



BULLETIN

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EST. 1847

BRIDGEWATER, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026



LUNENBURG COMPANY GETS BOOST FROM FEDS

Stelia gets \$600 K In financing

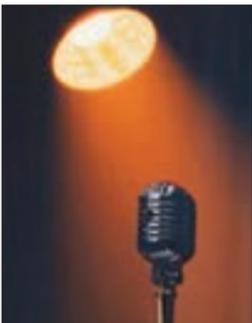
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AFTER 43 YEARS CONDUCTOR HANGS UP HIS BATON

Wendell Eisener retires from position

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LISTENING WITHOUT JUDGMENT

New women's day Event set for March 6

PAGE 12

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FUNDRAISING GOAL EXCEEDED!

More than \$182 K was raised during the 16th annual Gift from the Heart Radiothon held Feb. 13, surpassing their goal of \$165,000 for the Health Services Foundation to purchase a Breast MRI package - it is expected that this service will be ready for use this fall. A grand total of \$182,342.79 was raised with \$17,500 coming from the online auction. Any amount exceeding their goal will go to the Diagnostic Imaging Department at the South Shore Regional Hospital for future projects.

Nova Scotia review board OKs more salmon farming near Liverpool

By RICK CONRAD
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

BEACH MEADOWS – A controversial fish farm near Liverpool will grow after the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board approved Kelly Cove Salmon’s application to expand it.

In a decision released Feb. 17, the three-member panel of chairman Damien Barry, Bruce Morrison and Roger Percy ruled that the company’s larger salmon farm in Beach Meadows just off Coffin

Island will add to the local economy and won’t negatively affect things like the lobster fishery or local tourism.

The regulatory board held a week of public hearings in early October in Bridgewater into the company’s application to add six cages to its operation. Kelly Cove Salmon is owned by aquaculture giant Cooke Aquaculture.

“The board is satisfied that there will be no negative, or any, impact of this amendment on any of the eight statutory conditions,” the three-member panel wrote in its Feb. 17 decision.

Those conditions are:

- the optimum use of marine resources
- how the operation contributes to community and provincial economic development
- fishing activities around the operation
- oceanographic and biophysical characteristics in the waters around the operation
- other users of the area around the farm
- the public right of navigation

Continued on page 6



Hon. Susan Corkum-Greek

MLA for Lunenburg

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Welcome to the South Shore Bulletin!

Meet our newest reporter.

Rick Conrad lives in West Berlin, Queens Co., and has more than 30 years of experience as a reporter, writer and editor. He most recently worked as a reporter for QCCR, the community radio station based in Liverpool.

Before that, he was a business owner in Liverpool, after leaving a nearly 25-year career as a reporter and editor at *The Chronicle Herald* in 2014. He has also written two books and worked as a freelance copy editor for Lunenburg County-based MacIntyre Purcell Publishing.

He will be covering Queens County and Chester for *The Bulletin*, as part of the Local Journalism Initiative. He can be reached at 902-789-6284 or by email at rickconradssb@gmail.com

Social Column

Enjoy this "social media of yesteryear" excerpt from the *Bridgewater Bulletin*.

February 25, 1981

One of the social highlights of the season "Monte Carlo Night" took place last Friday evening at the Lunenburg Regional Vocational School. Sponsored by the Bridgewater Kiwanis Club, over 400 people attended the gala affair. Winners of the three \$1,000 vacation trips were Mary Rofihe, William Bolivar, Dayspring and Gary Crossland, R.R. 2, Bridgewater. Weekends at the Wandlyn Inn were won by Carl MacInnes and Bill Bunch, R.R. 2, Barss Corner. Microwave ovens were won by Keith MacDonald, Jim Conlon and Heather Turner, R.R. 2, New Germany.

Mr and Mrs. Dexter Allen recently spent a few days in Amherst visiting Mrs. Allen's sister, Mrs. Bradford Ripley and Mr. Ripley, as well as other relatives. While in Amherst they also attended the "at home" in celebration of the 55th wedding anniversary of Mrs. Allen's sister, Mrs. Robie Furlong and Mr Furlong at the home of their son, Howard.

Supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Veinot on Tuesday last were Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Corkum, Lunenburg. Constable Hugh Corkum, also of Lunenburg and Mr. Howard Swallow of Falkland Ridge. In the evening slides were shown of the Veinot's trip out west and other interesting places which were enjoyed by everyone.

Mrs. Ann Mullins, Beaconsfield, Quebec, was a visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bowers, during the past two weekends. While here she was a supper guest of Mrs. Mars Selig, also visited Mrs. A.J. Tayler and Mr. and Mrs. B. Hamilton before returning home on Wednesday.



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Visit our Archives at www.southshorebulletin.ca

New Jobs, new equipment for Stelia thanks to federal funding

\$600 K investment announced recently

By ED HALVERSON

ed.halverson@southshorebulletin.ca

LUNENBURG - A major federal investment is set to boost advanced manufacturing in Lunenburg, with more than \$600,000 announced for Stelia North America.

The funding, delivered through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) under the federal Regional Defence Investment Initiative (RDII), will help the aerospace and defence manufacturer upgrade equipment and expand its workforce.

Jessica Fancy, Member of Parliament for South Shore - St. Margaret's, made the announcement on Feb. 20 on behalf of federal Justice Minister and ACOA Minister Sean Fraser.

"Stelia is a great example of the innovation and skilled work happening right here in Lunenburg," Fancy said. "This investment will help the company modernize its operations, support and develop its workforce, and continue growing in a highly competitive global industry."

Stelia North America specializes in the design and manufacturing of composite components for aerospace and defence. The company employs roughly 250 to 270 people locally in what Fancy described as "highly skilled, very well-paid positions."

With the \$600,000 investment, Stelia will purchase and install new advanced manufacturing and inspection equipment, including CNC machines, a robotic sanding cell, a process oven, measuring equipment and a 3D printer. The upgrades are expected to create up to 15 full-time jobs, with implementation slated to begin in July 2026.

For Fancy, the announcement is about more than new machinery, it's about positioning rural Nova Scotia at the forefront of Canada's defence strategy.

"I am proud as punch to be able to highlight industry in our rural riding," she said during an inter-

view. "Knowing that we have this level of advanced manufacturing with the defence specialization is paramount to some of the success of Nova Scotia in our carve-out for this defence spending."

The funding flows from the federal government's broader Defence Industrial Strategy, which includes a \$379.2-million Regional Defence Investment Initiative delivered through Canada's regional development agencies (RDA). In Atlantic Canada, that responsibility falls to ACOA, which has been allocated \$38.2 million over three years.

Fancy said routing funds through regional agencies is designed to speed up the process.

"With procurement and red tape and Treasury Board, things can take a longer amount of time," she explained. "So, they're going to be running this \$379 million through our RDAs. For us in Atlantic Canada, that's ACOA."

She added that regional agencies already have established relationships with small and medium-sized businesses. "They're the ones locally that know our industry best because they're working with our SMEs [Small and Medium-sized Enterprises] on the ground level," she said. "In terms of being able to get the money out faster, a lot of those checks and balances are already done."

Fancy said she has been advocating strongly for rural communities like South Shore - St. Margaret's to receive their share of defence-related investment.

"I have these wonderful, advanced manufacturing facilities in my little rural riding, and we are chomping at the bit and ready to go and expand," she said.

She hinted that more announcements could be on the way, noting that additional projects are in development.

For now, she said, the focus is on ensuring that companies like Stelia can compete for upcoming defence contracts and strengthen Canada's domestic supply chain.

Fresh perspectives coming to Mahone Bay council

By ED HALVERSON

ed.halverson@southshorebulletin.ca

MAHONE BAY - Voters in Mahone Bay have chosen two new councillors to help guide the town through a pivotal stretch, electing Kevin Boon and Katherine McCarron in a Feb. 14 special election. The pair will be formally sworn in at the next council meeting on Thursday, February 26.

A total of 774 ballots were cast, with Boon receiving 210 votes and McCarron earning 193. For both, the win marks their first time serving in municipal office, and both say the campaign itself offered a valuable crash course in what residents expect from council.

For Boon, the campaign was a humbling experience.

"I focused on a simple campaign, but it was really to build relationships and listen," he said after the results were confirmed. "There's still a lot

of people I don't know in this town."

Rather than relying solely on traditional door knocking, a challenge in the middle of a Nova Scotia winter, Boon organized opportunities for residents to gather and talk. He sees communication not as a campaign tactic but as an ongoing responsibility.

"Communication for me is the door where you get to listen and you get to hear," he said. As he prepares to take his seat at the council table, he hopes to "build bridges to communication and continue to have open dialogue."

Affordability dominated many of his conversations with voters. Residents raised concerns about rising taxes, housing pressures and the overall cost of living. Boon said he came away with a clearer sense of what council can, and cannot, control.

Continued on page 8



KEVIN MCBAIN PHOTOS

GEORGE FLETCHER INVITATIONAL

Queens Place Emera Centre in Liverpool was abuzz with excitement as teams from across the province converged to compete in the Queens County Cougars George Fletcher Memorial Tournament held Feb. 13-16 with 18 teams competing in the U11C, U13C, U15C and U18AA categories. These photos were taken the morning of Feb. 14 during the U11C match-up between the Cougars and West Hants which resulted in an 11-0 win for the host Cougars.



Dahl's dispatch

EVAN DAHL

Lunenburg County firefighters answered 45 calls for service and Queens County firefighters answered six calls for service from Thursday, Feb. 12 to Wednesday, Feb. 18 – 28 of these calls were medicals.

FEBRUARY 12

At 8:25 a.m., Blockhouse firefighters responded to a tree on power lines on fire in Farmville. Oakhill also responded.

At 9:58 a.m., Oakhill firefighters responded to a vehicle fire in Pine Grove. Blockhouse also responded.

At 11:08 a.m., Bridgewater firefighters responded to a commercial fire alarm in Bridgewater.

At 9:03 p.m., Bridgewater firefighters responded to a fire alarm in Bridgewater.

FEBRUARY 13

At 11:35 a.m., Chester Basin firefighters responded to a motor vehicle accident in Chester Basin. Chester also responded.

FEBRUARY 14

At 8:50 p.m., Bridgewater firefighters responded to a fire call in Bridgewater.

FEBRUARY 15

At 11:27 a.m., Hemford fire-

fighters responded to a garbage fire in Simpsons Corner.

At 1:10 p.m., Lunenburg firefighters responded to a fire alarm in Lunenburg.

At 7:43 p.m., Liverpool firefighters responded to a transformer fire in Liverpool.

FEBRUARY 16

At 8:13 a.m., Oakhill firefighters responded to a motor vehicle accident in Pine Grove.

At 9:10 a.m., New Germany firefighters responded to a fire alarm in Elmwood.

At 3:50 p.m., Northfield firefighters responded to a smoke sighting in Cookville.

At 6:56 p.m., Blandford firefighters responded to a fuel spill in Blandford.

At 9:06 p.m., Bridgewater firefighters responded to a fire alarm in Bridgewater.

FEBRUARY 17

At 9:07 a.m., Bridgewater firefighters responded to a fire alarm in Bridgewater.

At 10:00 a.m., Hemford firefighters responded to a chimney fire

in Simpsons Corner.

FEBRUARY 18

At 8:20 a.m., Northfield firefighters responded to a possible propane leak in Cookville.

At 10:24 a.m., Bridgewater firefighters responded to a residential fire alarm in Bridgewater.

At 2:39 p.m., Dayspring firefighters responded to a motor vehicle accident in Dayspring.

You may reach Evan Dahl by e-mail at evandahl10@hotmail.com or via the Dahl Dispatch Facebook page.

Lunenburg District RCMP charge two men related to seized firearm and flight from police

HUBBARDS – Lunenburg District RCMP has charged two men for weapons and property offences.

On Feb. 12, Lunenburg District RCMP officers were investigating a report of an abandoned vehicle on Mill Lake Rd. in Hubbards. Officers determined that the vehicle, a grey Honda Civic, had been reported stolen. While officers were on scene, a second vehicle approached. Two men fled the vehicle, a black Hyundai Elantra, on foot upon observing the officers.

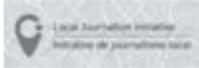
Officers safely arrested one of the

men immediately. Additional officers, including RCMP Police Dog Services and Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) operators, attended to support the search for the second man. He was located approximately one hour later and safely arrested near Hwy. 103 around Exit 6.

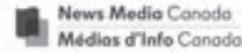
Officers determined the Hyundai Elantra had also been reported stolen. During a subsequent search of the Elantra, investigators located and seized a firearm inside the car. The firearm was also found to have been reported stolen.

Malik Antonio Robinson, 25, of North York, Ont., and Abdiqafar Ahmed Ali, 20, of Coquitlam, B.C., each had a first court appearance on Feb. 17 at Bridgewater Provincial Court. They are both charged with multiple offences including Possession of Property Obtained by Crime, Obstruction, and multiple weapons offences. They remain in custody pending future court appearances.

Investigators are in contact with the owners of the stolen vehicles to arrange a resolution to these thefts.



LOCAL



TO THE EDITOR

An open letter to our MPs

The Editor,
I've heard all the MPs are getting a 4.5 per cent raise this year. I can't understand how at this time that you can accept such a raise like that?
Retired government employees are supposed to get the cost of living every year, but that hasn't happened since I retired.
Pensioners have a hard enough time making ends meet. Nice raise for MPs making \$210,000 a year. What about the people struggling to make a living?
There is only one MP in New Brunswick that refused the raise. What about the rest of you? I guess you have no conscience.

Gerald Hirtle,
LaHave



SOUTH SHORE BULLETIN

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That's a wrap

Long-serving band conductor retires after 43 years

CONTRIBUTED STORY

BRIDGEWATER – When a teenage Wendell Eisener walked into the Bridgewater Fire Hall to attend his first rehearsal of what was then called the Bridgewater Firemen's Band, he was greeted by rickety wire stands, music in leather folders that never seemed to leave the hall, and adult musicians whose talents left the young man in awe.

After 43 years, the last 23 of which he served as the director of the Bridgewater Fire Department Band, he walked out of the rehearsal room for the last time, retiring from a very different band from the one he joined in 1983.

During his time as conductor, the name of the band was officially changed to reflect the fact that few of the members were firefighters, and more than half of the members were women. The original red wool tunics of every shade and cut (that smelled like overwrought sheep every time they got wet) were replaced by standard Canadian fire service blue dress uniforms.

Almost all of the band's instruments – some of which had been purchased



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Capt. (ret'd) Wendell Eisener is hanging up his baton after 43 years.

second-hand in the 1950s – were gradually replaced through co-operation with the Town of Bridgewater. The band's sheet music library of 400 pieces tripled in size, with Eisener adding many custom arrangements and compositions of his own.

During the years of Eisener's leadership, the Bridgewater Fire Department band travelled overseas twice, playing

in England in 2011, and France, Belgium, and Holland in 2023.

They also played for the Canadian Fallen Firefighters' memorial service in Ottawa; collaborated with the Band of the RCAF 14 Wing; and participated in many fundraising events on behalf of the Canadian Red Cross, local food banks, Soldier On, and the Military Family Resource Centres in Halifax and Greenwood. In 2013, at Eisener's instigation, the band was granted Vice-Regal patronage, and as a result has performed at numerous events for three consecutive Lieutenant-Governors both locally and at Government House in Halifax.

Eisener was decorated three times for service to the arts during his tenure as conductor, receiving the Senate of Canada Sesquicentennial Medal in Ottawa in 2017, the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers in 2018, and the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee medal in 2022. He was also twice decorated for his role as an active firefighter, receiving the federal Exemplary Service Medal in 2021 and the provincial Long Service Medal in 2025.

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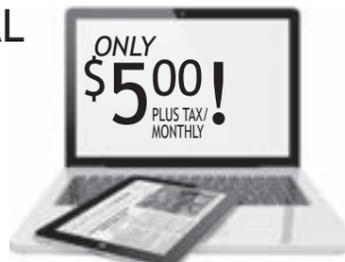
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SOUTH SHORE BULLETIN



Liverpool artist ropes in new, returning fans with old gear

By RICK CONRAD

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

LIVERPOOL - Collecting coils of old, dirty rope from lobster gear may not be everybody's idea of a good time.

But Liverpool artist Marsha Ringer has been cleaning up the industry's refuse and splicing and shaping it into colourful works of art for the past five years.

"It's something that is close to my heart, because my husband's a deck-hand on a lobster boat, and in this area, walking the beaches, I mean, it's easy to see that there is rope just washing up everywhere, and other pieces from the industry. It happens, storms happen. Ropes break. It gets washed up. But the fact that I can create something beautiful out of garbage is a plus. So, it means something on several levels."

Ringer, who also sells her work at gift shops and markets around the South Shore and elsewhere in Nova Scotia under the name Knits and Pieces by Marsha Ringer, has an exhibit of her work at the Astor Theatre in Liverpool until Feb. 27.

It's a repeat engagement for Ringer, the second year she's had a show at the Astor as part of the Nova Scotia



RICK CONRAD PHOTOS

Marsha Ringer's show runs at the Astor Theatre in Liverpool until Feb. 27.

Lobster Crawl.

Before she began working exclusively with repurposed lobster rope, Ringer made jewelry, knitted items, and used things like driftwood and sea glass.

But one day, a friend asked her to make something with a new medium.

"She saw a fish shape at a friend's boathouse, made from repurposed lobster rope. And she came to me, and

she's like, 'You're crafty. Could you make me a seahorse and a jellyfish?'

"So that's where I started, with seahorses and jellyfish. And then it kind of grew from there."

Ringer still creates colourful scenes with seahorses and jellyfish. But she's also added mermaids, fishermen, lighthouses, fishing shacks, blue lobsters and even whole seascapes with fishing boats.



Some of the pieces by Liverpool artist Marsha Ringer of Arts and Pieces by Marsha Ringer at the Astor Theatre.

"When I first started, I didn't do anything that was really three-dimensional, and now I'm working at increasing that, and figuring out different ways to use the rope."

She says her seagull scenes have been popular in this show. And everybody loves a blue lobster, even though they're among the toughest to create.

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MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF CHESTER



D9281

Community Events

If you are a non-profit community group within the Municipality of the District of Chester and would like your event listed FREE-of-charge on this page, please submit a brief description of your event in writing to the Municipality of the District of Chester Recreation & Parks Department by any of the following methods: fax 902-275-3630; mail PO Box 369, Chester, NS B0J 1J0; or email recreation@chester.ca. Submission deadline is 12 noon on the second last Tuesday of each month. For more information call the Recreation Office at 902-275-3490.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Hubbards & Area Business Association Casino Night at Black Harbour Distillers from 6:30 pm to midnight. Enjoy a fun evening of chance with HABA & BHD. Blackjack, Roulette, Crown & Anchor and more. Tickets are \$30 each and include \$250 Play Money. Tickets are available at the Aspotogan Heritage Trust and Black Harbour Distiller and cash only.

Kitchen Party featuring...The Gypsy Minstrels at the Chester Basin Legion from 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Celebrate 80 years of service with veterans, their families and Chester Basin Community. Come on

out and share your history stories with us at our Kitchen Party. The Legion will have a 1946-style THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAY dinner for that night. Drink specials will include drinks from that era! Donations at the door. Cash Bar and Snacks.

Friday Night Live with "Teebeeh Band" at the New Ross Legion starting at 8:30 pm. Cover charge \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. Bring your dancing shoes!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Fish Fry at the Hubbards Area Lions Club from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Cost is \$16 - no advance order required.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

Crib Tournament at the Forties Community Centre (1787 Forties Road, New Ross). Doors open 12:00 noon. Registration at 12:30 pm and play starts at 1:00 pm. Cost: \$20 / team. Must be 19 years or older. Canteen available. Wheelchair accessible (ground level). For more info call 902-689-2147.

MONDAY, MARCH 2

Auction 45 Card Games at the Little Red School, Canaan starting 1:00 pm. Cost \$3 per person.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

Seniors Luncheon starting 12:00 noon at the Hubbards Area Lions Club. The cost is a donation at the door. There is 50/50 available. Follow their Facebook page for full menu details.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Pancake Breakfast at the Hubbards Area Lions Club from 9:00 to 11:00 am. Enjoy pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage and hashbrowns with juice, tea and coffee. The cost is a donation at the door. There is 50/50 available.

Spring Fling Market at the Chester Area Middle School (204 Duke Street) from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Casino Night at the East Chester Recreation Association Hall (3292 Hwy 3, East Chester) from 7:00 to 10:00 pm. There will be snacks and a cash bar. Tickets can be purchased at Castle in Chester or you can text Shannon 902-275-8101 or Tammy 902-277-1004 to purchase. Ticket sales will be limited so don't wait!!! Get your tickets today!!

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Crib Tournament at the Little Red School, Canaan starting 1:00 pm. Cost \$20 per team. Cash prizes.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

Irish Music at Two Coves Café at St. Luke's Parish Hall (10 Shore Club Road, Hubbards). Featuring Carol & Donnie Webb. Café opens at 9:00 am. Music begins at 10:00 am. Admission by donation - proceeds to Bonny Lea Farm.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

Lenten Soup Lunch at the Hubbards Area Lions Club (43 Lions Club Road, Fox Point) from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Enjoy choice of soup, biscuit/roll, dessert, tea/coffee. Admission by donation.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

Athenaeum Society of Nova Scotia presents... Father Pat Cosgrove presents "Chalice" at the Ocean Swells Community Centre (2726 Hwy 329, Northwest Cove) starting 2:30 pm. Chalice is a charity founded 30 years ago that assists children and families in developing countries in response to disaster relief. All are welcome. Q&A following. For more info, call 902-476-4465 or go to www.athenaeumns.org.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Community Centre Breakfast Eat-in or Take-Out at the District #1 Community Centre, Blandford (30 Firehall Road) from 9:00 to 11:00 am. Enjoy eggs, bacon, sausage, toast, beans, hashbrowns, coffee, tea & juice. Cost \$12 (cash or debit, pay at the door), Kids (under 10 years) \$5 and under 3 years are FREE. There will be 50/50 tickets for sale! Fundraiser Cookbooks for sale! (\$20). This is a District #1 Community Centre Fundraiser.

Happenstance Jam at the Forties Community Centre (1787 Forties Road, New Ross) from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Come to play, sing or listen. Admittance \$2.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Fish Fry at the Hubbards Area Lions Club from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Cost is \$16 - no advance order required.

NOMINATE A VOLUNTEER!

Municipality of Chester is now accepting Volunteer Nominations in any of the below 5 categories:

- (Individual) Representative Volunteer of the Year Award
- Newcomer Volunteer Award (Resident for less than 5 years)
- Youth Volunteer Award (Ages 13-24)
- Family Volunteer Award (Volunteering as a family for at least 5 years)
- Nova Scotia Strong Award (Individual or group that has demonstrated resiliency in community during a time or event of tragedy or struggle)

One volunteer will be selected by Council to represent the Municipality of Chester at the Provincial Volunteer Awards. Deadline for nominations is Friday, March 6. The online fillable form with guidelines is on our Municipal website: chester.ca/community/volunteers

We will celebrate all our community volunteers during National Volunteer Week, April 19 - 25.

Nova Scotia review board OKs more salmon farming near Liverpool

Continued from page 1

- how it could affect wild salmon
- whether there are other aquaculture sites around the operation

With the board's approval, the farm will now have 20 pens, with up to 660,000 Atlantic salmon, covering an area of 40 hectares or about 100 acres.

Community group Protect Liverpool Bay has led the opposition to the fish farm since 2018. It says ocean-based aquaculture harms the environment, threatens wild salmon and could hamper tourism in the area.

They were represented at the hearings by lawyers from environmental law charity Ecojustice.

Spokesman Brian Muldoon, who lives in Beach Meadows and has a view of the fish farm cages from his backyard, said the decision "is a very sad day for Nova Scotians".

"I and others are not surprised by the outcome," he said in an interview.

"We have to really look at where this whole aquaculture review board came from, and who appoints them, and we know the government has a mandate to make sure they destroy every bay in Nova Scotia by filling them with open pen fish farms, so are we surprised? No. Did they listen? No.

"We have zero voices. Our voice is not heard at all."

Cooke spokesman Joel Richardson said the company is happy with the board's "very thoughtful" decision.

"The aquaculture review board very clearly, with all the evidence that was presented and all of the input, determined that there's no negative impact on the lobster fishery. There's no negative impact on wild salmon. There's no negative impact on the surrounding environment. And Liverpool Bay and Coffin Island is a very suitable place to operate a salmon farm," he said.

"And we've operated there since 2011 in full compliance with the environmental criteria and regulations. So, groups like Protect Liverpool Bay and EcoJustice and the Atlantic Salmon Federation have made a lot of false and misleading claims publicly about our operation, and those were all proven incorrect."

Queens MLA Kim Masland, who is also the province's minister of natural resources and emergency management, has spoken in the past about her opposition to fish farms in Liverpool Bay.

She was not available for an interview this week, but in a statement to the Bulletin, she said she was disappointed in the decision and thanked those in the community who participated in the process.



RICK CONRAD PHOTO

Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board hearings into Kelly Cove Salmon's request to expand its operations near Liverpool got underway in Bridgewater in October.

"Ultimately, the decision on this application rests with an independent review board. While I respect the independence of that process, I do not agree with this outcome."

The hearings came after long delays and some controversy.

The company's original application was to add to the current Coffin Island operation, some of which had been expanded in 2016 beyond the original lease boundaries, and to create two new farms near Brooklyn and Mersey Point. It decided to pursue only the expansion at Coffin Island.

Hearings had been originally scheduled for March 2024, but they were cancelled shortly after Premier Tim Houston told a business crowd in Liverpool in February 2024 that he personally opposed expanded fish farming in Liverpool Bay.

Chairwoman Jean McKenna and other members of the review board were also replaced. Neither the board nor the provincial government would comment on why those changes were made.

In the leadup to the originally scheduled hearings, more than 150 residents, businesses and community groups filed written submissions with the board. Most opposed the expansion and the new farms.

Lawyers for four intervenors were at the October hearings: Protect Liverpool Bay, the Region of Queens, 22 Lobster Fishermen of Liverpool Bay, and Kwilmu'kw Maw-Klusuaqn, which includes the Wasqopa'q First Nation.

The Kwilmu'kw Maw-Klusuaqn objection concerned the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture not properly consulting local Mi'kmaq communities on areas affecting their treaty rights.

The Region of Queens was concerned about how the operation could affect fish habitats and local tourism.

And the lobster fishermen were worried about how an expanded fish farm would affect sensitive lobster fishing grounds and populations.

In its ruling, the review board said the bigger farm would still take up only a relatively small amount of space in the bay, it will "make a genuine

contribution" to economic development, and it won't have a negative impact on the lobster fishery, navigation or other activities.

The board also ruled that the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture fulfilled its duty to consult local First Nations communities. But it also said that Kelly Cove Salmon must consult with Nova Scotia's Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage if any artifacts are found during the expansion.

Protect Liverpool Bay's Muldoon says he's frustrated by the decision and worries that it will open the door to more open-pen fish farms in the area and around Nova Scotia.

He says the group is still mulling whether to ask for a judicial review of the board's decision. They have 30 days to appeal it to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, which would be expensive.

"To see the debris that comes up on the beach after they clean their nets, and the noise, it is mind boggling. So, if we have to go to the Supreme Court, we have to have deep pockets."

Richardson says the company has no plans to expand further into Liverpool Bay, even though they haven't pulled their original application to add two new farms.

"At this point in time, we don't have any plans to bring that forward."

He said the company has one outstanding application to expand an existing farm. That's near Victoria Beach, Annapolis Co.

He said the company plans to replace the existing cages at Coffin Island with new "state-of-the-art" pens over the next year. That work will likely be done at the same time as the additional six pens are added.

"This is a very modest expansion. It's very small and most people wouldn't even notice the difference from the shore of our existing farm."

Muldoon, however, says that Nova Scotia should be following the lead of other places like British Columbia, which is turning away from ocean-based aquaculture.

"They're removing these fish farms, and the wild salmon are coming back. I'm not saying that we're going to see that happen here. It's such a sad state, our wild salmon situation compared to B.C., but at least they're going in the right direction in B.C. And we are just stuck in this antiquated scenario. This is not the answer. It's only going to get worse."

Read the full ruling here: <https://arb.novascotia.ca/sites/default/files/documents/2026-02/NSARB-2023-001%20Final%20Decision%20certified%20REDACTED.pdf>

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D9043

Lumberjacks finish second; await first round winners

By KEVIN MCBAIN

kevin.mcbain@southshorebulletin.ca

BRIDGEWATER – The South Shore Jr. B Lumberjacks finished the regular season in second place in the Fred Fox division earning a bye into the second round of playoffs.

The Lumberjacks (23-7-0-0=46 points) will host the highest seed amongst the first-round, best-of-five mini series, while the Capstone Colts (23-5-1-1=48), who finished first in the division, will take on the lowest seed.

After play Sunday night, the Windsor Oxen (4th place) has a 2-1 series lead over the Sackville Blazers (5), while the Brookfield Elks (6) and the East Hants Penguins (3) series is tied at one apiece, as is the Jr. Miners and the Strait Pirates series.

The next games in the Windsor-Sackville series, if necessary, is scheduled for Feb. 25. In the Elks-Penguins series, Game three was slated for Monday, Feb. 23 and Game four was scheduled for Feb. 24. A game five had not been scheduled.

Finishing off the regular season

The Lumberjacks finished off the regular season with a 4-2 record in February. In their final game of the season, they defeated the Brookfield Elks 4-3 in an overtime thriller. This was their second win over the Elks in February, having defeated them 5-3 on the road Feb. 10.

On Feb. 13, they were on the road to take on the Penguins and in this one, they dropped a 5-2 decision. On Feb. 7, they defeated Sackville at home, 2-1 and on Feb. 2, they defeated the Capstone Colts, on the road, 5-4.

Top scorer

The top two scorers for the Lumberjacks were Brennan Coleman and Owen MacDermid, both having collected 38 points on the season. Coleman had 19 goals and 19 assists, while MacDermid finished with 12 goals and 26 assists.

League finalists announced

Kegan Greencorn is in the running for the Top Goaltender of the Year award. He played 1,571.64 minutes and had a record of 20 wins and seven losses. He finished with a 3.09 GAA and a save percentage of 0.912.

The Lumberjacks executive team is among the top three finalists for the Top Executive in the league.

Captain Leo MacLean is in the running for the league's top defenceman award. He finished the season with 12 goals and 20 assists for 32 points for the team this season.



KEVIN MCBAIN PHOTOS

Luke Crotty was the overtime hero in the final regular season game for the Lumberjacks. He scored at the 1:27 mark of overtime to give the home side a 4-3 victory over the Brookfield Elks.



Five Lumberjacks players played their last regular season game Feb. 16 against the Brookfield Elks. Presenting the graduating players with framed photos was team owner Jim Bottomley (centre) at their final regular season home game Feb. 16. Players from left to right: Jackson Spraggon, Liam Sylvester, Kegan Greencorn, Leo MacLean and Jack Piper.



Lumberjacks' goaltender Kegan Greencorn makes a great stop during action in the Feb. 16 overtime win against the Brookfield Elks.

Those were the days

Take a trip down memory lane with this vintage ad from the Bridgewater Bulletin, February 25, 1981.



BRIDGEWATER MOTOR INN

25 High Street Fully Licensed Bridgewater 543-8171

is pleased to introduce our chef "Carl Bennett"



An exceptional combination of gourmet talent and a true appreciation for fine dining are two ingredients which have made Carl Bennett one of the top chefs in his field.

Mr. Bennett brings to the Bridgewater Motor Inn a 14 year history of culinary expertise. Throughout his outstanding career, he has prepared meals befitting royalty, and did in fact have the opportunity to cater to Her Majesty the Queen on two occasions at the Lord Seabrook Hotel, Fredericton and the latter Shanty, Wentique, P.E.I.

Before accepting his most recent appointment, Mr. Bennett was executive chef at Ruddy's Water Inn in Halifax.

He and his staff at the Bridgewater Motor Inn invite you to dine in elegance and choose one of his many exquisite selections from the Inn's luncheon or dinner menu.

Your meal is certain to be the highlight of your day.

Sat. - Feb. 28.5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Chinese Buffet

\$5.95 per person

featuring honey garlic spare ribs

Reservations are recommended

www.southshorebulletin.ca/Archives

BRIDGEWATER SENIOR CITIZENS CARD GROUP

The Bridgewater Senior Citizens Group met on February 18 for a game of Auction 45's.

Winners were: Ladies' high, Shirley Banfield, 930; Men's high, Chris Brown, 880; Runners up, Bernice Oickle, 870 and Karen Powell, 865. Winner of the 50/50 draw was Wilma Dorey. Winner of 30 X 60 bids was Bernice Oickle (twice).

Card parties are held on Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 in the Masonic Hall on Dominion Street. New members always welcome.

THE GOLDEN YOUTH CARD CLUB

The Golden Youth Card Club met on February 19th for a game of Auction 45's. The winners were: Ladies high, Carol Corkum 950; Ladies second, Gail Boyle 870; Men's high, Weldon Naugler 1095; Men's second (tie), Ken Edwards and Robby Wentzell 870; Low Score, Melda Croft 500; Lucky Tally, Edith Clattenburg; Travel Prize, Liz Godden; 50/50 Winners: Jim Hebb and Mary March. Card parties are held every Thursday afternoon at 1:30pm at the Pleasantville Fire Hall. New members (age 55+) are welcome to attend. Light lunch provided.

LET'S EMBRACE WINTER



KEVIN MCBAIN PHOTOS

The annual Town of Bridgewater Frost Fair was held Feb. 14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the home of the South Shore Players Theatre and the Bridgewater Farmers' Market. There was plenty of fun to be had including a market, photo booth, a fire pit to make s'mores and stay warm, outdoor games and tours of the South Shore Players' Studio Space, where the Lamplighters were performing.

Fresh perspectives coming to Mahone Bay council

Continued from page 2

"I understand that there's factors that are within the town's control, and there are also factors outside of the town's control," he said. The key, he believes, is balancing those realities and focusing on practical solutions.

Some of those solutions involve looking beyond Mahone Bay's borders. Boon emphasized collaboration with neighbouring municipalities such as Bridgewater and Lunenburg, as well as with provincial and federal governments.

He also sees economic development as part of the affordability puzzle. "One of my skill sets is looking at the importance of the need to foster a place where businesses feel invited to grow in this town," he said. Encouraging businesses to relocate, expand or start up locally can translate into jobs and a stronger tax base.

Still, he describes the election result with humility. "It's really just the start of these conversations," he said, adding that he expects to learn a great



Kevin Boon and Katherine McCarron were voted in as new councillors for the Town of Mahone Bay in a recent election.

deal over the next two to three years.

McCarron's path to council unfolded against icy sidewalks and snowbanks. "Campaigning, it was a real challenge with the weather," she said. "There were days when it was just too slippery, too icy, too cold."



FILE PHOTOS

same time, she sees infrastructure, particularly water, as urgent and unavoidable.

"Our water, our infrastructure, it needs attention," she said. "We want to build more housing, but we can't unless we have adequate infrastructure."

If she could accomplish one major goal over the remainder of the council term, she said, it would be tackling the town's water challenges. "We've got to really deal with the water situation. We've got to fix the pipes that are leaking. We have to find another source of water." Ensuring a reliable supply, she added, is essential if Mahone Bay hopes to grow responsibly.

McCarron is also keen on strengthening regional cooperation. She would like to see progress toward a fixed bus route connecting Bridgewater, Lunenburg and Mahone Bay, and hopes to revive some form of economic development committee that brings business owners and council together.

"It's not only the tourist, we need the tourists, but we need the residents as well," she said, describing the relationship between businesses and locals as "symbiotic."

When they are sworn in on February 26, both councillors will step into ongoing discussions about infrastructure, development, and fiscal responsibility. For Boon, the focus will be on keeping conversations open and collaborative. For McCarron, it will be on steady, practical solutions to the town's most pressing needs.

Together, they bring fresh perspectives shaped by hundreds of conversations about where Mahone Bay goes next.

On some days, she said, knocking on doors felt unsafe.

Instead, she leaned on a team of volunteers who made phone calls and shared brochures with neighbours. "There was that personal endorsement, which I am so grateful that people stepped forward and said, 'I want to support your campaign.'"

The outreach paid off, not only in votes, but in insight. Like Boon, McCarron heard consistent concerns about spending, debt and affordability. Major infrastructure projects loomed large in conversations.

"They look at that Edgewater project and say, that is millions and millions," she said. "How are we ever going to pay for that?"

While she acknowledges the need for long-term investment, she is wary of taking on too much debt. At the



BOWLING

Pajo's Bowling Alley League Stats

Ladies', Jan. 27: H.S.: Kim Veinotte 128; H.T.: Kim Veinotte 340; T.H.T.: Be Nice 1845
Lucky Strikes League, Jan. 30: H.S.: Courtney Tremere 111; H.T.: Courtney Tremere 302; H.S.: Cory Carver 138; H.T.: Shawn D'Eon 352; T.H.T.: 8's R Great 1579
Youth League, Jan. 31: Junior. G.H.S.: Soraya W 83; G.H.T.: Soraya W 219; B.H.S.: John J 97; B.H.T.: Owen W 255
Bantam. B.H.S.: Avery F 82; B.H.T.: Avery F 225
Mickey Mouse League, Feb. 1: H.S.: Corey Lohnes 110; H.T.: Corey Lohnes 306; H.S.: Katie Lantz; H.T.: Tatum Lohnes 299; T.H.T.: Gutter Pigs 1497
Men's, Feb. 2: H.S.: Cory Carver 159; H.T.: Cory Carver 365; T.H.T.: Bottom of the Barrel 1647
Ladies, Feb. 3: H.S.: Kim Veinotte 123; H.T.: Jenni Birdes 323; T.H.T.: Happy Sevens 1835
Canexcel, Feb. 4: H.S.: Amie Haughn 116; H.T.: Kristal Patterson 311; H.S.: Chris Heim/Cory Carver 133; H.T.: Cory Carver 353
Money League, Feb. 5: H.S.: Kim Veinotte 123; H.T.: Courtney Tremere 334; H.S.: Shawn D'Eon 156; H.T.: Shawn D'Eon 390; T.H.T.: Pinguins 1513

Community Events and Activities

February 25 to March 3

Have an event to share? Visit our website at www.southshorebulletin.ca/community-events

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

How to Save an Island, Mahone Bay Centre, 45 School St. Room 307. Information: 902-624-6263/info@mahonebaymuseum.com.

Badminton, Mahone Bay Centre, 45 School St. Wednesdays.

Lunenburg County Job Lab, 215 Dominion St, Bridgewater. Wednesdays.

Yoga Flow with Kim, April Williams Salon & Spa, 709 Main St, Liverpool. Wednesdays.

Ladies Gathering, Spill the Tea, 503 Main Street, Mahone Bay. Wednesdays.

Imagination Playground, HB Studio Sports Centre, 543 Glen Allan Dr, Bridgewater. Wednesdays.

Fitness Classes, Mahone Bay Centre, 45 School St. Wednesdays.

Bright & Lion Touch Rugby, HB Studio Sports Centre, 543 Glen Allan Dr. Bridgewater. Wednesdays.

Bring Your Own Book Club, Second Story Women's Centre, 18 Dufferin Street, Lunenburg. Information: 902-640-3044/info@secondstory.ca. Wednesdays until March 4.

YMCA Youth Leader Program, 40 Water St, Liverpool. Wednesdays.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Milton Community Garden Meeting, Milton Memorial Hall, 168 Tupper St. Information: milton-hall168@gmail.com.

Chase the Ace, Saltbox Brewery, 363 Main St, Mahone Bay. Thursdays.

YMCA Free Drop-in Programs, 40 Water St, Liverpool. Thursdays.

Crafternoon, Hungry Traveler, 10117 Highway 3, Lunenburg. Thursdays.

Wheelchair Basketball, Lunenburg Community Centre, 15 Green St. Information: 902-530-4100. Thursdays.

Queens County Job Lab, 11 Henry Hensey Dr, Suite 7, Liverpool. Thursdays bi-weekly.

Mahjong Club, Mahone Bay Centre, 45 School St. Thursdays.

Travel the World Trivia, Hungry Traveler, 10117 Highway 3, Lunenburg. Thursdays.

Dan's Jam, Eli + Trix, 538 Main St, Mahone Bay. Thursdays.

Free Lunchtime Skate, Chester Rink, 190 Pig Loop Rd.

Trivia Night, King Street Beer Company, 463 King St, Bridgewater. Thursdays.

Family Game Night, Mahone Bay Centre, 45 School St. Thursdays.

Young at Heart Seniors Drop In, Mahone Bay Centre, 45 School St. Thursdays.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Friday Night Live with "Teebeeh Band", New Ross Legion, 64 Forties Rd. See Chester events on page 5 for more details.

Music Bingo with Heidi, King Street Beer Company, 463 King St, Bridgewater. Fridays.

Music Program, Thrive 55+, St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Parish Centre, 115 Pleasant St, Bridgewater. Fridays.

Clickety Clack Knitters & Crafters, DesBrisay Museum, 130 Jubilee Rd, Bridgewater. Information: 902-543-4033. Fridays.

Glow-Bowling, Bowl More Lanes, 240 Dufferin Street (below No Frills), Bridgewater. Information: 902-543-3324. Fridays.

Tech & Devices Help, Mahone Bay Centre, 45 School

St, 12:40 AM. Information: 236-888-1183 andrew.mahone.bay@gmail.com. Fridays.

Free Friday Swims, LCLC, 135 North Park St, Bridgewater.

Kitchen Party featuring...The Gypsy Minstrels, Chester Basin Legion, 25 Highway 12. See Chester events on page 5 for more details.

Hubbards & Area Business Association Casino Night, Black Harbour Distillers, 419 Highway 329, Fox Point. See Chester events on page 5 for more details.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Take the Roof off Winter, DesBrisay Museum, 130 Jubilee Rd, Bridgewater.

Fish Fry, Hubbards Area Lions Club, 43 Lions Club Rd, Fox Point. See Chester events on page 5 for more details.

Yoga Flow with Kim, LCLC, 135 North Park St, Bridgewater. Saturdays until Apr 25.

Glow-Bowling, Bowl More Lanes, 240 Dufferin Street (below No Frills), Bridgewater. Information: 902-543-3324. Saturdays.

Lunenburg FC Junior Winter Soccer Camp, HB Studio Sports Centre, 543 Glen Allan Dr, Bridgewater. Saturdays.

Meditation Class, LCLC, 135 North Park St, Bridgewater. Saturdays.

Blockhouse Farmer's Market, South Shore Waldorf School, 64 School Rd, Blockhouse. Saturdays until Mar 31.

February Concert Series, Greenfield Baptist Church, 5048 Highway 210.

Pancake Breakfast, Voglers Cove Community Hall, 8544 Highway 331, Mill Village. See our CLASSIFIED pages for more details.

Family Movie Night, Bridgewater Baptist Church, 564 Glen Allan Dr.

Coldest Walk Bridgewater, Bridgewater Souls Harbour Rescue Mission.

Seahawks Year End Banquet, Michelin Social & Athletic Club, 221 Logan Rd, Bridgewater.

2nd Annual Lobster Crawl 5k, LCLC, 135 North Park St, Bridgewater.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

Crib Tournament, Forties Community Centre, 1787 Forties Rd, New Ross. Information: 902-689-2147. See our CLASSIFIED pages for more details.

Badminton, Mahone Bay Centre, 45 School St. Sundays.

MONDAY, MARCH 2

South Shore Chorale Rehearsal, St Joseph's Parish Hall, 123 Pleasant St, Bridgewater. Mondays.

Mindful Monday, Bridgewater United Church, 87 Hillcrest St. Mondays.

Imagination Playground, HB Studio Sports Centre, 543 Glen Allan Dr, Bridgewater. Mondays.

Bingo, Milton Memorial Hall, 168 Tupper St. Mondays.

Fitness Classes, Mahone Bay Centre, 45 School St. Mondays.

Auction 45 Card Games, Little Red School, Canaan. See Chester events on page 5 for more details.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

Creative Crew: 5 Weeks of Crafts for Youth, DesBrisay Museum. 130 Jubilee Rd, Bridgewater.

Game Night at MSAC, Michelin Social & Athletic Club, 221 Logan Rd, Bridgewater. Tuesdays.

Recreation and Social Program for Mature Adults, HB Studio Sports Centre, 543 Glen Allan Dr, Bridgewater. Tuesdays.



KEVIN MCBAIN PHOTOS

SECOND ANNUAL TOURNEY!

The second annual Ascent Youth Coaching Dylan Chaput Memorial Tournament was held Feb. 13 and 14 at the Bridgewater Junior High School with six teams competing. Shown here are the host Bridgewater Vikings taking on North Queens. The tournament was started by a group of BJHS classmates last year to honour their friend Dylan who died three years ago while on vacation with family. All money raised will go to the Ronald McDonald house.

Lunenburg, N.S.					
TIDE TABLE					
Wednesday, February 25		Sunday, March 1			
high	5.45 ft	1:29 AM	low	1.77 ft	12:43 AM
low	1.51 ft	9:06 AM	high	5.94 ft	6:22 AM
high	4.53 ft	2:27 PM	low	0.52 ft	1:12 PM
low	2.26 ft	9:17 PM	high	5.84 ft	7:11 PM
Thursday, February 26		Monday, March 2			
high	5.28 ft	2:46 AM	low	1.48 ft	1:35 AM
low	1.38 ft	10:16 AM	high	6.17 ft	7:11 AM
high	4.63 ft	4:07 PM	low	0.39 ft	1:57 PM
low	2.23 ft	10:33 PM	high	6.14 ft	7:52 PM
Friday, February 27		Tuesday, March 3			
high	5.35 ft	4:13 AM	low	1.25 ft	2:20 AM
low	1.12 ft	11:22 AM	O "BLOOD WORM" FULL MOON 7:37 AM		
high	4.99 ft	5:29 PM	high	6.27 ft	7:56 AM
low	2.07 ft	11:43 PM	low	0.39 ft	2:37 PM
Saturday, February 28		Wednesday, March 4			
high	5.64 ft	5:26 AM	low	1.12 ft	3:02 AM
low	0.79 ft	12:21 PM	high	6.27 ft	8:40 AM
high	5.41 ft	6:25 PM	low	0.56 ft	3:15 PM
SIX PLANET ALIGNMENT -VIEW PLANETS AN HOUR AFTER SUNSET					

LIFESTYLES

The Thick-billed Murre

JAMES HIRTLE

Bird Notes

Robert Keereweer located a thick-billed murre near the Blandford Fish Plant on Feb. 15. I was going to make a trip to try and see this bird, but decided to wait a few days before going. In the meantime, on Feb. 16, I was out birding in Feltzen South, and just off the beach I found a thick-billed murre.

In North America the thick-billed murre nests from Ellesmere Island and Greenland south to the Hudson Bay, Quebec, Labrador, Newfoundland and on St. Mary's Island, on the Bird Rocks in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and on the Ellesmere Island South.

In the North Pacific from the New Siberian Island and coast of Siberia to the Wrangel Island and south to Kamchatka, the Komandorskie Island and Kuriles to Japan. Also, from Alaska south to Pribilofs, Aleutian and Kodiak Island.

They winter in open waters from Greenland south into the Hudson Bay and on the Atlantic coast to Long Island New York, New Jersey and Maryland. Casually to South Carolina and the Great Lakes and inland Ontario,



JAMES HIRTLE PHOTO

A Thick-billed Murre caught on camera in Feltzen South on Feb. 16.

Quebec, Michigan, Iowa, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Connecticut, North Carolina. In the Pacific they winter from the Bering Sea, south to Japan and Alaska. Casually to the Yukon and British Columbia.

The thick-billed murre is 42.5 to 47.5 cm long. The bill is shorter and thicker than in the common murre. They are like the common murre, but larger. In breeding, plumage there is a white streak along the cutting edge at the base of the dark upper mandible. In the summer in breeding plumage there is a sharp inverted V in black of the neck.

In winter the black of the crown extends well below each eye and there is no dark stripe in white of ear coverts as shows with the common murre.

The thick-billed murre eats small fish up to 17.5 cm. They also will eat marine worms, amphipods, shrimp and Arctic squids. They are one of the best divers out there. They have been caught in trawler nets off Newfoundland at depths of 80 metres.

On Feb. 12 the LaHave River opened from ice off the LaHave. For several days in a row I saw a male and female Barrow's goldeneye. On Feb. 13 I saw 12 sanderlings at Crescent Beach. Around Feb. 16 Lise Bell saw one there.

On Feb. 13, I visited Western Head in Queens County and saw a harlequin duck. There was a lone green-winged teal in Liverpool feeding with numerous mallards. Lise Bell and Lynette Barnes sighted 35 common redpolls in Green Bay.

On Feb. 14 Ethan Sarty located a Eurasian wigeon feeding at the Liverpool Sewage Lagoons. Madeline Bolivar of Dayspring reported that her daughter had seen a golden-crowned kinglet in Timberlea. This is the first time that her daughter has ever seen this species there.

On Feb. 15 I saw the eastern towhee at Upper First Peninsula. Barbara

McLean reported 40 American goldfinches and six purple finches with one pine siskin.

Ethan Sarty located a short-eared owl at Chebogue Point. On Feb. 15 Lori Buhlman reported the yellow-throated warbler as still present in Jeddore. On Feb. 16 Alix d'Entremont and Kathleen MacAulay located a slaty-backed gull at the Dennis Point Wharf in Pubnico. This is only a fourth confirmed record for Nova Scotia.

The Carolina wren at Lower Sackville was still present. Lori Buhlman reported Lincoln's sparrow, fox sparrow and swamp sparrow along the Bissett's Lake Trail. Mark Dennis saw four brant off The Hawk on Cape Sable Island.

As of Feb. 17 the tufted titmouse was still present in New Glasgow as was the varied thrush at the feeders of Mike MacDonald at Clam Point on Cape Sable Island. Natalie Barkhouse-Bishop sighted a hermit thrush in Dartmouth. Eastern bluebirds continue to be seen at Chebogue.

Many of our resident birders flocked to Quebec to see a European robin.

You may reach me at 902-693-2174 or email jrhbirder@hotmail.com.

More questions than answers

SUSANNE BECK

Reality Check

I often have more questions than answers. As soon as I find the answer to one question, more questions pop up. Is that true for you also?

Having a curious mind can be a delightful asset; this is how we learn! (Well, it's one way.) On the other hand, unlimited curiosity also means that we are never finished learning, doesn't it?

In Choice Theory, Dr. Glasser associates learning with fun. Therefore,

I'm going to choose the mindset that we who have inquisitive minds must be having all kinds of fun.

At the moment, the questions that piqued my curiosity involve emotions and what we can do about them! For example, let's say you woke up feeling vaguely discouraged; feeling a little blah. What to do?

You could start by choosing between two possibilities. Maybe you want to change that feeling to something else; perhaps a more uplifting, encouraging feeling.

On the other hand, you might pre-

fer to keep your dull, grey feeling for a while. It's possible. You don't have to explain.

For either possibility, I have questions. If you want to change your feeling, what can you do? What would you want to see? To hear? Who would you want to have around you? Where would you want to be? In short, what do you believe would create a different feeling in you?

If, instead, you want to keep that discouraged feeling, what would you do? I'm inclined to believe that one answer would be to continue doing what you are already doing. But there could also be specific activities that could help keep you in your discouraged state. Such as?

Perhaps you could remind yourself of past incidents where you have been less than successful. Or you could contemplate how other people have more love, money, success, etc. than you do; that should help you stay discouraged!

Now let's try something different. This time, we'll say that you have started off the day full of joy and optimism. Again, I'd ask, do you want to change that feeling? Or would you like to keep it, maybe even build on it?

I'm going to guess that you won't want to trade in a joyful feeling for something else. However, if you find that too much joy is becoming tedious, the items I suggested in the "keep me

discouraged" list could work. Reviewing unhappy incidents and envying others are effective ways to send joy packing.

However, if you want to keep the joy, or even build the joy, what would be effective? What would you like to see, hear, or do? Who would you want to be around? Where would you want to be?

How about when you are feeling angry? Or worried? Or sad? For whatever feeling you believe has taken hold of you, questions can be useful.

First, is this a feeling you want to keep? Or do you want to change it?

Then, if you do want to change it, what do you have control over that could cause a change? Often, the most direct route is through taking some kind of action. It may not need to be a big action.

Consider a physical activity such as a walk. Think about connection, reach out to someone. Change the scenery, even if it's as simple as looking out a different window. Change the sounds, perhaps by choosing appropriate music or even background noise. These are just a few examples of tiny actions we can take that can affect our feelings.

The suggestion here is that when you find yourself discouraged or in some other unpreferred state, ask yourself questions. Who knows what you might learn! You can let me know at choice@focusonclarity.com or by mail c/o South Shore Bulletin.

To your choices! ~ Susanne ~

Susanne Beck, RTC is Reality Therapy Certified by the William Glasser Institute

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LIFESTYLES

Why timing matters:

the right age to re-home puppies and kittens

ASHLEY KIPPERS

SHAID Tree Animal Shelter General Manager

Few things are as irresistible as a tiny kitten or puppy. But when it comes to re-homing young animals, timing is more than a detail, it's critical to their lifelong health and behaviour.

Veterinarians and animal welfare professionals agree that puppies and kittens should stay with their mother and littermates until at least eight weeks of age. This early period is not just about nursing; it's about learning essential social skills.

During the first weeks of life, mothers teach their babies vital social and behavioural skills. Littermates also play an essential role. Through play-fighting, biting, and chasing, young animals learn bite inhibition, boundaries, body language, and frustration tolerance. They discover how hard is "too hard," how to read cues,



ASHLEY KIPPERS PHOTO

Diva, a beautiful six-month-old medium-haired calico kitten, was taken away from her mother a little earlier than she should have been and has struggled with some behavioural challenges, a possible side effect of early separation.

and how to resolve minor conflicts appropriately. These lessons simply cannot be replicated by humans alone.

When puppies or kittens are separated too early, whether at four, five, or six weeks, they often miss out on this foundational education. The result can be behavioural challenges that show up later: rough play, difficulty reading social signals, anxiety, fearfulness, litter box issues, or trouble interacting with other animals. These behaviours aren't signs of a "bad" pet, they're signs of a pet who didn't get the time they needed to learn.

At SHAID, we sometimes see the long-term effects of early separation. Diva, a beautiful six-month-old medium-haired calico kitten, is one such example. Diva was taken away from her mother too early and raised without other cats. When she arrived at the shelter, she struggled with some behavioural challenges, likely rooted

in that early disruption.

With patience, structure, and positive experiences, Diva has made wonderful progress. She has shown a particular fondness for men and male cats and would do best in a home without children, where her environment can remain calm and predictable. Her journey is a powerful reminder that while early separation can create hurdles, with the right support, young animals can grow and thrive.

Responsible re-homing practices protect not only individual animals but also the families who welcome them. Waiting until at least eight weeks, and ensuring proper socialization before and after adoption, sets puppies and kittens up for healthier, more confident futures.

If you're considering adding a young pet to your home, ask questions about their age and early experiences. A few extra weeks with mom and littermates can make a lifetime of difference.

The chatterbox problem: when your 'flaw' becomes your career

STEPHANIE MILLER VINCENT

Business Moments

You know that moment when you realize the exact thing you got in trouble for as a kid is now literally how you make a living?

Yeah. That.

Mrs. Weatherbee, my fourth grade teacher, would be so confused right now.

THE KID WHO WOULDN'T SHUT UP

Fourth grade me was a problem.

Not the "pulling hair" kind of problem. More like the "constant commentary during silent reading time" kind of problem.

I had thoughts, lots of them, and I needed to share them, immediately. Mid-lesson, without being called on and with the confidence of someone who definitely knew Mrs. Weatherbee would find my observation absolutely fascinating. She did not.

Her favourite line, delivered with a pointed finger and exhausted patience:

"You will not get paid to talk all day when you grow up."

The whole class would turn and look. I'd shrink in my seat. And I'd learn, bit by bit, that being less was safer than being more.

PLOT TWIST: SHE WAS WRONG

Here's what's wild. I do get paid to talk. All day. Every day.

I work with leaders who want to have better conversations with their teams. I help them say the hard things. I teach them to listen better. I facilitate the messy meetings where no one knows how to start.

My whole business is built on the thing Mrs. Weatherbee tried to train out of me.

And here's what I've learned doing this work:

Every workplace has someone like fourth-grade me.

The person who asks too many questions.

The one who notices things everyone else ignores.

The one who speaks up when silence would be easier.

And too often? Leaders handle them exactly like Mrs. Weatherbee handled me.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU SILENCE PEOPLE

When you tell someone to tone it down, stay in their lane, be "more professional", they don't magically become easier to manage.

They just get quieter.

They stop contributing in meetings.

They stop bringing you problems before they explode.

They stop caring as much.

And then one day, they leave and you're stuck wondering why your best people keep walking out the door.

THE REAL PROBLEM

Leaders are accidentally killing engagement

by treating personality traits like performance issues.

The talkative person becomes "disruptive."

The curious person becomes "difficult."

Continued on page 15

Pumpkin Loaf

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups pumpkin
- 4 eggs
- 1 cup oil
- 3 1/4 cup flour
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 3 cup sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1 tsp cloves
- 1 tsp. ginger
- 1 1/2 tsp salt
- Raisins or nuts may be added

PREPARATION

1. In large bowl beat eggs and oil until frothy.
2. Add egg and oil to pumpkin.
3. In separate bowl sift flour.
4. Mix in all dry ingredients.
5. Add flour mixture to wet ingredients.
6. Mix lightly till moistened. Pour into 2 greased loaf pans.
7. Bake at 350° for 50 - 60 minutes.

**Have a recipe you'd like to share?
Send it in!**

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D9154

Listening without judgment: A new approach to Women's Day

By ED HALVERSON

ed.halverson@southshorebulletin.ca

MAHONE BAY – An upcoming International Women's Day event in Mahone Bay is inviting the community to slow down, lean in, and simply listen.

"The Listening Room," set for March 6 at 5 p.m. in the Abriel Room at the Mahone Bay Centre, is being organized by Christopher Quigley and Kelly Ann Hamshaw. The evening will feature ten women sharing personal stories, uninterrupted, in an intimate, reflective setting.

Hamshaw, executive director of the South Shore Transition House Association, known locally as Harbour House, said the event is intentionally different from the rallies and panel discussions often associated with International Women's Day.

"We live in a world that is incredibly noisy between social media and constant pressure to perform," she said. "And we wanted to create a space for just being present, where women aren't just talking at each other, but where the audience is actively holding space for them."

Each speaker will have 10 minutes to tell a story about a moment that reshaped her life or influenced how she moves through the world today. There will be no debate, no question-and-answer period, just attentive listening.

"This is not a debate. It's not a Q&A panel," said Quigley, executive director of Alchemy at Art Workshop. "It's just 10 minutes of honesty. It's meant to be a space where you're just there to listen and be present."

Hamshaw said there is "a specific kind of magic that can happen when you know that people are truly listening to your truth without judgment." That act of

listening, she added, is powerful in itself.

"There's also a generosity in listening," she said.

The idea was partly inspired by the "Human Library" concept, where individuals share lived experiences in small, personal settings. But Hamshaw and Quigley have shaped The Listening Room to reflect the needs of their own community.

"We know that domestic violence thrives in silence," Hamshaw said. "Creating space to exercise listening and speaking our truths has the impact of demonstrating the importance of listening without judgment."

While the subject matter may touch on serious themes, organizers say the overall tone of the evening will be uplifting.

"These are meant to be uplifting stories," Quigley said. "It might be humorous, it might be serious, but it's meant to leave the audience and the speaker uplifted, feeling good when they leave, that there is some good in the world."

He noted that while people spend much of the year confronting difficult news and trauma, this event is designed to focus on resilience and positive turning points.

"There are things that happen to all of us that adjust our paths in a more positive way," Quigley said. "Sometimes you just need to hear a story... and that's what this event is meant to do, to provide that same kernel of something uplifting that when you walk away, you're like, 'Oh, I feel really good.'"

The speakers will all be women, but the audience is open to everyone. Seats are limited to maintain an intimate atmosphere, and organizers say the response has already been strong. The evening will begin with wine and light fare to create a welcoming, social feel.

There is no cost to attend.

For Quigley, the event is also about community. After a traumatic event in Mahone Bay last year, he felt compelled to step up and contribute in a meaningful way.

"We need more men stepping up," he said, particularly in conversations around intimate partner and gender-based violence. "My involvement with this is out of pure joy and the want and need to just give back to my community that has been so good to me."

Anyone wishing to register as a speaker or reserve a seat can do so by visiting www.ssvu.ca.

Liverpool artist ropes in new, returning fans with old gear

Continued from page 5

"Lobsters are a bit difficult because of the angles of the legs and getting the rope to turn and make the tailpieces. I'm not going to sit down and do that in a day. When you have to cut to fit the spots in between the legs and whatnot, that is a time-consuming piece."

Most of her frames are handmade. Her husband Mike Ringer helps make them out of old wooden lobster traps or barnboard. Friends and customers have also donated wooden frames for her work.

"I'm all about using things that are no longer being used."

Ringer jokes that her yard and shed are full of rope either waiting to be washed or used in her art.

She gets it from the beach, from friends or from places like Coastal Action and Scotian Shores, which recycle discarded lobster gear.

"It's a time-consuming thing to wash it, to get it to the point where I feel comfortable using it and making it for somebody to put in their home. Because it's pretty gross when you get it. And especially to get white (rope) look white, it takes a process of washing and sometimes scrubbing."

She cleans the rope in a large barrel, using a dish soap solution, usually with a pressure washer. She finishes it off in a diluted bleach solution before she hangs the rope to dry, so that she can work with it.

Manipulating and cutting the rope can be labour intensive, but Ringer says that's a little easier since she bought a hot rope cutter.

"I've got pretty rough hands, and I've got a good grip, because it takes a lot of strength to use that."

She uses basically every colour of the rainbow, even unwinding the rope to get at the "tracer", the thinner strand that's sometimes woven through the larger pieces.

"I tend to be drawn to the greens and the blues, but the more vibrant, the more I like it. I'm always excited to find a different colour of rope. And red is hard to get my hands on. So if (a piece) has red, it's special."

Ringer says that hearing from people who have bought her work inspires her to create more, knowing that someone is loving her art as much as she loves making it.

"The way people connect with it, because I have had repeat customers send me messages and saying, 'Oh, I gave that to so and so, and they were so happy, and they love it.'"

"So, things like that really strike me. It's like, wow. It obviously has made a connection."

The show, Knits and Pieces by Marsha Ringer, is at the Astor Theatre in Liverpool until Feb. 27.

What's Coming to Streaming February 25 - March 3

CRAVE

February 25

Scrubs: Seasons 1-9

February 26

Eraserhead

Christiane F.

Bad Host: Catching

The Couch Surfing

Predator: Season 1,
Episode 1

The Gray House: Season
1, Episodes 1-8

One Night Out With
Alan Cumming

February 27

Grey Gardens

Barbarian

Goose!

Georgie & Mandy's First

Marriage: Season 2,
Episode 11

Maria

Tar

The Amateur

The Shape of Water

The Sweet Hereafter

Inside

DISNEY+

February 25

FX's The Beauty (new
episodes)

Will Trent (Season 4,
new episode)

February 26

Inside the CIA: Secrets
and Spies (premiere
episode)

Scrubs (two-episode
premiere)

To Catch a Smuggler
(Season 10, premiere
episode)

February 27

Ancient Autopsy:

Mysteries of the

Dead (two-episode
premiere)

Incas: The Rise and Fall
(new episodes)

In the Blink of an Eye

Miraculous World:

Tokyo Stellar Force

9-1-1 (Season 9, new
episode)

9-1-1: Nashville (new
episode)

Sofia the First: Once
Upon a Princess

February 28

Danger Decoded (all
episodes)

The Medalist (Season 2,
new episodes)

Morbius

NETFLIX

February 26

Bridgerton: Season 4
Part 2

Crap Happens
(Denmark)

February 28

The Fall Guy

Paul

PARAMOUNT+

February 25

School Spirits (Season
3)

February 26

Canada Shore (new
episode)

Star Trek: Starfleet

Academy (new
episode)

February 27

If I Had Legs I'd Kick
You

Strange Harvest

February 28

The King Tide

Orphan: First Kill

PRIME VIDEO

February 25

Our Friend

The Proposal

February 26

NHL Coast to Coast

February 28

Sherlock Holmes

Sherlock Holmes: A
Game of Shadows



ALL DOLLED UP!

Ryan Hall (Shannex) was brimming with excitement as they held their first Winter Snowball Gala held Feb. 13. Runnin' on MT provided some live music and residents were able to dress in some fine suits and beautiful dresses thanks to Primrose Lane and The Daisy. Pizza was provided by Boston Pizza and a cake was enjoyed by all. Shown here in the pink and blue dress were Jane Smith and Pauline Gregg. King and Queen of the ball were Jamie Conrad and Bonnie Snair and Sylvia Creaser took some time to have her photo taken in front of this beautiful winter scene.

KEVIN MCBAIN PHOTOS



GETTING A JUMP ON PLANTING SEASON

Hundreds of people gathered for the 20th annual Seedy Saturday event took place Feb. 14 at Bridgewater's DesBrisay Museum with all kinds of information, seeds, plants and workshops to get a jump on this year's planting season. The event was started by Rosemarie Lohnes of Helping Nature Heal Inc. in Bridgewater. The guest speaker in the photo is guest speaker Candi Vienni of Stick, Stones and Garden Bones.

KEVIN MCBAIN PHOTOS



WEDNESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 25. Grid showing TV channels (6-56) and programs (e.g., Global, CTV News, News, America, How/Made, News, News, Troopers, Neighbor, The Lead, M*A*S*H, Nightline, Barrymore, Teen/Teen, Steven, Mindy, Power and Pol, WBZ News, 9-1-1, Save-Skin, Mayday, News, FBI-Wanted, 38 Mindy, 39 Big Bang, 43 Channel No, 44 Big Bang, 46 Property, 47 Castle, 49 Below Deck, 50 Real Kyper, 52 Smylie, 53 Overdrive, 54 TMZ Live, 55 Beachcom., 56 Midsomer).

DON'T FORGET Support your local food banks! This message brought to you by southshorebulletin.ca your local newspaper. Includes images of food items like apples, carrots, and broccoli.

What's on? www.tvpassport.com/southshore

Channel Guide - A - Lunenburg Co. B - Queens Co. C - Caledonia/Cherry Hill D - St. Margaret's Bay E - New Ross

Channel Guide grid with columns A-E and rows for various channels (GLOBAL, ATV, CBC, PBS, ASN, ABC, NBC, PARMT, A&E, CMT, CNN, HIST, CHCH, ITV, YTV, TOON, W, NEWS, CBS, CTV DRAMA, TLC, DISC, FOX, SHOW, SLICE, CTV COMEDY, OWN, FAM, HGTV, CTV SCI FI, OUTD, ROGERS SPORTSNET, GOLF, TSN, E!, APTN, VIS).

THURSDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 26. Grid showing TV channels (6-56) and programs (e.g., Global, CTV News, News, America, How/Made, News, News, Troopers, Neighbor, The Lead, M*A*S*H, Nightline, Barrymore, Teen/Teen, Steven, Ghosts, Power and Pol, WBZ News, Chicago, 1000-lb, Mayday, News, CSI: Miami, Goldbergs, Big Bang, Channel No, 44 Big Bang, 46 Love It, 47 Castle, 49 Summer, 50 Real Kyper, 52 PGA Golf, 53 Overdrive, 54 TMZ Live, 55 Beachcom., 56 Midsomer).

FRIDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 27. Grid showing TV channels (6-56) and programs (e.g., Global, CTV News, News, America, How/Made, News, News, Troopers, Neighbor, The Lead, M*A*S*H, Nightline, Barrymore, Teen/Teen, Steven, Neighbor, Power and Pol, WBZ News, The Rookie, 35 Mayday, News, Good Place, Big Bang, Channel No, 44 Big Bang, 46 House, 47 Castle, 49 Million LA, 50 Real Kyper, 52 PGA Golf, 53 Overdrive, 54 TMZ Live, 55 Beachcom., 56 Midsomer).

WEEKDAY DAYTIME FEBRUARY 25 TO MARCH 3. Large grid showing TV channels (6-56) and programs (e.g., Global News Morning, Morning, Various, Odd Squad, CTV Your Morning, News, News, Joni Table, Creek, CNN, Big Timber, Morning Live, Various, Best, Mysticons, Movies, CBC Morning Live with David Common, WBZ News, Neighbor, JHud Show, Driver, News, Various, Love It, Corner Gas, Channel No, 44 Channel No, 46 Various, 47 Mon Local, 49 Various, 50 Sportsnet, 52 Various, 53 Jay Onrait, 54 The Social, 55 Various, 56 Tomorrow..)

SATURDAY DAYTIME FEBRUARY 28. Table with 20 columns (7:30-6:00) and 56 rows of program listings.

SUNDAY DAYTIME MARCH 1. Table with 20 columns (7:30-6:00) and 56 rows of program listings.

SATURDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 28. Table with 11 columns (6:30-11:30) and 56 rows of program listings.

SUNDAY EVENING MARCH 1. Table with 11 columns (6:30-11:30) and 56 rows of program listings.

MOVIES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

EVENING

9:00 [WTVN] "Notting Hill" (Romance,1999) Julia Roberts, Hugh Grant. A shopkeeper (Hugh Grant) meets a movie star (Julia Roberts). (14+)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

EVENING

9:00 [CH] "The Moon and Back" (Comedy,2022) Isabel May, Missi Pyle. A teen feels lost after her father's death, until she discovers a space opera script written by him.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

EVENING

9:00 [WTVN] "The Love Club Moms: Harper" (Romance,2025) Genelle Williams, Sage Arrindell. Single mom Harper teams up with Colin, a single dad seeking community councilor re-election. (PG)

10:00 [SHOW] "Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit" (Action,2014) Chris Pine, Kevin Costner. CIA recruit Jack Ryan is caught in a dangerous web of intrigue and espionage. (13+)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

EVENING

6:30 [STAR] "Wonka" (Comedy,2023) Timothée Chalamet, Calah Lane. Young chocolatier Willy Wonka manages to change the world, one delectable bite at a time. (G)

7:00 [ATV] "Toni Braxton's Breathe Again" (Romance,2026) Toni Braxton, Cree Summer. Three women form an unlikely sisterhood and navigate the realities of dating, friendship and family. (14+)

1:00 [WTVN] "Love Served Here" (Romance,2022) Eva Tavares, Sebastian Stewart. A chef bets she can turn around the worst restaurant in the city and starts to fall for the owner. (G)

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

EVENING

7:00 [WTVN] "Romance at Hope Ranch" (Romance,2026) Gabriel Hogan, Alison Sweeney. Hope Morgan sets out to begin a new chapter of her childhood dream of running a ranch.

8:15 [CTVSCI-FI] "The Twilight Saga: New Moon" (Romance,2009) Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson. Bella finds her loyalties tested when she is drawn into the world of werewolves. (G)

[WTVN] "Mack & Rita" (Comedy,2022) Diane Keaton, Elizabeth Lail. A 30-year-old writer magically transforms into her 70-year-old self after a wild weekend.

MONDAY EVENING MARCH 2. Table with columns for time slots (6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and program titles.

TUESDAY EVENING MARCH 3. Table with columns for time slots (6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and program titles.

MONDAY, MARCH 2

EVENING

10:00 [SHOW] "Mission: Impossible -- Ghost Protocol" (Action,2011) Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner. After the IMF is shut down, Ethan Hunt and his team must clear the organization of wrongdoing. (13+)

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

EVENING

10:00 [WTVN] "Bombshell" (Drama,2019) Charlize Theron, Nicole Kidman. The provocative real story of three strong newswomen who stand up to the man who made them famous. (14+)

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FAMILY ALBUM



Happy Anniversary!
To Earl and Nina Teal of Bridgewater.
Happy 68th on February 28th.

RELIGION DIRECTORY

The 10 Commandments

I am the Lord your God, you shall have no other gods but me
You shall not make for yourselves an idol and worship it
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy
Honour your father and your mother
You shall not murder
You shall not commit adultery
You shall not steal
You shall not give false testimony
You shall not covet

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Sunday March 1st

Second Sunday in Lent – Rev. Oliver Osmond

9:00am St. Michaels Petite Riviere
Holy Communion

11:00am St. Johns West Dublin
Holy Communion

"O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness"

FLEA MARKETS

The South Shore's Best Flea Market is being held on Saturday, March 7th, from 9 a.m. to Noon at the Lunenburg Community Centre, 15 Green Street, Lunenburg. Admission is \$2. Tables are \$15 each. To book a table call 521-8140. Proceeds to support the Rotary Club of Lunenburg community projects.

COMMUNITY

Crib Tournament - Sunday, March 1 - Forties Community Centre, 1787 Forties Road, New Ross. Doors open 12:00 noon. Registration at 12:30 p.m. and play starts at 1:00 p.m. Cost: \$20 / team. Must be 19 years or older. Canteen available. Wheelchair accessible (ground level). For more info call 902-689-2147

BREAKFASTS

Pancake Breakfast, February 28, Voglers Cove Community Hall, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Homemade pancakes and beans, bacon, sausage, eggs, toast, beverages. \$12, ages 6-12: \$6, 5 and under: free.

Mahone Bay and District Fire Department Breakfast. Sunday, March 8, 2026; 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Pancakes, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, toast, juice, tea/ coffee. Adults - \$11.00; 12 and under - \$5.00; Under 12 - free.

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MEMORIAMs

FAULKENHAM- In loving memory of our mother, Ellen Faulkenham, who passed away February. 27, 2004. God knew that you were suffering, that the hills were hard to climb. So, he closed your weary eyelids, and whispered "peace be thine." The face we love is missing, the voice we love is still. A place is vacant in our hearts, that never can be filled. Our hearts still ache with sorrow, with how we wish you were still here. So many times we've missed you, so many times we've cried. If love could've saved you, you never would have died. Sadly missed and lovingly remembered, your son, Francis, and Daughters Mary Ellen and Susan.

MEETINGS

Hebville Village Commission REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 11, 2026

Hebville Fire Hall, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

D9275

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DEATHS

BOUTILIER, Fred Leo, 93, East River Point, died February 13, 2026, at the South Shore Regional Hospital, Bridgewater. Arrangements entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, Chester.

COLP, Simeon Donald, 98, Colpton, died February 11, 2026, in Mahone Nursing Home, Mahone Bay. Arrangements entrusted to R.A. Corkum Funeral Home, Wileville.

CROUSE, Paulette Nellie, 77, Bridgewater, died February 14, 2026, South Shore Regional Hospital, Bridgewater. Arrangements entrusted to Sweeny's Funeral Home, Bridgewater.

SALTER, Fred Merrill, Mahone Bay, died February 16, 2025, at Hospice, Fishermen's Memorial Hospital, Lunenburg. Arrangements entrusted to Mahone Funeral Home.

SANGSTER, Wayne R, 82, Bridgewater, died February 16, 2026, South Shore Regional Hospital, Bridgewater. Arrangements entrusted to Sweeny's Funeral Home, Bridgewater.

VARNER, Phyllis Allison, 85, Bridgewater, died February 14, 2026, South Shore Regional Hospital, Bridgewater. Arrangements entrusted to Sweeny's Funeral Home, Bridgewater.

VEINOTE, Ethel Anne, 85, Mahone Bay formerly of Bridgewater and New Germany, died February 15, 2026, Mahone Bay Nursing Home, Mahone Bay. Arrangements entrusted to Sweeny's Funeral Home, Bridgewater.

OBITUARIES

Ethel Anne Veinote

Age 85, formerly of Bridgewater and New Germany, Lunenburg Co., passed away peacefully on Sunday, February 15, 2026, in Mahone Nursing Home, Mahone Bay, where she had been residing. Born in Falkland Ridge, Annapolis Co., she was a daughter of the late Percy David and Elva Melissa (Stoddart) Starratt.

Ethel spent her working life as a school teacher, with most of her career spent at New Germany Elementary School. She was a member of St. John in the Wilderness Anglican Church, New Germany, where she loved to sing in the choir, which brought her much joy over the years. Ethel married Cecil Veinot in 1968 and they enjoyed traveling, sightseeing, visiting many of their family and friends, square dancing, as well as participating in community life. Ethel loved to paint scenic pictures; had created many, many family albums; as well, she enjoyed playing the piano and singing, but she thoroughly enjoyed cooking delicious meals, always looking for a new recipe to try. Ethel especially loved to travel; going on bus tours to Nashville and abroad to Ireland, completing a dream to hear, Anna McGoldrick sing and be involved in one of her tours. She kept herself very busy, always enjoying one of her many past-times.

Ethel was the last surviving member of her immediate family. Surviving by her step daughter-in-law, Kelli Veinot, Bridgewater; step-daughters, Janice (Philip) Wentzell, Berwick; Rosemary (Gerald) Hebb, Bridgewater; step-grandchildren, Sarah (Kirk) Smith, Conquerall Mills; Mary (Kyle) Wyman, Hebville; Holly (Bob) Abbott, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.; Tyler Wentzell, Fall River; step great-grandchildren, Bella Smith, Ethan Smith, Dylan Smith, Zander Wyman and Ozzy Wyman; and other nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her husband, Cecil Veinot; stepson, James "Jim" Veinot; sisters, Olive Kaulback, Enid Brown, Gene Wentzell, Hazel Starratt; brothers, Evan and Lawrence.

Celebration of Ethel's life, will be held 2 p.m., Monday, March 9, 2026 in St. John in the Wilderness Anglican Church, New Germany, with Rev. Catherine Robar officiating. Interment will take place in St. John's Anglican Cemetery, New Germany. Family flowers only please, donations may be made to St. John in the Wilderness Anglican Church or to the Alzheimer's Society of Nova Scotia.

Thank you to the Mahone Nursing Home staff for making Ethel feel at home during her time there. Special thank you to Dr. Esther Raymond for the wonderful care you gave Ethel, and for all the visits and phone calls you gave providing helpful, compassionate, clear information and advice over the past number of years.

Arrangements entrusted to Sweeny's Funeral Home, 35 York Street, Bridgewater, where on-line condolences may be made by visiting www.sweenysfuneralhome.com.



Obituaries can be found online at southshorebulletin.ca



CLASSIFIEDS

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E-MAIL: info@southshorebulletin.ca

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The chatterbox problem

Continued from page 9

The passionate person becomes “too much.”

And then we wonder why no one speaks up anymore.

WHAT STRONG LEADERS DO DIFFERENTLY

The leaders I work with? They ask different questions.

Not: “How do I stop this behaviour?” But: “Where does this energy belong?”

That one shift, from correction to curiosity, changes everything.

Suddenly the “chatty” person is leading your customer feedback sessions because they’re naturally great at pulling information from people.

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The “too much” person becomes the cultural glue who makes new people feel welcome.

You don’t eliminate personality. You channel it.

THIS IS WHAT I DO

At SMillerVision, I help leadership teams stop

accidentally pushing good people out.

Not through another generic training program.

Not through feel-good team building exercises.

But through real conversations about what’s actually happening in your workplace.

We look at:

- Where communication is breaking down (and why)

- What your retention problem is actually telling you

- How to turn “difficult” team members into your biggest assets

- What your leadership style is costing you in talent

Because here’s the truth: people don’t leave jobs. They leave environments where they’re constantly told to be less.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

If you’re reading this and thinking “We have this exact problem”, good.

That means you’re aware enough to fix it.

I work with businesses who are tired of watching talented people walk out because they don’t fit the mold. Who want stronger teams, not quieter ones.

Who know engagement isn’t a pizza party problem, it’s a leadership opportunity.

Here’s what to do right now:

- Think about who on your team you’ve been trying to “fix”

- Ask yourself what you might be missing about their potential

- Book a discovery call with me

Seriously. Do it now while you’re thinking about it.

Because every day you wait is another day someone like fourth-grade me is learning they need to be smaller to succeed at your company.

And that’s costing you more than you think. Let’s talk. Book your discovery call, text me at 902-350-1481 or email me at stephanie@smillervision.com.

Stephanie is the Founder and Visionary behind SMillerVision. After three decades leading hospitality teams to exceptional results, she now helps service-based businesses build workplaces where employees feel seen, valued, and inspired to stay. Through leadership strategy, training, and culture development, she shows owners how people-first leadership drives performance, loyalty, and profit. Visit www.smillervision.com.

OBITUARIES

Darlene Elizabeth Jamieson

80, Fredericton, formerly of Bridgewater, died peacefully on February 12, 2026. Predeceased by her husband, Dougald, and infant daughter, Denise, Darlene is survived by sons, Trevor and his daughter, Harlow, of Halifax, and Todd, Fredericton. Funeral mass will be held at noon on Saturday, February 28, at St. Catherine of Sienna Church, 6476 Bayers Road, Halifax.

OBITUARIES

Phyllis Allison Varner

It is with much sadness that we have to say goodbye to Phyllis, age 85 of Bridgewater, Lunenburg Co., a loving sister, mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

Born in Lake Pleasant, Annapolis Co., she was the daughter of the late Aseph and Hilda (Tufts) Varner.

She will be deeply missed by her daughter, Sherry (Kevin) Whynot; grandchildren, Matthew (Kayla) Acker, Dawn (Luke) Acker, Andrew Stewart and Apryl Stewart; and her great-grandchildren, Braxton Acker, Keygan, Conner and Colton Stewart, along with her sister, Pearl (Lawrence) Mailman and brother, Roscoe Varner, and many nieces and nephews

Besides her parents, she was predeceased by the love of her life, Raymond Frazee; her daughter, Sandra Acker; son, Mathew Whynot; sisters, Udavilla (Randolph) Conrad and Eileen (Ronald) Veinotte; and her sister in law, Sharon Varner.

She had spent most of her life working retail, cleaning, and many different jobs, but once meeting Ray, she found her love of the outdoors, camping and many trips just driving around. She was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 24 - Ladies Auxiliary, Bridgewater, for many years; they spent many nights together there talking with old friends.

Cremation has taken place and a private family interment will be held at the Springfield United Baptist Church Cemetery at a later date. Donations may be made to the Springfield United Baptist Church.

Arrangements entrusted to Sweeny’s Funeral Home, Bridgewater, where on-line condolences may be made by visiting www.sweenysfuneralhome.com.

That’s a wrap

Continued from page 4

During Covid-19, he shared leadership of the smaller groups with the band’s drum major and wrote many custom arrangements of music for the smaller groups to play outdoors year-round in Bridgewater and Lunenburg.

“There’s lots I still would have liked to have done,” says Eisener, “but it’s time for a change. Not everybody wants the BFD Band to be primarily a service band. Not everyone likes being reminded to press their shirts and polish their boots. Not everybody is enthusiastic about marching up Dufferin Hill every summer – or anywhere else, for that matter!”

“That’s alright. There’s more than one way to run a band! Besides, I have lots of arthritis, constant tinnitus, and I’ve been on meds for high blood pressure for years, and while I really can’t blame that all on the band, I think even my body is telling me it’s time! My right shoulder has never forgiven me for playing bass drum on parade when it was broken and I didn’t know it. Even my family doctor told me I’m a ‘special’ kind of stubborn!”

What’s next for the band?

“I have every confidence that the executive of the band will be able to guide it to something new, something better, in the coming years. It is, after all, a community band and there is a social aspect that I really undervalued. I’m sure the executive will find a way to build bridges with the school instrumental music programs that I was never able to do. And, hopefully there are lots of folks out there who will find a welcoming place in a more community-based, recreationally-minded ensemble,” he said.

The band is preparing for its spring and summer seasons under the direction of bandmaster Lieutenant Ian Bolton and associate conductor PO2 Andrey Smirnov of the Stadacona Band of the Royal Canadian Navy, with its first performance of the year anticipated in late March.

Rehearsals continue every Wednesday night at the Bridgewater Fire Hall starting at 7 p.m. You can send a note to the band’s email at band@bfdband.com or visit the website at www.bfdband.com for more information regarding joining the band or upcoming performances.

Paulette Nellie (Wamboldt) Crouse

Age 77 years, of Bridgewater, Lunenburg Co., passed away on Saturday, February 14, 2026, in South Shore Regional Hospital, Bridgewater. Born April 22, 1948 in Bridgewater, she was a daughter of the late Max Arthur and Emily Elizabeth (Weagle) Wamboldt.

As a young adult, Paulette regularly met with a small group of other ladies within the community; during one of these meetings, she heard the gospel explained in a way she had not heard before, and after this meeting she accepted The Lord Jesus as her Lord and Saviour. Her life has exemplified the love she had for Jesus; as a wife, a wonderful and exceptional mother, and in her servitude to her community. It was through Christ that she served and it was through God’s strength that carried her through decades of suffering a painful medical illness and much heartbreak.

Although Paulette was a stay at home mom, she worked along side her late husband with the family trucking business, V & P Trucking. Later years she worked a short period as an office custodian, for the former Bowater Mersey Paper Company, Oakhill. She was a member of Christ Lutheran Church, Camperdown, which was a big part of her life; she held positions as Counselor, Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School teacher extraordinaire, Lady’s Aid, and was a best sounding voice.

Paulette is survived by her children, Karen (Clay) Weagle, Bridgewater; Shari (Chris) McCreanor, London, Ontario; Tammy Crouse, Bridgewater; David (Tammy) Crouse, Camperdown; grandchildren; Steven (Nicole) McCreanor, Jordan (Jess) McCreanor, Nolan (Sydney) Arenburg, Dominique (Josh) Arenburg, Dustin (Kenzie) Crouse, Cameron (Chloe) Crouse, Nick (Jasmine) (Aurora) Selig; great grandchild, Harper Crouse (Dustin and Kenzie); her siblings, Wanda McCarthy, and Joanne (Robert) Clattenburg; and all of her nieces and nephews.

Besides her father, Max Wamboldt, and mother, Emily Croft; she was predeceased by her husband, Vernon John Crouse; brother, Max Jr. “Maxie” Wamboldt.

Visitation was held from 6 - 8 p.m., Tuesday, February 17, 2026 in Sweeny’s Funeral Home, 35 York Street, Bridgewater. Funeral Service was held 2 p.m., Wednesday, February 18, 2026 in Christ Lutheran Church, 1188 Camperdown Road, Camperdown. Pastor Brian Nelmes officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery for immediate family only. Family flowers only please, donations may be made to the Christ Lutheran Church, Camperdown, or the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation.

The family wishes to extend their gratitude to the nurses at the Ambulatory Care Department of South Shore Regional Hospital for Mom’s weekly visits for many, many years. The OBS nursing staff that also cared for Mom in the evenings for her weekly treatments; Dr. Nestel, Dr. Hughie Fraser, Dr. Mcguire, and particularly Dr. Chaisson for her compassion during Mom’s last days. All of the staff and doctors at the South Shore Regional Hospital Emergency Department and at the Coverdale Clinic for many years of Mom’s bi-weekly treatment for Crohn’s.

Arrangements entrusted to Sweeny’s Funeral Home, 35 York Street, where on-line condolences and messages may be made by visiting www.sweenysfuneralhome.com.



Fred Boutilier

Fred Leo Boutilier age 93 of East River Point passed away peacefully February 13th, 2026 at the South Shore Regional Hospital surrounded by his family.

Born in Blandford to Glen Boutilier and Blanche (Gates) Boutilier on December 19th, 1932 he was the second of five children.

In his teens Dad started working in the Valley picking apples, then worked on the railroad for a year before getting a job with Karlens Shipping where he worked for about 17 years, much of the time on the MV Theron hunting seals off the coast of Newfoundland and transporting cargo between Halifax and the West Indies. He was proud to have been a crew member when the Theron was chartered as the supply/transport ship for the 1957/58 British Trans-Antarctic expedition.

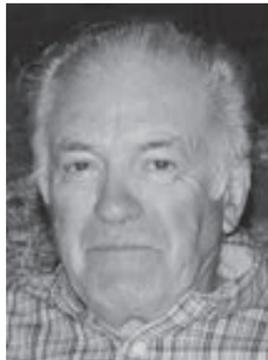
In 1959 he met and married Phyllis Lillian Cooke and they built their forever home in East River Point. Dad left the Theron in 1969 and then worked at the Anil Hardboard Plant until his retirement at age 64.

Dad loved spending time in the woods, cutting firewood and building his camp in Aspotogan. He also loved being on the water fishing or in the water swimming.

He was predeceased by his parents, wife, sister Shirley Ryan, brothers Avery and Willis. He is survived by a sister Jewell Malacrida and children Neil and Cheryl (Schnare), grandchildren Richard, Anthony, Benjamin, and Michaela; great-grand children Logan and Adelai.

The family wishes to take this opportunity to express their gratefulness to the staff at the South Shore Regional hospital, the VON and the Home Care staff for looking after Dad for the past several months.

Cremation has taken place and a graveside service for Dad and Mom will take place in the Spring.



South Shore libraries feel squeeze of flat provincial funding

By ED HALVERSON

ed.halverson@southshorebulletin.ca

PROVINCE – After years of stretching every dollar, Nova Scotia’s public libraries say they are nearing a tipping point.

Ashley Nunn-Smith, CEO and chief librarian of South Shore Public Libraries, says the current funding model has not kept pace with inflation or growing demand. She is also chair of the Council of Regional Librarians, representing all nine public library systems in the province.

“Public libraries in Nova Scotia are funded through a funding formula,” Nunn-Smith explained. The formula was last successfully updated in 2020, when provincial funding increased to \$16.4 million annually. That amount, which represents 71 per cent of total library funding, has remained flat ever since.

Municipalities contribute 26 per cent, and library boards are required to raise at least three per cent themselves. In the South Shore region, that self-generated portion is closer to 11 per cent through donations, grants, and fundraising.

The challenge, Nunn-Smith says, is that costs have continued to rise

while core funding has not.

“We’re going into the seventh fiscal year with that same \$16.4 million,” she said. “In that time, we’ve seen 21 per cent inflation.”

Minimum wage increases have also put pressure on budgets. While Nunn-Smith supports higher wages, she notes that many frontline library workers earn minimum wage and there is no automatic increase in funding to match provincial wage hikes.

“When the province raises the minimum wage, there’s no corresponding increase to library funding,” she said. For some regions, that can mean a \$40,000 to \$60,000 hit in a single year.

The result has been staffing challenges and increasing turnover. About 49 per cent of public library workers in Nova Scotia have less than three years’ experience.

“We’re losing really dedicated, hard-working people because they simply can’t afford to work here anymore,” Nunn-Smith said. Many leave for higher-paying jobs in education or other public service roles.

While libraries have quietly trimmed budgets for years, delaying technology upgrades, not replacing

retiring staff and redistributing workloads, Nunn-Smith says the system is reaching a breaking point.

“All of our staff are doing too much. Their caseloads are too big,” she said. “The quality that people come to expect from their library is going to erode.”

That matters, she adds, because libraries today are about far more than books.

“I think libraries have always been about information,” she said. “But the definition of information has expanded.”

Libraries now offer internet access, printing, 3D printers, community programming and tech support. Staff help patrons navigate government forms, download health apps, and connect with family online. Branches serve as cooling centres in summer, warm spaces in winter and gathering places for community groups.

“We have tens of thousands of hours of people using our Wi-Fi and our computers every month,” she said.

Nunn-Smith also points out that as other services shrink, including visitor information centres and some

museums, libraries often pick up the slack. Tourists routinely stop by for directions, restaurant recommendations and local information.

“The library is there for you,” she said. “Whatever you come in with ... our staff are there to help.”

With the provincial budget set to be tabled next week, library leaders are hoping for more than temporary “bridge” or “emergency” funding, which has been provided in small amounts over the past two years.

“The bridge funding has been helpful to keep the doors open, but it’s not enough and it’s not sustainable,” Nunn-Smith said. What she would like to see is a “strategic investment in the core funding.”

Without it, she warns, some regions may face staff layoffs, reduced hours or even branch closures.

“Status quo was clearly stated as not a viable option,” she said of the most recent funding review. “And now we’re seeing those risks play out.”

For South Shore Public Libraries, a balanced budget was passed this year, but Nunn-Smith cautions it may be the last without serious cuts.



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Thursday Mar 19, 7 pm
St Barnabas, Blue Rocks

Ian Tomaz, piano
Saturday Mar 21, 11 am
Cecilia's Retreat, Mahone Bay

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**Municipality of the District of Lunenburg
Call for Volunteer Nominations**

The Municipality of the District of Lunenburg appreciates and celebrates volunteerism in our communities. Do you know a deserving volunteer in your community we should know about? Nominations are being accepted for the following:

Representative Volunteer - One volunteer (individual, couple, or group) will be selected to represent the District of Lunenburg at the 52nd Provincial Volunteer Award Ceremony in September.

Municipal Awards and Reception - Community organizations are invited to nominate and send two representatives to the Municipal Reception to be held during Volunteer Week.

Deadline for Nominations: Thursday, March 12 at 4:00pm

Nomination forms are available on www.modl.ca, by calling (902) 541-1343 or emailing recreation@modl.ca.

We wish to thank all our community volunteers for their passion, their action, and the impact they have in making MODL a great place to live, work and play.

D9279