



Jacob Murray became the latest member of the family to have sponsored seats in the Richard Calder Arena in Springhill.



Dr. Harold Murray and his wife, Donna, were in Springhill recently with grandchildren Ainslie and Jacob.

Murray Family Members Continue to Sponsor Seats

Dr. Harold Murray has many fond memories growing up in Springhill and playing Canada's game in the community's old arena. He and his family have been supporters of the new arena named in honour of his parents, Dr. Carson and Marion Murray, and he's happy the newest generation of the Murray family is supporting the facility.

Murray and his wife, Donna, were in Springhill recently with grandchildren Ainslie and Jacob as Jacob became the latest member of an exclusive club - those who have sponsored seats at the arena which opened more than 15 years ago following the collapse of the former rink in early 2001. "I remember playing hockey and skating a lot at the old rink and I've played hockey in this one as well," said Murray. "It's such an important part of our community and something we as a family are happy to support."

His grandson, Jacob, is also a hockey player in the Pictou County Minor Hockey Association, entering the U11 division this coming season. He'll likely see action in the rink named for his great grandparents.

Along with the seat dedication in honour of Jacob Murray, Stewart and Chris Murray also sponsored seats in honour of their grandchildren Marion and Lora VanSeggelen.

Donna Murray is hoping

others will sponsor seats in the arena.

"This was our seventh grandchild that we've done it for and we did it for our children and our parents," she said. "This is a great meeting place for people to attend functions and for young people to enjoy the privilege of enjoying an arena and a youth centre."

"The grandchildren are excited when they come here to see their names on the seats. Hopefully it's something more people do because it goes to support this wonderful facility."

During construction of the arena, the seat dedication campaign was commenced to raise money for the installation of seats in the 800-seat Richard Calder Arena portion of the community centre.

The funds now go towards recreational programming and facility operational costs.

"There are 248 seats dedicated in memory, in honour or purchased on behalf of businesses," facility manager Corey Skinner said. "Honorees are recognized with a commemorative plaque mounted to the seat with the dedication also appearing on the seat dedication wall at the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre, located in the upper lobby."

Seats are \$300 each or two for \$500. Executive seat dedications are also available for \$1,000.

To dedicate a seat, people can contact the community centre or use the link on our website: https://www.cumberlandcounty.ns.ca/images/recreation/community-centre/Seat_Dedication_Form_web.pdf
For more information, call 902-763-3000.



Open Mic Starting Again After Summer Break

By Patricia Burke

The Hall's popular Open Mic will be starting again on Friday, Sept. 1, 2023 at 7 pm after a summer break. All musicians welcome to come and share your talents with a very appreciative audience. Donations appreciated. There will be a couple of door prizes and there will be a canteen. Come out for an evening of fun.

After the long weekend, music programs will start up their weekly rehearsals. Contact Rob Bentley for the strummers rehearsal

time and Dr. Paul Aitken for the Citizens' Choirs rehearsals. Both of these groups welcome new people to the group.

The Parrsboro Film Festival starts on Friday, Sept. 29 with a wonderful weekend of movies. Get your pass today at www.thehall.ca

The Parrsboro Band Association has made the decision to not accept refundables at the hall from now on, please take them to Durants Bottle Exchange and ask them to top them on the bands account and they will do the rest.

Virtual Mental Health Care for Rural Nova Scotians

On August 1st, the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives-Nova Scotia released the article, A Critical Assessment of Virtual Mental Health Care for Rural Nova Scotians. The article, by Robin Lauzon, summarizes the findings of interviews undertaken with rural mental health care practitioners about virtual care programs, providing insight into the unique rural needs barriers, gaps and demand.

This article focuses on how to ensure these services take into consideration their potential impact on rural Nova Scotians. The author will be available for media requests.

Access the article here: <https://policyalternatives.ca/publications/reports/critical-assessment-virtual-mental-health-care-rural-nova-scotians>

For more information or to arrange an interview with the

author, contact Lauren Matheson at 902-579-9555 (cell) or lmatheson@policyalternatives.ca

Last survivor of 1958 Springhill Bump passes

Cumberland County is mourning the passing of the last survivor of the 1958 Springhill mine disaster.

Harold Brine died Friday, July 28, 2023, at the age of 91.

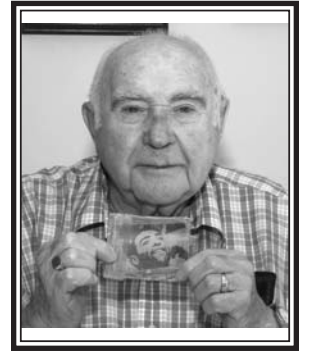
Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott is expressing condolences to Brine's family, saying Brine will always be an important part of Springhill's history.

"On behalf of our council, staff, and community we extend our deepest condolences to Harold's family," Mayor Scott said. "Harold as the last surviving member of the 1958 bump is and has been a true part of the history of Springhill. We will always remember his contribution to our heritage with his stories and recollections of his time underground with his fellow miners. Harold was a true Springhiller who will never be forgotten."

Brine was only 26 years old when the Number 2 mine bumped on Oct. 23, 1958.

At a ceremony in Springhill in 2018 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Bump, Brine said he often thought of the 75 men who lost their lives. He was among 12 men rescued after spending six days trapped underground near the bottom of the deepest coal mine in North America.

Brine was only 19 when he left his job as an auto mechanic to work in the Springhill coal mine in 1951. He was on his way into Springhill when an explosion



Harold Brine died Friday, July 28, 2023, at the age of 91.

ripped through the Number 4 mine, killing 39 men - including seven on the surface. He would serve as a draegerman as 88 men eventually emerged from the mine.

On Oct. 23, 1958, Brine was working with three other men at the 13,000-foot wall when the mine was shaken by a seismic bump just after 8 p.m. After six days in the dark, 12 miners, including Brine, were taken to the surface on stretchers, while two days later seven more were found alive.

Two months after the explosion, Brine and his family left Springhill for southern Ontario where he stayed until the mid-1990s before settling in Geary, N.B. near Fredericton in 1999.

Cremation has taken place and as per his wishes, there will be no service. He will be laid to rest in the Mapleton Cemetery at a later date.

Contributions can be made to the Heart and Lung Association in his memory.



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