

Smiles and faces

(born free live free die free)

**There are so many types of faces
There are so many different places
There are so many shades of flowers
There are so many brilliant powers
There are times when these faces
Can take us to different places**

**But when your mind does roam
You know you can call this home
There are so many hearts we hold
There are so many secrets to unfold
But when you think you are out of place
Hold out your hand to "amazing grace"**

**God bless and thank-you
Thomas A. Marshall (Ex-navy)**

From the stars before us to the stars that are yet to become

What happened to that large clearcut?

A Walk In The Woods

By Donald Cameron, RFP

Leggate family being recognized with award for outstanding forest stewardship and public field day

Back in 1998, one of the largest clearcut areas in the province was available to purchase. It was at this time that James Leggate recognized an opportunity to make a significant difference on the landscape. He purchased the 600-acre clearcut woodland with the long-term vision of reforesting it and creating a healthy forest full of biodiversity and resilience.

Flash forward 24 years - James has turned this investment into a home with wife Christina and their 2 teenagers. The general public now has an opportunity to see the amazing success of what the young couple have accomplished to date.

Recently, the Leggate family received very special recognition when it was announced that they won the Nova Scotia 2022 Woodland Owner of the Year Award. The annual award recognizes and rewards landowners for outstanding stewardship of their woodlands. The award was developed more than 30 years ago to encourage woodland owners to practice sustainable woodland management and to increase public awareness of the importance of private woodlands, which represent approximately 50% of Nova Scotia forests.

As part of the celebration, there will be a large public field day on their property Saturday, October 1st from 9am to 4pm, and all are invited to attend. The field day will include touring around the woodland property, visiting various trails and forest treatment areas, as well as exhibits and demonstrations by a variety of individuals and organizations. A hearty barbecue lunch will be available to purchase and will be served under a large tent by Sizzler BBQ Catering. The event will occur rain or shine.

The Leggate woodland property is located in Five Mile River, Hants Co., near Kennetcook. The civic address for the field day woodland road entrance is 6079 Highway 236 - just look for the signs. James, and his father James, have done much of the planting, fill-planting and pre-commercial thinning work on the property over the years. More recently their 16-year-old son and 14 year old daughter have also been actively involved in planting.

Immediately after James purchased the property in 1998, they started preparing the site for planting a variety of tree species. From 1999 to 2000, they planted a remarkable amount - 350 acres. There was also a large amount of clearcut area fill-planted with various species, where the natural regeneration was lacking.



Donald Cameron, RFP

Something visitors will quickly notice is that a variety of tree species are growing well throughout. Even where the areas were planted - such as with red spruce seedlings, there are often many other species mixed in, such as red maple, white and yellow birch, balsam fir, poplar and white pine. Nowhere do you see a monoculture where just one tree species dominates.

This is by design, as the Leggates are managing their woodland to grow fast-growing healthy forests that contain much biodiversity and resilience in preparation for climate change and insect infestation risks. James is proud of the fact that some forest stands have progressed to the stage where they are ready for thinning activity that would remove the less healthy, suppressed trees and free up more space for the remaining, better growing trees, for the long term. James and Christina have a long-term objective where they hope to become fairly self-sustainable by raising cattle, chickens, and sheep on land converted to agricultural fields, while producing various forest products - including sawn products in future years.

James has owned and operated a professional silviculture contracting business for 27 years, where he has completed silviculture treatments - such as planting and pre-commercial thinning, on Crown and forestry company lands. He and his father have worked side by side on countless projects up until recently when James Senior was planting thousands of tree seedlings up to age 85. Anyone who has planted seedlings can only imagine and appreciate the great attitude and incredible work ethic of this hard-working gentleman.

James has recently arranged to harvest a front section of his woodland in order to clear the land for additional cattle grazing field so that they can enlarge their small herd of beef cattle. He is also planning to soon undertake the first commercial thinning treatment, which will be demonstrated by small-scale forestry equipment during the field day.

Other features to be enjoyed at the field day include a portable sawmill, wildfire prevention and suppression, conservation enforcement, forest insects and diseases, Provincial Protected Areas program, Growing Forestlands for carbon credits, tractor and winch equipment, woodland road funding and construction, wetland protection, wildlife, geological resources, nature trails, beaver dam, water courses and speaking with many experts on various forest related topics. Woodland owners will especially benefit from attending the field day by learning about available programs, funding

species that frequent their property, including beaver, bear, deer, bobcat, coyote, porcupine, blue heron, squirrel, snowshoe hare, weasel, eagle, osprey and many more. Their intention is to protect and enhance, where possible, wildlife habitat to increase the biodiversity of plants and animals for the long term. James hopes to be able to implement selection harvesting techniques that will allow him to create more uneven-aged forest conditions in the future, which will make the forest more resilient to environmental challenges in the future.

For more information on the forest field day on Saturday, October 1st, call 902-430-0815 or 902-893-6415. Don Cameron, RFP works out of Truro Office

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LAWSON, Dale Trevor - 88, Little Bass River, formerly of Antigonish, passed away peacefully on Saturday, September 10, 2022, at Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro, surrounded by family. Born in Little Bass River, he was the son of the late Ervin and Aletha (Dutcher) Lawson. He will be dearly missed by his children, Paul (Rigoberto Dela Cruz), Toronto; Karen, Little Bass River; Susan Stewart (Ken), Antigonish; grandchildren, Caitlyn Henley (Lloyd) and their son, Hunter, Antigonish; Trevor (Molly) Stewart, Fredericton, New Brunswick; Aletha Stewart and her daughter, Ezinne, Antigonish; foster brothers, Harold Seeton, Edmonton, Alberta; George Seeton, WaWa, Ontario; sisters-in-law, Peggy Lawson, Huntsville Ontario; brother-in-law, Arnold Williams, Green Hill, Nova Scotia; many nieces and nephews. Along with his parents, he was predeceased by his wife, June; daughter, Heather; sister, Dorothy (Williams); brothers, Douglas, Donald, Darrell; nephews, Bradley and Darwin. We would like to thank the VON Home Care Workers, whose caring support enabled Dad to stay in his own home. We would also like to thank Leona Allen, whose guidance and compassion were invaluable to us. Thank you also to Myrna Fisher for her friendship and support over all these years and Dianne Wenham, neighbour extraordinaire. Funeral service was held Saturday, September 17, 2022, at Riverside United Church, 5577 Highway 2, Bass River, Reverend April Hart officiated. Interment was held in Riverside United Church Cemetery. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall – Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro. Full obituary and condolences at: www.mattatallvarnerfh.com

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