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PO BOX #41 BASS RIVER, NS B0M 1B0
Publications Mail™ #40048924 - VOL. 25 NO. 9

SEPTEMBER 2021 **\$1.95 + HST**



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Debert Playground gets \$25,000 from United Way

By Linda Harrington

The Debert Playground Committee recently received a welcomed \$25,000 grant from the United Way of Colchester County giving their fund-raising efforts a huge boost and allowing the build of Phase 1 to begin.

Sarah Flemming, Executive Director for United Way of Colchester stepped by Debert

Elementary on August 9th to present the \$25,000 cheque to Principal Stephen Fultz and Playground Committee Co-chair, Alisha Johnson. The funds were made available through the "Inspired by Compassion" Grant, funded by Scotiabank.

"Scotiabank reached out to United Way last September with a \$100,000 donation,"

says Sarah. "They were looking to give back to the communities most affected by the April shootings and this resulted in the Inspired by Compassion Grant."

The Debert Elementary PTA sent in a grant proposal earlier this year and was very pleased to learn they were receiving \$25,000 for the playground. "The United Way is interested in helping kids be all they can be and what better way than a playground," says Sarah. "There were several applications, totaling more than \$200,000, which shows there is further need for program support. Businesses and individuals are encouraging to support the upcoming campaign." Four other projects receiving grant money included McPhee Centre for Creative Learning- Summer camp in Portauptique; Bridges- free counseling for abusive men (with a target in West Colchester); Maggie's Place- Additional programs and supports in the Debert and Wentworth areas; Riverside Community Hall Society- Re-Build Project (Community Hall).

Alisha Johnson and Principal Fultz recently met with playground designer Cobequid Consulting to finalize some of the plans for Phase 1, which should be completed

by next spring. "Phase 1 will include an accessible sand kitchen, volta inclusive spinner, outdoor classroom, music garden, and an enchanted forest," says Alisha. "The Volta Inclusive Spinner has been donated by the Truro Rotary Club, through the Portauptique Community Fund and provided at a discounted rate by Cobequid Consulting. We are excited to add this unique piece of playground equipment, which is designed for users of all shapes, sizes and abilities, with room for up to nine children."

The Debert Playground Committee would like to thank the community for their support in helping raise \$130,000 towards the final goal of \$260,000 for all three phases. "The final total includes "in kind" contributions," says Alisha. "As we begin Phase 1, we hope there are individuals and businesses who may be able to offer their time, materials or machinery to keep the final costs down."

The new playground is going to be dedicated in memory of Lisa McCully, one of the victims of the April shootings, and a grade 3 and 4 teacher at Debert Elementary. "The playground will be in Lisa's memory and a happy place for the entire community to use in the years to come," says Alisha.

FRONT PAGE BRIEFS September 2021

Tom Taggart will be sworn in as the new MLA for Colchester North on August 30. He replaces Karen Casey who did not reoffer. Taggart submitted a letter of resignation from Colchester Municipal Council on August 26. He had represented District 10 since 2008.

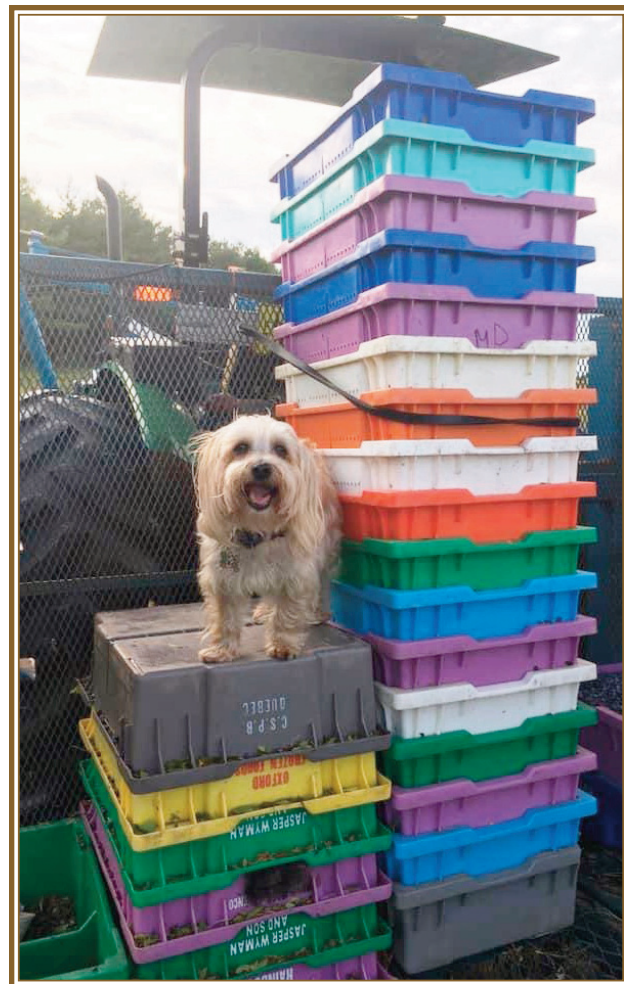
Adria Gloade, 37, of Millbrook, has been charged with Accessory after the Fact to Murder in relation to the homicide of a 42-year-old Sipekne'katik man in Millbrook on July 12. She was arrested in Quebec on August 6th remanded into custody and was scheduled to appear in court August 27th. Gloade was previously reported missing and information concerning her being missing was released publicly.

Immediately after accepting Tom Taggart's resignation on August 26th, Colchester council set Saturday, November 6th as the date for a special by-election to fill the vacancy for District 10. Those wishing to run for the seat on council, or seeking information should contact the municipal office.

This issue of the Shoreline Journal was printed Monday morning. Unfortunately, we were unable to report of who was chosen by Tim Houston, premier-designate, to form his new cabinet. The premier and cabinet members were sworn in by Lt.-Gov. Arthur J. LeBlanc on Tuesday, August 31st. We will update you next month.

School's in. Motorists are asked to increase their awareness while driving, as students may be roadside waiting for a bus. Students will be excited to return to class and might momentarily not be as careful as they should be. Please slow down.

September 20th is voting day. Around the world many democracies are in crisis or undergoing pressure to ignore what thousands of armed forces members fought for. We ask you to do your civic duty and vote in the upcoming federal election.



The dog days of summer this year meant a lot of hot days in the berry field. Riley was getting a ride around the field last year on the stack of small boxes. These have now been replaced by larger bins. See Linda Harrington's "Charles Gets Own Harvester" story and photos on page 11.

Scouts Canada Continues the Adventure this Fall

Scouts Canada's five-stage Return to Scouting plan offers kids continuity, fun and friendship, while prioritizing safety. Registration opens September 15th for new members; volunteers can sign up now.

Back to school has long signalled the return to extracurricular activities for Canadian families. As provincial restrictions ease, many parents are seeking programs that offer youth social connection, a sense of normalcy, and fun in an environment that puts safety first.

Scouts Canada's programming has safely continued throughout the pandemic through a mix of virtual, outdoor, and indoor programming with no reported transmissions of COVID-19 cases through Scouting activities*. To ensure the health of the Scouting community, Scouts Canada quickly adapted to implement a successful five-stage Return to Scouting Plan that scales activity levels in accordance with the current direction of governments and health agencies regionally and provincially. It provides members and families with clear, easy to follow guide-

continued on page 3

BBB Warning Local Landscaping Scam

BBB is warning Nova Scotia residents, particularly those in the Truro area about a fraudulent landscaping company called M.M Property Specialists who is mainly targeting senior citizens.

BBB has received multiple inquiries from concerned residents who paid deposits for this business to do landscaping on their property.

Once the deposit was paid, the business was unresponsive and never showed up to do the job.

Consumers reported to

BBB that M.M Property Specialists Inc. advertises on local Facebook buy and sell pages.

The company entices people by offering a 25% discount to senior citizens and referrals. The business asks for a deposit between \$250-\$400 and sets a date with the consumer to come back and do the work.

Once the business receives the payment, they then become unreachable by text, phone and email and do not show up to do the work as promised.



The evening is in its glory off Robie Street in Truro facing west. I just had to get the excavator in the picture. I thought it made the moment. Submitted by Liza Madore.

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