ethan Rose (centre) are congratulated by Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott as the municipality's representative volunteers during a celebration of Volunteer Week at the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre in Springhill on Thursday, April 20. Darrell Cole - Municipality of Cumberland (D Cole Photo)

Cumberland Names McCormick, Rose VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Submitted by Darrell Cole

The Municipality of Cumberland honoured more than 20 people for their commitment to community and others during a volunteer reception at the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre in Springhill on Thursday, April 20.

The theme of this year's Volunteer Week celebration was Volunteering Weaves Us Together. This reveals the importance of volunteering adding to the strength and vibrancy of our communities through the interconnected actions we take to support each other. These forms of sharing our time, talent and en-

ergy strengthen the very fabric of our community.

"We are so thankful for everything our volunteers do, whether it's fire departments, or legions, museum and many service organizations across our county," Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott said. "We owe so much to these people. They are the true backbone of our community."

The mayor said volunteers come from all walks of life and their service is to young people, seniors and all facets of the community. The work they do is immeasurable and could not be replaced if the municipality or some other organization had to do it.

"Imagine if you removed all those volunteers and the work they do in our communities, if municipality would look a lot different. We'd be much less of a community without

The municipality honoured Linda McCormick as its adult volunteer of the year and Ethan Rose as its youth volunteer of the year.

McCormick has volunteered in many roles around Springhill and area for more than 15 years, including the Salvation Army Food Bank and most recently in a leadership role with A Hand Up Society - a charitable organization that assists with food security in

continued on page 3

Parrsboro Harbour Repairs



Parrsboro Harbour has suffered with the winter storms, the sand almost closed the one side and work was completed to re-open the entrance and bare the boat ramp. (Lawrence R Nicoll Photos)

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Two Design Options for Parrsboro Park

Submitted by Darrell Cole

The effort to build a new park on the site of the former town hall property in Parrsboro is moving toward a preliminary design.

A public meeting was held at the Parrsboro Fire Department on Thursday, March 31,

2023, to gather input on a pair of preliminary design drawings for the park that will be built in phases and likely take several years to complete.

The municipality has hired a landscape architecture firm to produce a conceptual plan for the park area and what

they've produced are two different options of a very preliminary design option," project manager Jim Campbell said. "That's really what they are, preliminary design options." Campbell said the purpose of the open house was an opportunity for area resi-

dents to give their thoughts on what they want the park to include and what it should look like.

"We're encouraging people to give us as much feedback as possible," he said. "We'll take that information and pass it on to the designers."

The information will go to

continued on page 2

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