

MASSTOWN MARKET
"An experience for all"
 www.masstownmarket.com
"Celebrating 40 years of Excellence!"

The Shoreline Journal
 Serving the Glooscap Trail • From Truro to Parrsboro
 PO BOX #41 BASS RIVER, NS B0M 1B0
 VOL. 13 NO. 4
 APRIL 2009



\$1.95 + HST

MARGOLIAN'S
"Famous For Value"
 Mens • Ladies • Childrens
 Fashions • Footwear
 Home Decor
 DOWNTOWN TRURO
 (902) 893-9475
 www.margolians.com

FRONT PAGE BRIEFS April 2009

Notice to readers: We wish to clarify some confusion about when subscriptions expire. If you recall in February 2008, just after purchasing the Shoreline, Dorothy and I announced a limited time offer in which everyone would receive 14 months instead of 12 when they renewed. We did this, because as new publishers, we wanted to ensure you realized we were determined to ensure all readers were happy and would renew. For example, those who had subscriptions which normally expired in December or January would have a new expiry date of February or March 2009. Hope this helps clarify any misunderstanding.

Last year, Canada Post made some changes to addresses and postal codes, splitting off some addresses in B2N into a new code prefix of B6L. For Shoreline Journal readers, living in the new B6L area, we apologize for neglecting to make the change in our renewal notices. For clarification purposes, "Local Subscriptions" include postal codes B0M, B2N & B6L. The pricing is \$23.00, plus HST - \$25.99.

Business Listings of businesses in West Colchester have been arriving in the mail and via fax and email, although not in the volumes I had hoped. The data collection form has been included in this issue. We encourage all businesses to take a few moments and send along. It will save us the time and effort of having to contact each business individually.

DogSled rides at Ski Wentworth, during March break, was the most interesting press release we received for a long while. I've got to hand it to the Wilson family, they are doing whatever they can to make the hills at Ski Wentworth an even greater destination. Wish my bad leg would have permitted me to ski down the beginner's course.

Veterans Memorial Park, Bass River, will play host to a traditional Jewish memorial at 7PM on April 21st to honor the memory of those lost during the WW2 holocaust. The Jewish community will perform the service with the park society making the park available to the community.

Free Seniors Computer Classes will soon be offered in Great Village. The Great Village Community Association is looking for anyone interested in learning or refreshing the basics of computers. Classes will start as soon as there is enough interest. This class will also be taught using lap tops. If interested, contact Heather MacKay at 668-2501.

Indoor Yard Sale, Saturday, May 9th, 8 am to 12 noon at West Colchester Consolidated School, 27 Maple Avenue, Bass River. The students of WCCS are holding a Yard Sale to raise money for Prom, and various Athletic Groups. Rental tables are available for \$10.00 each. A great opportunity to support the students and clean out the closets. For more information or to make arrangements call 902-647-3500.

Ruth Thompson, Economy, has signed on to be the Shoreline's newest area reporter. Ruth will submit articles from the Economy area. She can be reached at: foxy40@ns.sympatico.ca or 647-2054. Her first bit of news is her husband is opening Economy Greenhouse at the end of April for the sale of flower and vegetable transplants.

Military Museum to open May 29th. The Debert Military History Society has announced an aggressive plan to launch the 2009 season. Monthly meetings for the next two months will be held on April 13th and May 11th. Anyone interested in preserving and displaying military history are welcome to attend. The Debert Military Museum will open on May 29th. An Official Opening and open house will be held on May 30th. All are welcome to attend. Festivities will include flag raising from veterans, speeches and refreshments.

July 1st Picnic Planning Meeting. Great Village Community Association will meet at 7 pm on April 16th, to plan the July 1st picnic with lots of interested exhibits, displays, games, food and fun.

Growing Grass for Fuel Pellets

By Maurice Rees

The way we keep warm and providing additional income for landowners could become a reality later this year, if a group of conference organizers get their way. Thursday, April 23, a one day conference, "Growing Grass for Fuel Pellets - A new Industry" will be held at Holiday Inn (formerly Keddy's) in Truro from 10 am to 3 pm.

Sponsored by Nova Scotia

Department of Economic Development, Pulsifer Associates Limited and McPetridge Farms, Middle Musquodoboit, the conference will bring together farmers, land owners, and prospective growers with run-out or dormant fields. Initial program details explain that growing grass for fuel pellets is a new industry in this region, which will make use of dormant and/or run-down fields presently doing

nothing and providing land owners with little or no income.

In addition to the sponsors the conference is being presented in association with Nova Scotia Agriculture College and AgraPoint Ltd., Agriculture Extension Services, Truro and Kentville. The event is free to interested parties, although organizers say there will be a small charge of \$10.00 to help defray costs for lunch

and nutrition breaks.

Organizers advise the one-day program will present the case for a strong and healthy grass fuel pellet industry in Nova Scotia and Atlantic Canada. Written information will be presented on how to restore dormant fields to provide income and for a wealth-creating, environmentally-positive industry on a continuing and sustainable basis.

It is anticipated the end product will provide local employment and replace fossil fuels by home-grown businesses, some of which could be operational before the end of 2009 to supply pellets for the 2010 heating season.

The keynote address, The Potential For Grass Fuel Pellets, will be presented by Roger

Samson, Resource Efficient Agricultural Production (R.E.A.P. Canada), Montreal;

continued on page 2



Pictured above are Dave Wilson and Jans (Wilson) Henderson, two members of the Wilson family present for the opening of the exhibit on February 21. See story on page 9. (Ells Photo)

Shoreline Journal places in top 3

During the past year, the Shoreline Journal has undergone significant changes: new owners, a redesign, becoming a member of the Canadian Community Newspaper Association (CCNA) and the Atlantic Community Newspaper Association (ACNA) as well as growth in circulation and advertising revenues.

Membership in CCNA provides the benefits of networking with publishers and staff of over 650 similar publications from coast-to-coast.

English language publications reach a total of 6.5-million households each week. When the Francophone publications from Quebec are included, the total reach is 10.2-million households in all provinces and territories.

Maurice Rees, publisher, has just learned the Shoreline Journal has placed in the top three finalists in two categories of an 2009 ACNA Better Newspaper Competition involving 57 weekly and

continued on page 3

Schools not scheduled to close

By Maurice Rees

The elementary schools in Bass River and Debert are not scheduled to close at least in this point in time. In fact no schools in the Chignecto-Central system are scheduled to close.

This publisher was not aware about impending school closures until a conversation with a Bass River resident early in the week of March 23.

The resident was lamenting about the fact the elementary schools were closing in 2011 and students would be transported to a new facility in Debert.

It was unusual such a mammoth decision affecting two small rural communities had

not been the focus of coverage in major media, so we decided to investigate for factual information into the school situation.

The Bass River source said that at the end of February, the area was advised the elementary schools in Bass River and Great Village would close at the end of the 2010-2011 school year and students in the fall would enter a new facility to be constructed in Debert. In fact, I was informed students from Old Barnes and Green Oaks would also be transported to the new facility.

The fact no schools are slated to be closed does not mean the area's schools are safe from future closure.

To get to the bottom of the matter, the Journal contacted Terri Mingo, Communications Manager for Chignecto-Central Regional School Board, who explained about the extensive assessment, which comprises a review of schools.

She explained, provincial legislation requires all school boards monitor schools individually through a multi-stage school review process involving: building age, square footage, current and projected enrollment, current and projected capacity utilization, building condition, the ability to deliver the public school program in the school facility, annual operating costs, utility costs, etc.

continued on page 5

C.D. Armstrong Insurance
 Providing Business, Auto & Home Insurance since 1903
Jill McMullen
 38 Dominion St., P.O. Box 695
 Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 5E5
 Bus: 902-895-4427 • Fax: 902-897-4422 • HOME: 902-662-3536
 Email: jmcullen@cdarmstrong.com
 Website: www.cdarmstrong.com

GUTTER DONE
 Certified Ventilation Installer
 Div of Mark Bonnell Contracting
 ✓ 5" Seamless Gutter
 ✓ Custom Made On-site
 ✓ Professional Installation
 ✓ Fascia & Soffit
 ✓ Siding, Roofing
 ✓ Sheds & Fences
 gutter&clean SYSTEM
 902.895.5645
 899.2775

Burchell MacDougall
 LAWYERS
 Put experience on your side.
JOHN R.M. AKERMAN, Q.C.
PEGGY POWER CHARLES THOMPSON
 Litigation Criminal Law Personal Injury
 Real Estate Family Law Wills/Estate Planning
 710 Prince Street TRURO, NS B2N 5H1
 www.burchellmacdougall.com
 Phone: 902-895-1561