

REES' Pieces

In the Maritimes late summer is normally the season when hurricanes cause the most turbulence. Hurricane Juan lambasted us in early September a few years ago, and Irene did some major damage but she was not as wide spread as Juan. So far we have been rather lucky, but we could still get hit by a big one, but as each day goes by, the chances are reduced.

However, we should keep our guards up, as weather patterns have been changing. Late spring and early summer seemingly are not as nice as I remember as a child, or even 10 years ago, but our summer weather or Indian Summer as we used to call the fine days in late September and early October are becoming more prevalent. Summer weather seems to be stretching farther into late October.

In the second quarter of 2011, starting just about the time we went to the polls to elect a majority Conservative Government, we started to experience turbulence of a different sort. The weather type lasts only a few hours, and then it's a matter of dealing with the damage, and cleanup which varies according to where we were positioned relative to the eye of the storm. This summer's turmoil is of the economic variety, which is like a large blanket affecting all of us.

The Maritime economy seemed to be rolling along, with companies returning to a higher level of profitability, but lagging in job creation. The higher level of the Canadian \$\$\$ compared to the American Greenback was causing problems for exporters, tourism operators were reporting less USA traffic as the Americans don't like having to pay an exchange rate. Then, more Canadians were making more frequent trips stateside for shopping or recreation. The fragile economy of border towns was made even worse as more of the disposable income was spent stateside.

Next we started hearing about the crisis in Europe with possible default in Greece, Italy, Spain and Portugal, to name just a few. Being a fair distance from us, rural country folk and most of Nova Scotia's residents would barely notice any immediate changes, except in the trickledown effect of dwindling confidence of our larger economic stimulators.

But the tide changed 180 degrees in late August; with news of troubles at the two New Page paper machines in Point Tupper. Like a major hurricane or tornado, the New Page saga got worse and worse every day.

Just as the second paper machine drew to an idle, the plant went into Creditor Protection in Canada, and the entire corporation went into Chapter 11 stateside. The 1,000 direct jobs equates to almost 7,000 lost jobs after all the numbers are crunched. Contractors, who had been promised payment within a week, are now owed millions, and may not see all their money.

The Dexter government and municipal leaders are running fast to find a new buyer for the mill, with the hopes of have new owners in place by the end of November. The mill's closure in addition to the loss of jobs is going to be an expensive problem as Nova Scotia Power will likely increase rates to offset \$100-million in lost revenue.

I'm not an economist, or a number cruncher, but I believe in "home grown". For over 30 years, we have flirted with or danced to the tune of foreign owners of the mill. If there is a chance the mill can be successful and profitable, I suspect Nova Scotians, working within the plant, would make it happen.

Is it not sensible to believe, Nova Scotians should be the owners. Rather than again offer one of most modern and technology advanced paper machines in the world to foreigners at "fire sale prices", would it not be more prudent for the feds, province, unions and Nova Scotia's wealthiest business people take a run at it. What would be wrong with having names like Sobey, Jourdre, Shannon, Chisholm, Risley, MacDonald and others each taking a piece of the action. After all, with a strong economy it's those people, with major business holdings, who stand the most to gain.

Conversely, if it fails, then we all go down together avoiding the feeling a foreign company has just pillaged us again.

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:
Arthritis is among the leading causes of disability in Canada. It affects nearly 4.5 million people of every age and ethnic background in Canada. With September being Arthritis Awareness Month, Doctors Nova Scotia is spreading the good news; you can control how arthritis affects your life.
Arthritis refers to inflammation of the joint, or redness, swelling, stiffness and pain in the joint. Joint pain is a daily reality for millions of Canadians, but unfortunately many never follow up with their health-care provider. Learning more about what lies behind your joint pain could help you improve the quality of your life.
Although there is no cure for arthritis, there are many ways to medically control your arthritis to either stop or slow the progression of the disease.
While most Canadians suffering from arthritis assume physical activity is harmful to their body, the opposite is true. A properly-designed exercise program can not only decrease your pain, but also increase your flexibility. Most people with arthritis can lead very active lives. Your doctor can help you combine the right medication and an appropriate exercise program. Becoming physically active is one of the ways you

can tackle arthritis pain and can be an important part of your treatment plan.
Some of the many benefits of exercise are decreased pain, healthier joints, increased bone strength, increased joint range of motion, and better sleep.
For people who live inactive lifestyles, beginning a physically active program can be daunting. It doesn't have to be. Becoming more active can be as simple as taking a stroll around your neighborhood, parking farther away from an entrance, and taking the stairs instead of the elevator. Incorporating 30 minutes of physical activity in your daily routine will help you manage your arthritis pain and enhance your overall health.
Doctors Nova Scotia reminds people with arthritis to talk to their doctor about incorporating physical activity into their treatment program. Living a more active life will control your arthritis pain and help manage your symptoms. For more information about managing your arthritis, visit www.arthritis.ca.

Sincerely,
John Chiasson, BSc, MD
President, Doctors Nova Scotia
www.doctorsns.com

“Home of the Long Tides” ELIZABETH BISHOP CENTENARY CLOSING CELEBRATIONS

By Linda Harrington
After a highly successful year in Nova Scotia honoring Elizabeth Bishop's 100th birthday, her life, work and connection to the province, the Elizabeth Bishop Society of Nova Scotia is hosting a three-day celebration, which brings Elizabeth Bishop back to the heart of her childhood home.
On Friday, 30 September 2011, 7:00 p.m. poet and naturalist Harry Thurston will present "Tidal Life": An Illustrated talk about the Bay of Fundy at the Alumni Theatre, NSAC. No admission fee.
"The Moose" Route: A guided bus tour of the Bay of Fundy, through the heart of Elizabeth Bishop's childhood home with poet and naturalist Harry Thurston will take place on Saturday, October 1st. This tour is inspired by Elizabeth Bishop's iconic poem "The Moose." Pre-Registration was due by Sept 20th but you may contact Sandra Barry at 902-429-6385 or slbarry@ns.sympatico.ca to see if any spaces are still available. The tour loads in Great Village at 9:30 a.m. for 10:00 a.m. departure and returns to Great Village at 6:00 p.m. Cost: \$45 includes lunch at Wild Carraway, Advocate Harbour.
A Gala Concert, "I am in need of music": A tribute in words and music to our beloved Nova Scotia poet Elizabeth Bishop will be held on Sunday, October 2nd, 3:00 p.m. in St. James United Church, Great Village.

Featured artists include Suzie LeBlanc, Blue Engine String Quartet, Jocelyne Fleury, John Plant, Harry Thurston, and a world premiere screening of "Sandpiper," a music video produced Pink Dog Productions. To reserve tickets online: contact slbarry@ns.sympatico.ca or go to <http://eb100closingcelebrations.eventbrite.com/>; to reserve by phone: 902-429-6385 or purchase in person at the gift shop counter at Masstown Market and at the door.

The Elizabeth Bishop Society of Nova

Scotia is Canada's only society devoted to celebrating the life and art of the poet Elizabeth Bishop. Educating Nova Scotians and the world about her deep and abiding connections to the province is its purpose.

School is back...
DRIVE CAREFULLY
The Shoreline Journal

The Shoreline Journal

Here's where to find us:

BASS RIVER: Bayside Pharmacy Dominion Chair Factory Store	GREAT VILLAGE: C. D. Smith's Rite-Stop Wilson's Gas
BELMONT: Belmont General Store	MAITLAND: Frieze & Roy General Store
BIBLE HILL: C.W. Fraser Pharmacy MacQuarries Pharmacy	MASSTOWN: Masstown Market
DEBERT: Barnhill's Superette Debert Mini-Mart	NORTH RIVER: Grant's Grocery
ECONOMY: Economy Country Store	ONSLow: Onslow Market
FIVE ISLANDS: Diane's Restaurant Ellis Video Masstown Market Five Islands Mo's Café	PARRSBORO: CrossRoads Co-op Ken's Grocery Wright's Pharmasave
GLENHOLME: Double "C" Truckstop Glenholme General Store	TRURO: Atlantic Superstore Cavanagh's Market Ltd. MacQuarrie's Pharmasave (Esplanade)

We are interested in placing the Shoreline Journal in additional locations. 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

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.

MAILING ADDRESS: The Shoreline Journal, P.O. Box 41, Bass River, Nova Scotia, B0M 1B0.
PHONE: 902-647-2968; **Fax:** 902-647-2194 **Toll Free:** 1-800-406-1426; **Cell:** 902-890-9850 • **E-MAIL:** maurice@theshorelinejournal.com
EDITOR PUBLISHER: Maurice Rees • **ADVERTISING:** Maurice Rees • **CIRCULATION:** Dorothy Rees
Canadian Publications Mail Products Agreement #40048924, ISSN #1209-9198

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
LOCAL SUBSCRIPTIONS: B0M / B2N - \$23.00, PLUS HST = \$26.45 • **ALL PARTS OF NS:** \$26.00 plus HST = \$29.90
ALL OTHER AREAS OF CANADA: \$28.00, plus HST = \$32.20 • **USA SUBSCRIPTIONS:** \$40.00
HST: #890564404RT001. Printed by Advocate Printing & Publishing Ltd, Pictou, Nova Scotia

All rights reserved. Material published in The Shoreline Journal may not be reproduced in any form without prior approval of the publisher. Material to be returned to sender must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope.
1996 Heritage Award recipient. Listed with Canadian Advertising Rates & Data (CARD) and Bowden's Media Monitoring Service.
We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for our publishing activities.

The publisher is not responsible for minor errors in ads, which do not lessen the value of the item(s). The publisher is not responsible for space beyond that portion of the advertisement containing the item(s) in error. Letters to the editor are subject to editing or rejection, must be signed by the author and contain a phone number.