

# REES' Pieces

## What will November 8<sup>TH</sup> Bring?

Will it be Hilary or Donald? If its Donald, Nova Scotia's declining population problems could be partially solved, if our friends south of the border follow through with anything proportional to the expressions of interest shown in Cape Breton last winter. Should all or part of that become reality, it could be an opportunity for Colchester to try to persuade some of them to stop and have a look here.

In broader terms, such activity in USA could bode well for our tourism sector as more and more Americans could be looking for a friendly space to run and hide. If any of that happens let's hope they come here not just as occasional visitors, or part-time residents, but jump in with both feet and relocate some of their business interests here.

At the Matthew Harrison family, Lynn Mountain, open house and 2016 provincial woodlot owner of the year celebrations on Saturday, September 24th, I had the opportunity to speak to a couple who summer in Five Islands from Massachusetts. The conversation got around to the USA election. They are totally disgusted, but feel Trump is of greatest concern.

We should not spend too much time worrying about their November election, except how exports might be affected if USA starts to close down some of the border to freer trade. We have enough on our plate to solve. We'll be best focusing on our own solutions.

Our economy is not functioning as it should. Blueberry prices are down and some farmers are talking about plowing up some of their land, which will be most detrimental over the longer term once more exports are found and prices rebound. Blueberry producers have been on a good run for a number of years, and right now they are in a downward cycle, which has hit the oil and gas sector; potato farmers, the lumber industry and lobster fishermen.

These are cycles. We need to be prepared. Solutions will come in time. Our problems are far deeper than anything evolving from the resource sector. With an aging population and massive out migration of youth to other parts, we need to focus on improvements and efficiencies to healthcare; how to reduce education costs – maybe bus a few students from suburbs to nearby rural schools areas rather than spend \$-Millions building new schools. Some of the 23 schools built under the P-3 program 20 years ago are not needed and will be mothballs, or a large payout will be given to the developers, because we are not renewing the leases.

I remember being at a Halifax Chamber of Commerce annual dinner in Halifax, back in the mid-80's when economist, Allan Gregory, told the 700 attendees - purportedly the leading Halifax business executives, that with 30 years Nova Scotia would face major problems with an aging population and out migration of youth. Not that I was so smart, but I remember his talk well.

However, the elite who controlled Halifax scoffed at his remarks, because the 30-40 years would be far beyond their active working career. If his remarks had been taken seriously at the time, we, as a province, could have been ahead of the curve taking action to avoid both problems.

I'm hopeful the Mayor of Colchester, whoever it is, he or she along with council will see it in their wisdom to engage a leading futuristic economist who can deliver a presentation on where Colchester will be 20, 30, 40 & 50 years, based on birth rates, business trends, etc.

If such a presentation was given, every community groups leader paired with a leading high school student from their area from every nook and cranny of the county should be asked to attend, not only to listen to him talk, but participate in a series of 3-4 hours of workshops he would conduct during the day, followed up with his official presentation at a gigantic gala evening. Yes it might cost \$30,000- \$40,000, but given its potential and foresight would be unequalled in all of Nova Scotia.

I wonder if the new council is up to the challenge to host this in 2017, the year of Canada's 150th birthday.

**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  
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August 31, 2016  
Letter to Editor

We are very pleased to renew our subscription and have enjoyed the paper for a number of years.

The paper provides coverage of local news not covered by others in our back yard. Hats off for a good job - well done.

**Evelyn & John Harrison  
Debert, NS**

## Do You Have Bad Breath?

By Christine Urquhart

Do you have bad breath that seems to last all day? If your morning breath seems to last all day, and you have brushed your teeth, you may not be drinking enough water.

Keeping your mouth moist helps wash away food particles and bacteria, which helps keep bad breath at bay. Chewing gum (preferably sugarless) or sucking on candy (again, sugarless) can help, too.

If you have chronic dry mouth, your dentist or doctor may recommend an artificial saliva preparation or an oral medication that stimulates the flow of saliva.

## I Know and Understand the Community

By Christine Blair

A lifelong resident of Colchester, I know and understand our community. I have met and worked with many of you during my years in the work force, as a community volunteer, and as a parent. I have been your elected representative in municipal government for 24 years, serving on Colchester county Council and the Bible Hill Village Commission.

Elected representatives need to be responsible and accountable. Sometimes we have to be firm, while other situations call for negotiation and compromise. I am known for looking at all sides of an issue, for initiating the "new" while honouring tradition, and exercising logic and old-fashioned common sense. I know how to deal with crucial issues. I stand up for my constituents. If you want someone with these capabilities, I am that person.

Any municipal council must be a team, working

together to achieve common goals in the best interests of everyone in our county. Council must work with the business community and with all levels of government, with knowledge, with courtesy and with diplomacy. It is only when we work as a team that things move forward. Opportunities are missed when the team approach is not there. I believe that by working together we can make more positive things happen in Colchester!

There are a number of large projects that Colchester will be working on in the future: the expansion of Perennia Innovation Centre; upgrading the Debert Airport; creating a positive atmosphere to entice business to Colchester County; developing the former Palliser property as a destination point; and continuing research in waste to energy. Further to projects, Colchester has the day-to-day services to con-

stituents which must continue, some, for example, as basic as garbage collection, sidewalks, and essential fire and emergency services.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my 24 years of municipal experience. I am now looking forward to working hard on your behalf as Mayor of Colchester county. On October 15, I ask for your support.

**Christine Blair is current  
Councillor & Mayorality  
Candidate for Colchester County**

Deadline for the  
November issue of  
The  
**Shoreline**  
Journal  
is October 25

## Illegal Signage in Colchester County

Continued from page 1  
lot or premises.

Translated into general terms, the by-law is specific if a sign is to be erected it must be done on property owned by the business / business owner. Even if the business owner has permission from the landowner the sign is still illegal. For example, a restaurant or motel owner is not permitted to erect a sign advising the business is located further along the highway.

The regulations regarding signage are contained in the Central Colchester Land Use By-law 2002. It adopted by council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester after it was approved on June 20, 2002 by the Minister of

Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations. The by-law heading notes text amendments were made on July 15, 2002.

The by-law in its entirety can be found on www.colchester.ca under By-Laws under the heading: Central Colchester Land Use By-law - Chapter 40 on Page 30 Section 8.3.

After considerable discussion on how to handle the matter council committee, upon the advice of solicitor James, agreed to send the matter to the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) under the direction of Tom Taggart, chair, who has served for 8 years as councillor for District 10. Under its consideration PAC

will rely upon staff and legal input to come back to council with revisions to the signage by-law.

From the feelings expressed around council, even though you are technically in violation of the by-law don't expect by-law officials to come knocking on your door. In the spirit of the law, all complaints about signs must be dealt with in the normal course of enforcement, but council is not intent upon making a rush to remove signs. The spirit of council is to study the matter and come forward with appropriate solutions, yet still act appropriately in by-law enforcement.

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  
MTM Retail Gas (Petro-Can)

### 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  
94 Esplanade Truro

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