

REES' Pieces

My Apology, Technology Almost Let Me Down

Wow, what a great summer we have had. A shame it went by so fast. Would have preferred another two months before getting into them fall, which is my preference. The last four months of each year means we have to prepare for lots of rain, vegetation turning brown; then Remembrance Day, which is the unofficial introduction to the Christmas season.

Locally, and across the province there are the municipal elections on October 19. I spent considerable time trying to find out who was thinking about running, and next step was who had publicly announced their intentions. The headline story reveals the efforts of my investigation.

It is hoped, that since we've have been coming out of CoVid, society and people, in general, were adamant about expecting and wanting changes, there is sufficient interest to fill the seats in districts which there was no incumbent. With municipal elections attracting the least participation perhaps societal changes will result in higher voter turn-out. On October 19.

Might it be assumable voter turn-out would increase dramatically if there was greater interest and more people running for a council seat. Maybe the cure is not to complain, but to do something about it by getting more candidates to run or put your name forward and run yourself.

It is amazing as much as everyone living in a rural area wants betterment, there is very little interest in serving your community. Granted it's not fulltime and the remuneration is not that bad.

For those of us who are political junkies, and follow US politics, we have something else to occupy us. It's the US election on November 5th. What a mess they have on their hands. For the last two months there has been lots of US political pre-election drama to occupy many hours. Two months ago, it was the Republican GOP convention, which was a comedy show, but the goals they have is scary. Nothing short of cancelling the USA constitution is acceptable.

For our sake, north of the border, we sure hope Trump does not get elected. If he loses immediately pray for a peaceful transition of power in January. Depending on the election outcome, the weeks between November 5th and January 6th could be when the future of the country will be as a civil democracy or a world leader going through a civil war.

Just over a week ago it was the Democratic Party to take the in the spotlight. And that they did in grand style. First President Biden withdrew his name from the presidential race candidacy. Within 20 minutes, he endorsed, Kamala Harris, his Vice-President to take over the reins. Within 24 hours enough of the nearly 4,000 pledged delegates endorsed her as the presidential candidate. Then last weekend it was the DNC convention in Chicago, which was more like a parade of entertainers concert than a political convention.

It was reported on USA major media outlets today (August 25) that since Biden withdrew from the race the Democrats under Kamala Harris have \$500-Million and that during her 45-minute acceptance speech they raised almost \$10-Million.

Then it is winter coats, boots, shovels and less comfortable unless a skier and winter sports buff. You know what follows until middle of March.

Tomorrow on August 29, I hope the newly completed business plan Scotia Pool management presents to council meets council's approval. (For expanded details on the situations, which Scotia Pool has faced this year please search for separate story on page 10 in this issue.) There sure has been a large public out-cry about councils' budget to award \$50,000 less than what Scotia Pool had requested in their budget request. The presentation clearly stated if the \$100,000 additional funding was not granted, situations were so dire, the pool would have to close before the end of the year. They annually have been receiving a grant of \$75,000.

This column is a bit shorter than normal. I need a new keyboard and /or mouse. They have been giving constant problems all evening.

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
(902) 647-2968; Fax: 902-647-2194 Email: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

Dear Editor:

I would like to announce my intentions to run as a candidate in the upcoming Municipal elections set for October 2024 in District #10 for County Councillor. District 10 covers the area between Masstown and Five Islands including Londonderry, Folly Lake, Folly Mountain, Hart Lake, and all points in between.

I look forward over the next two months to getting out and talking with the constituents about any concerns or issues they may want to discuss. If anyone would like to contact me, please don't hesitate in calling me at 902-814-8104 or by email at macinnesdougmasstown@gmail.com

**Maurice Rees,
Editor Shoreline Journal**

Dear Sir,
In hopes that The Shoreline Journal will be providing lots of coverage of the upcoming Municipal Election, I am writing to introduce myself. I am Andrew MacKinnon and I'm running for the Councilor position in Colchester County District 9.

Having lived in Truro and Colchester most of my life, the last 27 years in Lower Onslow, I know Belmont, Crowes Mills, Debert, and Central and Lower Onslow are great communities.

I enjoyed my hockey-dad years volunteering with the West Colchester Cobras at the Debert

Dear editor,

I grew up in Nova Scotia and have fond memories of Scotia pool. I've since moved to BC, and the only time I go now is with my 80-year-old mother who goes regularly to aquafit.

When I heard the community may lose this essential piece of infrastructure because the county wanted to save \$100,000 I was shocked.

I am a journalist by trade, but I now work for a regional district in BC, and we help fund the city-run pool. We do this because we know how important a facility like a pool is for a community. Shame on Colchester County for not seeing Scotia Pool's value.

My mother won't go to aquafit in the town-run pool because it is in the shallow pool, the floor is sloped, and the water is too cold. It is also a much farther drive so that becomes a challenge when weather is bad. Because of knee issues, closing Scotia Pool will leave my mother, and many seniors and other people with mobility issues, without an option to stay fit. It seems to me that an additional \$100,000 is a small price to pay for that.

We live in a culture that doesn't put equal value on recreation. For instance, money is given without question to hockey programs despite it being an unaffordable sport for many youth and families. Pools are affordable and offer fitness for all. Learning to swim is

also important for safety reasons. Still our culture doesn't value pool facilities to the same degree it does hockey.

Scotia pool is a warm water pool, making it ideal for seniors and youth. The Truro pool is faced with a shortage of space to offer swimming lessons. Think about how much worse that will be if Scotia Pool were to close. The town pool would have figure out how to offer more classes in a facility that is pretty much filled/booked to capacity. Seniors and youth are bound to suffer.

Thank you, Shoreline, for your election coverage and best of luck to all candidates.

**Andrew MacKinnon
Colchester District 9
Candidate for Municipal Council**

Once closed, Scotia Pool will be lost forever. Why not at least offer the funding this year, while challenging the pool organizers to think outside the box and come up with solution that will keep the pool afloat?

It is the County's responsibility to support programs that are important to the people they represent. We stress the importance of staying healthy and independent in our senior years, and yet the County doesn't financially support enough initiatives that help make that possible. I think Scotia Pool is important enough to keep open as it offers essential services to a lot of people living in the County and the Town of Truro.

**Heather Thomson
Vancouver Island, BC
Mirkwood Communications
Mirkwoodcommunications@gmail.com**

With my experience in municipal government, the business community, and my deep family roots in West Colchester I look forward to listening to and representing the constituents in the area.

"Your County, Your Voice, Your Future"

**Sincerely
Doug MacInnes
Candidate for District 10 County Councillor**

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
Kennedy's Deli - Ryland Ave

DEBERT:

Debert Mini-Mart

FIVE ISLANDS:

Masstown Market Five Islands

GLENHOLME:

Double "C" Truckstop

GREAT VILLAGE:

Wilson's Gas

MAITLAND:

Frieze & Roy General Store

MASSTOWN:

Masstown Market
MTM Retail Gas (Petro-Can)

MILLBROOK:

Super 8 Motel
Hampton Inn & Suites

NORTH RIVER:

Grant's Grocery

PARRSBORO:

CrossRoads Co-op
Ken's Grocery
Wright's Pharmasave

TRURO:

Atlantic Superstore
Best Western Glengarry
Holiday Inn
MacQuarrie's Pharmasave
(Esplanade)
Rath Eastlink Comm Centre
Colchester East Hants Health
Centre - Coffee Shop

NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION:

Each classroom at the following schools will receive a copy of the Shoreline Journal:
Bass River Consolidated;
Great Village Elementary; Debert Elementary; Chignois Elementary; Central Colchester Junior High School; Parrsboro Elementary and Parrsboro Regional High School.

We are interested in placing the Shoreline Journal in additional locations. If you have a suggestion, or wish to have the Shoreline available from your store, please contact:

Maurice Rees, Publisher,
902-647-2968, or E-MAIL:
maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

Also see the Letters to the Editor on page 10

School Lunch Program to be Launched

Continued from page 1

l'uskinikn (a traditional Mi'kmaw biscuit) and moujadara (a baked rice dish with lentils and caramelized onions). Popular student-approved favourites like macaroni and cheese and pizza are also on the menu.

Other school food programs, including the free breakfast program and snack programs will continue as usual.

Nova Scotians looking for information on the new school lunch program will be able to find it on a newly launched website, <https://nslunch.ca/>, which has answers to frequently asked questions, the list of more than 250 schools where lunch will be offered by the end of October, examples of meals

and more. Program start dates for all Phase 1 schools, the full menu and the online ordering system will be added to the site throughout September.

Earlier this summer, the Department engaged with families and school communities about the school lunch program, a complex undertaking with hundreds of schools that have different amenities. More than 10,000 people participated in an online consultation, expressing strong support for affordable, accessible school lunches. The engagement also identified common questions around program delivery, lunch menus, the ordering process and how the pay-what-you-can system works. Findings have informed the program design and helped shape the new website.

The Shoreline Journal (circ. 1650) is a monthly community newspaper serving communities along the Glooscap Trail from Truro to Parrsboro, Nova Scotia serving the communities of Belmont/Debert, Wentworth/Londonderry, Onslow/Masstown along the shore to Great Village, Bass River, Economy, Five Islands and Lower Five Islands. It is published on the last Wednesday of each month (earlier in December) with a deadline of the 20th of the month.

MAILING ADDRESS: The Shoreline Journal, P.O. Box 41, Bass River, Nova Scotia, B0M 1B0.

PHONE: 902-647-2968; Fax: 902-647-2194 Toll Free 1-800-406-1426; Cell: 902-890-9850 • E-MAIL: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

EDITOR PUBLISHER: Maurice Rees • ADVERTISING: Maurice Rees • CIRCULATION: Maurice Rees

Canadian Publications Mail Products Agreement #40048924, ISSN #1209-9198

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

LOCAL SUBSCRIPTIONS: B0M / B2N / B6L - \$23.00, PLUS HST = \$26.45 • OTHER PARTS OF NS: \$28.00 plus HST = \$32.20
ALL OTHER AREAS OF CANADA: \$30.00, plus HST = \$34.50 • USA SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$45.00
HST: #890564404RT001. Printed by Advocate Printing & Publishing Ltd, Pictou, Nova Scotia

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