

REES' Pieces

Hot Topics Reach Center Stage...

There are so many topics which would make a great column and I'm not sure where to start. I've decided to provide a few words on each of them:

Students participating in the provincial election: It's almost unbelievable the accuracy of 22,032 students who participated in a voting process within the schools, just prior to the provincial election. They predicted the Liberal win and Dexter's loss. (See detailed story and graphs elsewhere in this issue.)

Non-sensitivity toward Homeless People: Berwick residents are mourning the torching of a bus shelter which took the life of a 62 year old homeless person. Most of those who are homeless are suffering from a cause, which has resulted in being homeless. We need to learn how to recognize and react to those suffering various forms of mental illness. Instead of thinking of them as "homeless", we need to treat them as a human being without a home. Reach out and try to help them.

Spending Scandal involving Senators: It was last winter when we learned some senators may have abused their office, and inappropriately spent taxpayer's money for benefit. Recently, we were amazed how one person could almost single-handedly bring the USA government to its knees. Now we are watching the best Canadian produced drama in decades: three senators retaliate "full bore" to save their jobs.

I'm not saying they should not be punished appropriately, but dismissing them outright, simply sweeps any ills under the carpet. Due legal process would follow constitutional the law. That way the taxpayer knows the full extent of what is happening in Ottawa; who is pushing the buttons or allowing the buttons to be pushed. Processing their punishment without due diligence and recognizing the basics upon which Canada was founded may simply mean the powerful don't want us to know all, and don't want to assure us all levels of elected and chosen people will spend our money as if it was their own.

Fracking opposition and demonstrations: A recent event on what happened to opponents of fracking exploration in New Brunswick is a black eye on all Canadians. Violence and illegal activities should never be tolerated. If there were arms and ammunition in the encampment, there must have been a better and easier way to seize them. As the opposition spun out of control, it became clear elected officials in that province are not listening to the electorate.

Trust and Co-operation: With the RDAs are being dismantled and a new form of Economic Development evolves, municipalities within Colchester have their work cut out for them. If participation in a larger body involving Cumberland, a portion of Pictou, East Hants and a part of Halifax County is not to Colchester's liking, then leaders of Stewiacke, Truro, Millbrook and County of Colchester must start meeting to increase the level of co-operation and trust amongst themselves. Once they can agree of what it best for the area, then the movement spreads outward to include members of council and staff. The act of listening permits me to move on to something unusual which happened in the most recent provincial election.

If you followed the election campaign closely you noticed negative advertising; putting the other person or party down and promises to win votes.

Many things contributed to the Dexter-led NDP being turfed out of office after one term, which is unusual in Nova Scotia politics. Dexter's own style was a major contributor to losing his own seat. His initial reaction to MLA expenses fiasco and the fact he had charged his own barrister fees to the taxpayer probably was a major contributor.

Stephen McNeil's frequent use of the word "trust" was one thing which captured the attention of the undecided and contributed significantly to his forming the government. The one word, "trust" by itself was strong but was made much stronger when it was backed up by something unusual in Nova Scotia politics. He kept his mouth shut. Instead of talking he appeared to be listening. One thing voters have harped about for years is politicians don't listen. They'd rather talk than listen. Stephen appeared to be listening and he won.

Whether listening was Stephen's actual trait, or an election ploy, time will tell.

Maurice

Letters to the editor

This is an open forum for your opinions and comments.

MAIL TO: The Shoreline Journal, P.O. Box 41, Bass River, NS, B0M 1B0
(902) 647-2968; Fax: 902-647-2194 Email: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

Dear Editor:

Thanks for including my article in the Shoreline Journal regarding the Terry Fox Run in Great Village.

In just two hours we raised \$1,362 for Cancer research.

I am including a cheque for a subscription to the Shoreline Journal for my "elderly" (87 years young) BC cousin who was home for the Glenholme School and enjoyed reading your paper.

Sincerely,
Debbie Smith,
R.R. #1 Great Village

Dear Editor:

Your Tax Dollar at Work

A number of years ago my neighbour planted evergreen seedlings on a corner of her property near the Valley Road in Wentworth. People who plant trees do so for a variety of reasons among which is the enhancement to the attractiveness of their property and the enjoyment derived from watching seedlings grow into healthy trees over the years.

These are pleasures that can be shared with neighbours and passers-by. Tree planting takes place in both rural and urban areas and is a

respected agricultural activity.

A few days ago my neighbour visited her thriving young trees to find them in the condition shown in the accompanying photo. This was not a result of a natural disaster or vandalism but of the Nova Scotia government's Department of Highways 'maintenance' policy for rural roads. Workmen were given a cutting machine and told to cut all growth within a certain distance of the centre of the Valley Road. This machine twists and tears off bushes and mutilates any trees in which it comes in contact. It leaves a singularly ugly result along the roadside and is a wasteful and unsightly way of controlling growth.

Our government, in its wisdom, spends millions of dollars to encourage people to visit our province touting its natural beauty as worth experiencing. This is true - we in Nova Scotia do live surrounded by scenery that others find worth a trip to see. I think most of us, particularly rural people, appreciate this fact. This same government, in its wisdom, spends millions of dollars in highway mainte-

nance' that essentially destroys this beauty. What tourist would want to drive along a road bordered by the twisted remains of bushes and mutilated trees?

Our tax dollars at work - coming soon to a country road near you!

Carol Hyslop
Wentworth Valley, NS

Dear Maurice:

I was reading an article in your newspaper online about the old Hillside Cemetery in Londonderry. My husband's family members are buried there.

My husband and I are visiting from Victoria, BC and drove to Londonderry today to find the old cemetery but were unsuccessful.

Can you possibly give us directions that would let us find the graveyard as we would like to visit the graves and take photographs so our children could see them?

Any help you could give would be much appreciated. We visit Nova Scotia once a year so would like to find this cemetery on our trip next year.

Helen Edwards
Victoria, BC

(Editor's Note: Genealogy and visiting cemeteries is important to many people, who often make a special trip to connect with their "roots". It's unfortunate Mrs. Edwards and her husband were unable to find the Hillside Cemetery in Londonderry. I'll make two commitments. I will consult with people in the area to see if new signage is required.

Cost of Postgraduate Education Will Continue to Rise

By Kim Inglis

According to a poll conducted by Leger Marketing for CIBC, 33 per cent of Canadian parents with children under the age of 25 have assumed additional debt to help fund their children's education. As a result, 60 per cent of those polled have saved less for their retirement than they had planned, and now face a greater likelihood of having to work longer. Given the rising cost of postgraduate education, this is not surprising.

A Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives report found that tuition and other compulsory fees for Canadian undergraduate students are projected to rise to \$6,842 by 2016-17. That will be a tripling of the cost from 1990. Ontario, the most expensive province, will rise to \$9,517. Factoring in other expenditures such as books, living expenses and transportation



costs, a four-year undergraduate degree is estimated to cost \$80,000.

The pain associated with saving for a child's postgraduate education can be reduced with early planning and, of course, the first step is to create a comprehensive financial plan. It adds perspective, helps in the visualization of goals, and creates the foundation for a savings plan and debt management.

It's wise to develop strategies that combine the benefits of various registered savings plans. By integrating plans for Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs), Tax-Free Savings Accounts (TFSA), and Registered Education Savings Plans (RESPs), parents can greatly

continued on page 6



The Shoreline Journal

Here's where to find us:

BASS RIVER:
Bayside Pharmacy
Dominion Chair Factory Store

BIBLE HILL:
C.W. Fraser Pharmacy
MacQuarries Pharmacy

DEBERT:
Barnhill's Superette
Debert Mini-Mart

FIVE ISLANDS:
Masstown Market Five Islands

GLENHOLME:
Double "C" Truckstop
Glenholme General Store

GREAT VILLAGE:
Wilson's Gas

MAITLAND:
Frieze & Roy General Store

MASSTOWN:
Masstown Market

NORTH RIVER:
Grant's Grocery

ONSLow:
Onslow Market

PARRSBORO:
CrossRoads Co-op
Ken's Grocery
Wright's Pharmasave

TRURO:
Atlantic Superstore
MacQuarrie's Pharmasave (Esplanade)
tshirtsrus.ca

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If you have a suggestion, or wish to have the Shoreline available from your store, please contact:
Maurice Rees, Publisher
902-647-2968,
or E-MAIL:
maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

Secondly, I've asked Mrs. Edwards for the names of ancestors to see if I can arrange for some photography to be sent to her along with directions so they can easily find Hillside on their trip in 2014).

2013 Adult Voting - Popular Vote

Actual adult election results on a province-wide basis:

Liberals: 51 candidates winning 33 seats garnering 188,846 votes for 45.52% of the popular vote

P.C.'s: 51 candidates winning 11 seats comprising 109,483 votes for 26.39% of the popular vote.

NDP: 51 candidates winning 7 seats resulting from 111,619 votes and 26.90% of the popular vote.

Green Party: 16 candidates for No seats but attracting 3,698 votes for .89% of the popular vote.

Independent: 7 candidates for 1,237 votes for .30% of the popular vote.

2013 Adult Voting Election Results for Truro - Bible Hill

3 Candidates

Lenore Zann, NDP, 3165 votes (38.05%)
Barry J. Mellish, Liberal, 2682 votes (32.25%)
Charles Cox, NDP, 2470 votes (29.70%)

Total Votes Cast - 8317

2013 Adult Voting Election Results for Colchester North

3 Candidates

Karen Casey, Liberal, 5005 votes (60.95%)
John K. MacDonald, PC, 2167 votes (26.39%)
Jim Wyatt, NDP, 1040 votes (12.66%)

Total Votes Cast: 8212

2013 Adult Voting Election Results for Cumberland South

4 Candidates

Jamie Baillie, PC, 3653 votes (50.95%)
Larry M. Duchesne, NDP, 872 votes (12.16%)
Kenny John Jackson, Liberal, 2417 votes (33.71%)
Bruce W. McCulloch, Green Party, 228 votes (3.18%)

Total Votes Cast - 7170

The Shoreline Journal (circ. 1300) is a monthly community newspaper serving communities along the Glooscap Trail from Truro to Parrsboro, Nova Scotia serving the communities of Belmont/Debert, Wentworth/Londonderry, Onslow/Masstown along the shore to Great Village, Bass River, Economy, Five Islands and Lower Five Islands. It is published on the last Wednesday of each month (earlier in December) with a deadline of the 20th of the month.

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PHONE: 902-647-2968; Fax: 902-647-2194 Toll Free 1-800-406-1426; Cell: 902-890-9850 • E-MAIL: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

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