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# The Shoreline Journal

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## FRONT PAGE BRIEFS

### October 2013

**The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Oktoberfest** in Tatamagouche, NS, being held on Sept. 27 and 28, 2013. Hosted by the North Shore Bavarian Society, this Oktoberfest is the largest in Atlantic Canada, drawing more than 3,000 people every year in celebration of this worldwide German tradition. Partygoers can dance to the music of two live bands, The Variations and The Alpine Echo.

**Joy Laking** is celebrating twenty-five years of annual autumn Open House Exhibitions at her gallery 6730 Hwy # 2, Bass River, October 19, 20, 26 and 27 between 10 and 5. This year's exhibition features fifty new paintings of Nova Scotia including nine never before seen from Gabarus, Cape Breton. During this recent painting trip, Joy was treated to Nova Scotia hospitality with many of the folks in Gabarus, bringing her food. Joy's recent paintings are lively acrylics and watercolours.

**The Board of Directors** for the Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia has announced six Regional Hub Convenors have been selected to carry out the Council's work throughout the province. The convenors, who will be located in host organizations selected earlier in the year, will play a vital role in creating a collective voice for the province's non-profit sector. They will enhance the Community Sector Council's capacity to address labour force and human resource issues within non-profit organizations across the province. Wendy Johnston represents the Northern Region and will be working out of the Tatamagouche Centre.

**You have one civic duty**, which you should exercise on October 8<sup>th</sup>. There is an adage from long ago, if you don't vote, you can't complain, so please get out and vote. Over the past 30+ years fewer people who are eligible to vote have been going to the polls on election day. It would be nice if Cumberland South and Colchester North residents could muster the interest to have the highest percentage of eligible voters cast their ballots on October 8<sup>th</sup>. That would be one way to show politicians that "rural Nova Scotia cares" is still alive and demands their attention and input, after all rural areas are the provinces "true" economic engine.

**Humour Corner:** Having shot a moose, two hunters began dragging it by the tail to their pick-up. On the way they were stopped by a game warden. "Let me see your hunting licenses boys," he said. When he saw that everything was in order he asked if he could give them some advice. "Sure!" the hunters agreed. "Well boys, I think that you would be finding it a lot easier to be draggin' dat moose by the horns and not the tail." "Aye, O.K. And tanks," said the lads. After about five minutes one said to the other, "Bye, draggin' by the horns is sure some easier?" "Aye, you're right," said his friend, "but have you noticed that we are getting further away from the truck?"

## Powerful Anti-Bullying Message to Students



**Strong support to end bullying in our schools.**

*By Linda Harrington*

Schools in Chignecto Central Regional School Board (CCRSB) wasted no time in getting a powerful anti-bullying message out to their students. The second

Thursday in September, Provincial Anti-Bullying Day, fell on Sept. 12th this year and this day was recognized locally with a new CCRSB sponsored "Stand Up, Speak Out. *Continued on page 12 & 13*

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## Chen Guan Ming, the Unofficial Olympic Ambassador

*By Linda Harrington*

After the success of China's bid for the 2008 Olympic Games back in 2001, a fifty-three year old farmer named Chen Guan Ming began to ride a rickshaw to promote the Olympics. By the time the Olympics were host-

ed in Beijing, he had ridden 90,000 km throughout China, visiting over 33 provinces and 1700 towns.

He was interviewed by USA Today at the 2008 Olympics and said his parents didn't approve of what he was doing. "But I am proud of

what I have done. It is not wasted effort, as I've been promoting the 'green Olympics' everywhere, using my actions to persuade people to change their behavior, such as not littering." He noted the hardest part of his journey was pulling his tricy-



Still smiling after over 100,000 kilometers pedaling a rickshaw through China, and onward to London, England. Mr. Chen Guan Ming has begun a cross Canada journey as he makes his way to Brazil for the 2016 Olympics. He passed through Glenholme on Sept. 12th (Harrington Photo)

## Platnauer Family in Limbo

Four years ago, the Platnauer family was thrilled to have made Bass River their new home. They joined the local volunteer Fire Brigade, helping out in the community wherever they could. Now they are facing the possibility of being sent back to England.

Sean Platnauer came to Canada on a work permit in 2009 with his wife Becky and daughter Angelica. After two years, his job fell through and with no other employment offerings Sean returned to Europe in order to support his family. Jobs in the Software

Engineering field are difficult to find in Nova Scotia, so Sean accepted a position in Sweden where he works three weeks at a time.

"We looked at this as a temporary fix, until a job opened up in Canada," says Becky. "Conditions of the work visa mean he can't just accept any job here, it has to be in the Software Engineering field."

The 4 year Work Visa was running out and this past April they applied to the Canadian Experience Class (CEC) hoping to be granted

permanent residency. The CRC website states. "After you have lived in Canada for some time, you may have good English or French skills, the right kind of skilled work experience, and be used to Canadian society. The Canadian Experience Class (CEC) was created to help people like this take part in the Canadian economy. If you are a temporary foreign worker or a foreign student, and have skilled work experience in Canada, you may be in a good position to move from temporary to permanent residence under the (CEC)."

This sounded exactly what

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## MP Armstrong now Parliamentary Secretary

Cumberland - Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley Member of Parliament Scott Armstrong to the position of Parliamentary Secretary to the Honourable Jason Kenney, Minister of Employment and Social Development.

The role of Parliamentary Secretary is to assist the Minister in operating the assigned Department; answer

questions in Question Period when the Minister is not present and take on special projects assigned by the Government.

This is MP Armstrong's second promotion in the last thirteen months. Prime Minister Harper appointed him as Chair of Atlantic Caucus last August.

## Tidal Power Resource Much Larger Than Anticipated

*By Lawrence Nicoll*

The Tidal Energy session by the project team of the Strategic Environmental Assessment was held on September 11 in Parrsboro was extremely informative. Those in attendance were provided with a thorough update on lessons learned and of the results of the studies done since that first tidal generator was installed.

It appears far more energy is available than was ever expected. Even the modest scale that is anticipated to be installed will provide a powerful and stable source of energy. There is a large array of sensors currently installed to continue to gather data, although some information and concepts can only be verified once installations are complete.

A press release issued by AECOM states: Nova Scotia's tidal energy resource in the Bay of Fundy is a significant opportunity to foster a new and innovative industry that will not only benefit the Nova Scotian economy through direct investment, but will also enable Nova Scotia to move towards a cleaner energy future. A presentation on this subject was given at the Parrsboro Fire Hall by the project team undertaking an update to the Strategic Environmental Assessment for tidal energy in the Bay of Fundy.

Given advances in the tidal

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