

Bizoo and Happy are elder dogs adopted into a loving home. See their story page 12!



north dartmouth echo

linking our community

Paying it forward to Roseanna Cleveland

by Suzanne Rent

Just about everyone in North Dartmouth knows Roseanna Cleveland. Roseanna is the CEO and volunteer chair of the Take Action Society, which got its start in 2009. She can often be found in the community in her bright green sweatshirt, emblazoned with the Earth Dude, the society's mascot, working with youth and giving back to the community. Roseanna and the Take Action Society have created an invaluable program for youth in North Dartmouth. They engage kids through programming like cooking classes and an annual cleanup of McNab's Island. They also created a community garden and outdoor movie theatre where residents and families can have fun and grow their own food. They have inspired countless young people to get involved in other ways. Roseanna and the Take Action team have improved the lives of North Dartmouth youth more than they ever imagined.

But these days, Roseanna needs our help. In September, Roseanna suffered a rare spinal stroke, which left her immobile from the neck down. She's been in the hospital ever since. Matthew Spurway from Between the Bridges, with the help of the other team members from Take Action, set up a GoFundMe page to raise funds for Roseanna and her recovery. She will need special medical equipment and renovations in her home when she returns. But she has no insurance to cover those costs.

I chatted with Matt about Roseanna and the GoFundMe page. He says while Roseanna is still in the hospital, she's in good spirits and still has

cont. page 3...



Photo: Tyler Colbourne

Dartmouth North families celebrated Family Literacy Day at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Halifax, Farrell Street location, with characters from some of their favourite stories. See page 3.

Portraits of a community

by Tyler Colbourne

We live in a world where it has never been easier to create content, record moments, and share stories. We no longer rely on giant media companies for knowledge and opinions. We can share

our own stories in an instant through a tweet, a status update, or online post. This is why I view photographs, specifically portraits, as a powerful tool for community building. Every time we gather and share our story, we build

community.

What is the difference between a snapshot and a portrait? Both are powerful tools for recording our lives, but snapshots capture a moment in time and are present in many areas of our lives. We have

snapshots throughout our social media feeds and all over our phones and personal devices. Snapshots do a wonderful job of capturing the richness of our lives and the small moments that happen daily. Portraits,

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Photo: Tyler Colbourne



Portraits of a community

...cont. from p.1

however, work to capture a feeling.

I had the opportunity to photograph family portraits in Dartmouth

North on January 26. Members of the Dartmouth Learning Network, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater

Elmo shared his love of stories at Family Literacy Day at the Boys and Girls Club.

Halifax, Farrell Street location, and I worked together at the Family Literacy Day event, sharing books and resources, but also sharing the opportunity for people to have free family portraits. The day was centered around the idea of stories: the stories we have in our homes, the stories we tell our children, and the stories we build together in community.

My role as a photographer was to do justice to the people who were thoughtful enough to share their time and presence with a complete stranger. In front of my camera we had mothers and fathers with their children, everyone with a smile, highlighting their love for each

other. We had young best friends, laughing and making funny faces. We captured each family as they are: proud, dynamic, and beautiful.

I see Dartmouth North as unique and special—it is a community of opportunity. It has its own voice, its own presence, and a feeling distinct from the rest of the Halifax, which is why it is such a privilege to capture photographs of people in the ways they want to be represented. Happy, in love, diverse, and full of the richness of life that can be found in Dartmouth.

Photography is a powerful tool to help families capture feelings in time, helping to tell their stories, in their own way, with their voices. With each picture we took we captured memories, shared in the power of family literacy, and built community.

Photos: contributed by Dartmouth Family Centre



(Above) Fun with art and music at the Dartmouth Family Centre on Albro Lake Road.



Photo: Jack Godfrey

MOUNTAIN OF MILK: Sunrise Yoga Wellness collected 604 cans of evaporated milk and delivered it to the North Dartmouth Food Bank in January. Sunrise is currently collecting 1,012 cans of soup for the food bank and expects to deliver it in March. Helping with milk collection are, left to right: Hariloyn Wilson, Marg Ross, Maxine Dominey, Sharon Crawford and Crystal MacDonald.

north dartmouth echo

The North Dartmouth Echo is published 5 or 6 times a year by The Dartmouth North Community Newspaper Society. This community newspaper is dedicated to celebrating many good news stories and activities that take place in the community, as well as keeping the residents informed of activities and issues that impact on our community.

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Paying it forward to Roseanna Cleveland

...cont. from p.1

her well-known smile and remains an inspiration to him and the community. And she's slowly getting back into her work thanks to technology that allows her to text and email. Matt expects Roseanna to take part in meeting by phone with him and the Between the Bridges team soon.

"Roseanna has given so much to the community," Matt says. "She's helped create great value for the community. Helping her now is a small payback."

Matt says giving to the GoFundMe page is also an investment in what Roseanna still has to give back in the community and through the Take Action Society. Roseanna is just 47; she has a lot of time and energy left to invest in North Dartmouth. As Matt says, Roseanna is

at the pinnacle of her career as a volunteer.

"Now is not the time to let her stay out of the game," Matt says.

So far, about \$7,200 has been raised for Roseanna. But Matt says people have been reaching out to help in other ways. One donor to the GoFundMe page bought a couple of hundred dollars of grocery items for Roseanna's family. Still others are making meals for the family (details on how to do that are on the GoFundMe page, too).

If you're not online, there are still ways to give back. You can contact Matt directly at 902-488-7446 and he can give you details on how to donate.

Also, North Dartmouth activist Kayley Dixon and the Take Action's Junior Leader Plus crew

started a bottle drive that will run until May 31. You can drop off your bottles or cans to the Dartmouth North Community Centre or 72 Courtney Rd. Kayley and the crew will also pick up your donation of bottles or cans. You can contact them at 902-430-0681 or Kayley.e.dixon@hotmail.com.

You can find the GoFundMe page at www.gofundme.com/roseanna-cleveland-needs-our-help.

Matt says the response to the page reconfirms what he always knew about those who live in North Dartmouth.

"They care deeply about each other," Matt says. "It doesn't surprise me at all."

Pay it forward, North Dartmouth! I know you can do it.



Photo: Tyler Colbourne

Family Literacy Day activities in Dartmouth North cultivated lots of smiles for big and little readers alike!

Dartmouth North families prioritize literacy & learning

submitted by Henk van Leeuwen and Alison O'Handley

Dartmouth North families made their way to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Halifax, Farrell Street location, on January 26 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Family Literacy Day in Canada. Each family walked away with a collection of new books and also traded books they had brought from home for books other families brought in.

Parents and children enjoyed reading, making a book about their family and decorating their own family tree. Photographer Tyler Colbourne took free family portraits, and cartoon characters dropped by to play and lead reading circles with children!

Family Literacy Day® is a national awareness initiative held annually to raise awareness of the importance of reading and other literacy-related activities as a family.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Halifax and the Dartmouth Learning Network partnered to host the event. Both were pleased with the turnout of so many families and politicians from all levels of government, which highlights the importance Dartmouth North fami-

lies are placing on literacy and learning. Both community organizations strive to help families and children to improve the educational outcomes and literacy of children in Dartmouth North.

The Boys and Girls Club regularly incorporates literacy and learning into its day-to-day programming. It also leads the Share the Art of Reading (STAR) tutoring and learning program at Harbour View Elementary School, which supports students in Primary to Grade 4. A joint project of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Halifax, the Department of Education

and Early Childhood Development, and the Dartmouth North Association (DNA), the STAR program helps students who may be struggling with literacy or reading.

And to help kids get a head start for school, the Dartmouth Learning Network has partnered with the Dartmouth Family Centre to offer family literacy workshops. Its "Raising Readers – Math Thinkers – As a Community" workshop series focuses on the basics of what parents of children aged 0 – 4 need to know to raise strong readers and math thinkers.

Photo: Rowena Hardy



Youth activist and Echo reporter Cheyenne Hardy dropped in on Roseanna Cleveland to bring her a comfort blanket and let her know her community is thinking about her and wishes her well!

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I look forward to
working with you
in our community

A MESSAGE FROM

Darren Fisher, MP
DARTMOUTH-COLE HARBOUR

Tax breaks helping low-income families

This tax season there are important tax breaks and incentives you should know about. Our government is working hard to make life affordable for families and individuals here in Dartmouth-Cole Harbour and across the country.

As soon as we took office, we lowered taxes for the middle class by having the wealthiest one per cent pay a little more. Now, the average single Canadian is saving \$330 a year thanks to the middle-class tax cut.

Don't forget that you should file your taxes, even if you don't owe. If your family qualifies for certain benefits, like the Canada Child Benefit, your payment could be delayed if you file late.

We know that the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) is helping more children and families in Dartmouth-Cole Harbour. Families often tell me their kids are in organized sports for the first-time ever, now that they can afford to enroll them. The Canada Child Benefit is giving families more money, up to \$6,500 per year, per child. And don't forget, the CCB is tax-free.

There are many folks out there who are working hard, trying to get ahead. Many workers who are paycheque to paycheque, doing their best to make ends meet. That's where the Canada Workers Benefit (CWB) comes in. The CWB provides up to \$2,335 for low-income families. If you're eligible for the CWB, you'll automatically receive it when you file your taxes. The CWB will help lift 70,000 people out of poverty in Canada.

Seniors may have noticed increases to Old Age Security (OAS) and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS). Seniors can now receive up to \$1,700 more per year.

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and they're employing many workers in Dartmouth-Cole Harbour. We've cut taxes for small businesses, so they can remain competitive and provide good jobs in our community. In fact, Canada now has the lowest small business tax rate of all G7 countries! We cut taxes for small businesses from 11 per cent to nine per cent, and it will save small businesses up to \$7,500 per year.

These tax changes are making life more affordable for all Canadians. But as I mentioned, don't forget that you should file your taxes, even if you don't owe. These benefits are great, but if you file late, your payments could be delayed!

Our office keeps track of free tax clinics in Dartmouth-Cole Harbour. As always, if you need help, please reach out to us at 902-462-6453.

Working together, Between the Bridges

by Matt Spurway

Over the past two and a half years, Between the Bridges has been growing a network of residents, community organizations, government, and businesses that are collectively working together in Dartmouth North.

Initially, the shared agenda of "Breaking the Cycle" was identified using multiple community engagement processes involving a diversity of community voices. Starting priorities are student success, community fabric, access to health services and affordable, quality housing.

Currently, Between the Bridges staff are supporting more than 80 residents and cross-sectoral organizations/leaders to work together on each of the priorities. The structures within

this network are the Residents Roundtable, the Strategic Roundtable, the Student Success A-Team, the Community Fabric Insight Team, and the Affordable Housing Social Innovation Lab.

An initial focus for all groups is relationship building among members. For example, learning more about who is around the table, their interests, strengths, and values; designing Agreements for Working Together; and determining processes for decision-making with a focus on consensus. How we work together is as important as what we work on.

Some highlights of progress to date include:

COMMUNITY FABRIC INSIGHT TEAM:

Following up on the success of the 2017-18 SPAN grant program,

Between the Bridges Community Grants have been offered for 2018-19, designed to directly engage residents with community organizations in projects that strengthen community fabric.

In total, 16 proposals have been implemented so far, with a combined value of nearly \$30,000, engaging more than 100 volunteers and directly impacting more than 1,700 residents. The stories of what worked are gathered and shared as part of our ongoing learning process.

STUDENT SUCCESS A-TEAM:

A strong team of enthusiastic and knowledgeable representatives from community, government and the non-profit sector, the Student Success A-Team continues to develop a shared understanding on the topic

through both lived experience and data, and is identifying areas of focus, prior to identifying specific strategies and action.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING SOCIAL INNOVATION LAB:

Scheduled for late-February-April, Between the Bridges is convening an intensive, five-day social innovation lab on the topic of affordable housing in Dartmouth North. Twenty people, including residents, non-profit organizations, the private sector, and all three levels of government, will come together to make progress on this important issue.

If you have questions, or would like to get involved, please contact: Matt Spurway, community coordinator, 902-488-7446, matt@betweenthebridges.ca.

Helping adults succeed

New computer classes and GED programming at Learning Centre

submitted by Dartmouth Learning Centre

Adults in Dartmouth have some new resources available to help them build skills for the workforce. The Dartmouth Learning Network is expanding its program offerings to include GED classes (daytime and evening) as well as daytime computer classes, free for adults who have not completed high school. Funded by the Department of Labour and Advanced Education, this programming is designed to help adults gain the skills they need to live and work in a modern economy.

"We are very excited to launch this new programming," says Executive Director Alison O'Handley. "It's so hard to find work without having your high school diploma or GED these days. Being able to offer

daytime and evening GED programs makes getting your GED that much more attainable when you are juggling family and work priorities."

In addition to the expanded GED program, Dartmouth Learning Network is also offering three new computer pro-

grams: Computers for Work, Computer Basics and Tablets & Smartphones.

"Technology is now a part of most jobs so it's important to keep our skills up to date," says O'Handley. "These courses will allow us to meet our learners' needs, from staying in touch

with family online to learning common workplace software."

The Dartmouth Learning Network encourages anyone interested in these programs to contact them directly for more information at 902-463-9179 or online at dartmouthlearning.net.



Photo: Dartmouth Learning Network

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Susan Leblanc

MLA DARTMOUTH NORTH

Dartmouth North Stone Soup

The folktale, Stone Soup, has many versions. Here's a very brief one:

A hungry traveller comes to a town looking for something to eat. The townspeople, hungry themselves, shut their doors to the traveller and say they cannot spare a thing to share. The traveller goes to the centre of town, builds a fire, and begins boiling a pot of water with a couple of stones in it. Curious onlookers ask what is happening. The traveller explains it is "stone soup" and it promises to be delicious. The stone soup is tasted and the traveller exclaims it's almost perfect, but it would be really good if only... there was a bit of onion in it. A townsman shouts that they have an onion to add and runs home to get it. Ingredient by ingredient, the stone soup is enhanced: someone has a carrot, another person has some celery, still another had some rice to add. Soon, the stone soup has turned into a delicious, hearty stew, created through the generosity and sharing of a whole community.

It's a wonderful story, and one that exemplifies some of the best qualities of Dartmouth North: generosity, sharing, friendship and creativity. That's why a group of residents of our community, as well as some of the organizations that work here, have been meeting to make a plan to try to bring this story to life in the form of an outdoor theatre performance.

Dartmouth North Stone Soup is in the very early planning stages, but the idea would be that residents of all ages could contribute to the performance in whatever way they felt best able to contribute: as a script writer, an actor, a dancer, a singer, a costume maker, a scheduler of rehearsals, the list goes on. Whatever your talent or interest is, it's needed!

Soon, there will be more formal presentations happening throughout the community, about this big idea, so please watch for signs of those. In the meantime, if you are interested in getting involved, or want more information, please contact my office at susanleblancMLA@bellaliant.com or 902-463-6670.



Pastor Chuck Kelades of SonLife Community Church, MLA Susan Leblanc, and community activist Cheyanne Hardy mixing it up at the MLA's well-attended Christmas Open House.

New centre director settles in

Wendy Fraser named Executive Director of Family Centre/Community Food Centre

by Kevin Curley



Wendy Fraser has spent her whole career in people-serving positions.

From working with youth struggling with housing and mental health, to young families looking for parenting support, Fraser strives to make a difference in the community.

Now, Fraser brings her years of experience to North Dartmouth as the executive director of the Dartmouth Family Centre and Community Food Centre.

"My work has been a combination of supporting others and supporting and developing community," says Fraser.

With 25 years of experience in the non-profit sector, her accomplishments include leading the development of Nova Scotia's first residential palliative care hospice as the first CEO of Hospice Halifax; executive director of Supportive Housing for Young Mothers; and program director at the Phoenix Centre for Youth and YWCA Halifax.

She is thrilled to join the Family Centre as the organization celebrates its 25th anniversary.

As she settles in to her new position, Fraser is starting to set goals.

"What I'm really working towards right now is meeting with all the staff to hear their ideas. In many ways my role is like a conductor. I may not play every instrument, but I need to

make sure it all sounds good together," says Fraser.

Since joining in December of 2018, she has been meeting with staff individually to hear ideas and find out what the specialists love about the various programs.

Fraser says she was inspired to apply for the position because she respects the work being done by both organizations.

The Family Centre offers numerous pre and post-natal support to families and parenting support programs.

Fraser encourages parents who are new to the area, or just unfamiliar with the centre, to take advantage of their services.

"We always have a calendar up on the website. You can see what you might be interested in and can register. It's a really great way to get to know other people in similar situations. Being a new parent can be quite isolating. To be with other parents in a similar place reduces isolation and also helps you learn together," she says.

The Food Centre encourages community members of all ages to grow, cook and share healthy foods.

The Food Centre is in collaboration with the Community Food Centre of Canada and follows a consistent program offered across the country.

"It's an amazing program in that it is not a traditional food bank or soup kitchen. It's a community hub where food is the focus. But more importantly, it's an opportunity for community members to reduce isolation," says Fraser.

With a high percentage of Dartmouth North residents living alone,

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GOOD TIDINGS

FROM DISTRICT 6

Greetings from HRM Councillor Tony Mancini

Crosswalk Safety

Dark streets and winter weather can make crossing the street dangerous—we all have a role in keeping each other safe on our roads. There were 27 vehicle vs. pedestrian/bicycle accidents reported in December alone. Make sure vehicles can see you when you are crossing the street by pushing the button for overhead flashing lights and by making eye contact with drivers. Drivers should take special care when turning on a green light—check to make sure there are no pedestrians before proceeding. Whether driving or walking, pay attention to what you're doing. Drivers on their cell phones (even hands free) are four times more likely to crash. It's against the law to have a cell phone in your hand while driving unless you are calling 9-1-1, and walking while texting is dangerous.

This year, the municipality asked community members to submit proposals on innovative ways to improve the ways in which people use crosswalks, and promised to help fund some of the best ideas. Our panel of judges will review the submissions and share the ideas that were put forward. Successful proposals will be announced in March and funding will begin in April 2019.

Community Grants Program

The Community Grants Program provides project and capital grants to non-profit organizations within HRM. The grant categories include arts, diversity and inclusion, environment, emergency assistance and neighbourhood safety, history, housing, leisure and recreation. The application period is now open and the deadline to apply is March 31. Email nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca or call 902.490.7310. for more information.

Winter parking ban

We've been fortunate to have a mild winter this year, but our crews and contractors have still had to provide clearing for many snow events. A major obstacle to getting our streets cleared is cars parked on the road. It makes it difficult for plows and means the street may not be fully cleared. The municipality can enforce an overnight winter parking ban from 1–6 a.m. for declared weather events and clearing operations between December 15 and March 31, however vehicles can also be ticketed or towed anytime if they are interfering with snow-clearing operations. Please think before you park and when the parking ban is on, you must secure off street parking. You can register to receive notifications when the parking ban will be in effect by going to our website or by calling 3-1-1, or check @hfxgov on twitter and our website halifax.ca/snow.

Furniture Bank

Do you have some gently used furniture you no longer need? Consider donating to the Franciscans of Halifax Furniture Bank. The furniture bank accepts donations, storing them in the

cont. page 13...

Photo: Dartmouth Community Health Board



(Above) The Dartmouth Community Health Board and community members are campaigning for a national school food program to help kids be healthier and learn better.

Tom Clarke rises to the challenge with compassion and a big heart

by Kevin Little

Photo: contributed



Tom Clarke is one of many dedicated volunteers who help the North Dartmouth Outreach Resource Centre help others.

I have worked with Tom Clarke for more than 10 years. For some of those years, Tom facilitated the job board at the North Dartmouth Outreach Resource Centre, located at Stairs United Church on Hester Street, where he used to place newspapers, employment-agency brochures and other aids for guests at the food bank. I know first-hand Tom's efforts led to many jobs for food bank recipients. In fact, it was not a surprise to see one of these employed persons return to the food bank to say thank you to Tom and make a donation.

No one wants to see food banks in our society. It is inherently unjust that a wealthy society has to rely on food banks to feed our people. It's degrading to ask people to line up to receive groceries. I feel for those people who need to spend their limited income support money on prescription drugs, housing, and clothing only to have nothing left over for basic food and nutrition. I stand in the line up every Wednesday morning with the food-bank clients and when someone is there for the first time, they will tell me that it took a lot of

pride swallowing to stand in that line. Having stated that reality—and we need to remind ourselves of this painful truth otherwise we begin to accept the unacceptable—there is no doubt food banks can go a long way towards making clients feel welcome, respected, and that they have agency. The food bank volunteers at the North Dartmouth Outreach Resource Centre do this and they do it well. I watch the people at the door who welcome the clients, the people bagging the groceries, the people who take information, the

Dartmouth Community Health Board is speaking up for school food

submitted by Monique Mullins-Roberts

Did you know Canada is the only G7 country without a national school food program?

The Dartmouth Community Health Board is pleased to advocate alongside residents for a campaign asking the federal government for a national school food program. We know well-nourished children are healthier and learn better. A national school food program could help

ensure we can provide good food to all kids consistently.

Investments in school food programs create social and economic benefits for the community and improve academic achievement for students. We can't afford not to do this.

You can make a difference today by signing a petition to the Minister of Health, sending a postcard to your Member of Parliament and shar-

ing the campaign with family and friends. For full campaign details visit www.nourishns.ca/speakup.

To #SpeakUpforSchoolFood contact Darren Fisher, MP, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6, or Darren.Fisher@parl.gc.ca. No postage required when sending to House of Commons! Monique Mullins-Roberts is a Community Health Board coordinator.

people who drive the clients home, the people who serve the coffee and the muffins, and the minister at the church who listens so attentively to the guests. In a very real way, when a client walks into this food bank, they become the recipient of generous hospitality.

Tom is part of that assortment of volunteers. He has come with me to visit several employment agencies and has welcomed me to some of the groups he frequents so I can spread the word about what we at The Public Good Society of Dartmouth do, and so

that those in attendance can bring food donations for the food bank. Over the years, Tom has also provided clients important information on tenants' rights, getting furniture, and legal advice.

"Our clients have a lot of challenges, not just financial, but physical, mental, emotional and otherwise," he says.

Evidence of Tom's good heart comes when you see a client Tom has helped over the years impulsively give him a big hug.

Tom has good judgment and a big heart. It's just too bad he remains a lifelong Leafs fan! Over

this decade as an outreach community navigator I have met countless people. Tom is one of the many who have made a lasting impression on me.

Kevin Little is the community outreach navigator for The Public Good Society of Dartmouth. He can be reached by calling 902-476-0785 or emailing thepublicgoodsociety@gmail.com or by visiting the North Dartmouth Outreach Resource Centre at Stairs United Church at 44 Hester Street every Wed at 8:30 a.m.

TD Presents

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at Halifax Public Libraries

Things My Fore-Sisters Saw

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Photo: contributed

PJILA'SI (WELCOME!) Mi'kmaq artist Jordan Bennett created this public art piece for the newly updated and renamed Zatzman Sportsplex (formerly Dartmouth Sportsplex). The exhibit is titled Pjila'si (Welcome in Mi'kmaq) and incorporates various metals, traditional Mi'kmaq motifs and colour to create a piece that explores the various histories, traditions and contributions to sport in Mi'kmaki, such as the canoe, hockey, basketball, and more.



Photo: contributed

I HEART YOU:
 Dartmouth North residents and friends enjoyed the Valentine's Tea and Sale at St. Paul Catholic Church on Windmill Road on February 9. The hall and volunteers were decorated for the occasion, and the delicious food and treats were much appreciated. Shown above (left to right) are some of the event's hard-working and cheerful volunteers: Pat Mombourquette, Pat Frisen, Cindy Doherty, and Judy Stokes.

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On Thursdays seniors receive a **20% discount** on front store purchases with their Optimum Card. (Some conditions apply – see store for details.)

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2 Medium • 12”
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Large • 16”
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cat

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 Watch Program
 FOR INFO CALL 902-452-8068

Persons operating a vehicle bearing this sticker between 1 and 5 a.m. are subject to a police stop which may involve police taking precautions for approaching a potentially stolen vehicle.

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FAMILY DENTISTRY

♦ Dr. Christopher Baker
 ♦ Dr. Lucy Lamond
 ♦ Dr. Erin Pegg

Dartmouth Shopping Centre
463-0001

Visit our website:
www.dartmouthdental.ca

The Public Good Society supports the work of:

- THE COMMUNITY VAN 902-222-0174
 ralph.mackenzie@hotmail.com
- CONNECTIONS THAT WORK 902-476-0785
 thepublicgoodsociety@gmail.com
- DARTMOUTH HOUSING HELP
 902-466-3483
 info@dartmouthhousinghelp.ca

FIND OUT MORE AT
www.publicgoodsociety.ca

THE PUBLIC GOOD SOCIETY OF DARTMOUTH
 476-0785 • thepublicgoodsociety@gmail.com
 www.publicgoodsociety.ca



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96 Highfield Park Drive,
 Dartmouth, NS

 HFieldPark

Spirit of the Community

Celebrating the spirit of giving all year long

by Cheyenne Hardy

Photos: Rouvena Hardy



For the fortunate, Christmas is a wonderful time of year. Our hearts open up to free-flowing kindness, compassion and forgiveness. And if we are lucky, we celebrate the ringing in of the New Year filled with hope, love, and the promise of doing good things that make a difference in this world. And then, January arrives. With each passing month our compassion and goodwill seem to disappear with the trees and bright-coloured lights.

As we inch closer to March, I am sure most of us are gleefully counting down the days to spring, and soon we will turn our attention to the dog days of summer, backyard barbecues, and sun-

tans. But before we close the book on writing about Christmas events, I wanted to tell you about a group of wonderful people here in Dartmouth that helped make this last Christmas very memorable for me. They seem to keep what I feel is the essence of Christmas all year round.

Back in November I was contacted by Leo Mackenzie of the Better Together Organization and asked if I wanted to help them with a nativity pageant at a local church. I was so excited to accept Leo's offer because not only do I love working with this amazing group of volunteers, but thoughts of the pageant instantly took me back to when I was a child and I would perform this at my grandparents' church. My mom said watching us perform the nativity story always signalled the start of the Christmas season for her, and as a child it did for me as well. It was always a very special event for my family and me, but nothing had prepared me for just how special this nativity pageant was going to be.

It turns out this was the eighth year this

.....
Some of the very passionate cast members at the nativity pageant at St. Vincent de Paul.

group presented "A Child is Born" at St. Vincent de Paul Church. This organization is a group of people with very special abilities that love giving back to our community. Cost of entry to this performance was a food donation to help people in our community who are less fortunate to have food on their tables over the holidays.

I had worked with a few members of Better Together before so I knew what loving, passionate people they were, but I have never seen such a large group of people tell the first Christmas story with so much warmth and heart.

I had just a small role and was partnered with Paul Pottie, a member of the Better Together group. He was assigned the role of the innkeeper and I played the innkeeper's wife. Paul was terrific, as were all of the actors, and it was the most joyful, spirited pageant ever. The whole night was filled with songs and passion and you could actually feel the spirit of Christmas spread throughout the room. We performed for a packed audience and everyone left with smiles on their faces, humming Christmas hymns. Most importantly, we collected so much food we filled the cupboards.

They say volunteers are the heart of a community. Well, I say Better Together is the soul of Dartmouth. Every one of its members has an incredible passion for helping others. This group has been given awards such as the Canada 150 Service Award and the Award for Outstanding Contribution to the 2018 poppy campaign by the Royal Canadian Legion. They were also recognized in Province House for their huge contributions to our community.

I am very excited to continue working with Leo and Mark and everyone associated with this very special group of volunteers. Whether it's cleaning up the garbage from the Dartmouth shoreline, or completing 150 acts of kindness in our community, because of their never-ending commitment to giving back, Dartmouth is a better place.

So yes, it is okay to rejoice when the last bit of this winter's snow melts and you can bask in the summer sun and feel the warmth of beach sand between your toes. But a group like Better Together reminds us to keep the compassion and spirit of Christmas in our hearts not just in December, but all year round.

Better Together group leader Mark Decker, volunteer Cheyenne Hardy, and Kathleen MacMillan, who played the Angel Gabriel in the nativity pageant at St. Vincent de Paul Church.



Want to be a S.T.A.R.?

VOLUNTEER TUTORS NEEDED

Monday-Friday 11:10 am-12:45 pm / Wednesday 2:15-4:15 pm

Tutor training provided.

For more information, contact Liz at dntutoring@bgcgh.ca, call 902-410-1248 or drop by the school and visit the S.T.A.R. room!



Share the Art of Reading (S.T.A.R.) is a play-based tutoring program of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Halifax, held at Harbour View Elementary School for children in grades Primary-3 to help improve their literacy and math skills.



Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Halifax



SENIORS' CORNER

is supported by

Darren Fisher

MP FOR DARTMOUTH-COLE HARBOUR
902-462-6453



Photo: Sandra Weagle



Eighty is the new thirty

by Sandra Weagle

I would like to introduce you to Marge Hemsworth. She is a resident of Dartmouth North and was a personal friend of the late, great Hank Snow. Marge is into astrology and can read your tea leaves, your palm, and your handwriting. I met Marge through our mutual love of classic country music. The first time we met there was a genuine smile and a twinkle in her eye and I knew it was going to be a great friendship. Last year, I attended her 80th birthday party. It was very apparent that 80 is the new 30—keeping up with Marge is a whirlwind affair.

Marge was in her 70s when she and her long-time friend, Charles Salmon, wrote a play about meeting and knowing Hank Snow. The play, called "In My Wildest Dreams," was

part of Neptune Theatre's Stages Theatre Festival, and was featured at the Halifax Fringe Fest last year where it won major awards, including best performance and best ticket sales—it sold out before the festival started. Both are audience choice awards.

This wasn't Marge's first kick at the theatrical can. She starred in "To Sleep Perchance" at the Halifax Fringe Fest 10 years ago.

Keep your eyes to the papers, as talks are taking place with the Dartmouth Players and the Astor Theatre in Liverpool. If you get the opportunity, see "In My Wildest Dreams." You will not be disappointed.

Marge raised herself with the help of a few foster families along the way. She lived in the Town Clock in Halifax at one point. Her late hus-

band was a firefighter in Halifax, and they raised four wonderful children together.

Never in her wildest dreams did Marge Hemsworth think she would fall in love at 80 years of age. She plans to marry her fiancé, Doug, in August of this year.

band was a firefighter in Halifax, and they raised four wonderful children together.

As a young girl, Marge taught herself to cut hair and became a successful hairdresser. Her play is set during this phase of her life, dealing with her clients and her admiration of Hank Snow.

When she was 16, Marge saved for a year, bought a \$12 camera, and set off to Nashville to see her idol, Hank Snow, on the Opry Stage. The play encompasses the journey from Halifax to Nashville and explores how she met many of the stars of the day.

Marge met the McNamara family through administering Hank's Fan Club, and struck up a correspondence with one of the sisters. This sister was 14 at the time, raising her

nine siblings as her mother had passed. Marge describes her as the most amazing person.

As a surprise, the seven McNamara sisters came from across the country to attend her play's debut at the Neptune Theatre festival. There was also a surprise attendance of a friend from Grade 5, and a bridesmaid from her first wedding.

If you tell Marge she is anything but ordinary she will argue with you.

"Everyone has a special quality or story of their own—mine is no different than theirs," she says.

In the summer of 2018, Marge met a special someone at the Hank Snow Festival. Doug and Marge will be married August 10, 2019. Another chapter begins.

Happy Anniversary to Frank and Andrea Grandy
who celebrated their
58TH ANNIVERSARY
on Valentines Day, Feb. 14.
Congratulations from all
your friends at Holy
Trinity Anglican
Church.

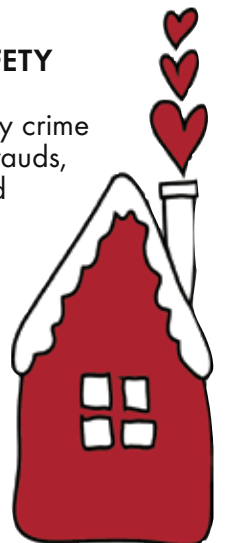
SENIOR'S HOME SAFETY PROGRAM

A presentation on property crime prevention, elder abuse, frauds, scams, fall prevention, and general safety inside and outside the home.

April 4 / 1 - 3pm

Community
Wellness Centre
58 Tacoma Drive

To register:
millerde@halifax.ca or
902-490-6976



MERCHANDISE BINGO

Saturday, February 23

11:30am - 4:30pm

Tickets \$20



MARDI GRAS

Tuesday, March 5

4:30 - 6:30pm

Tickets \$10 members/\$12 non-members

45 Ochterloney Street • Dartmouth
902-465-5578 • www.dartmouthseniors.ca



Spotlight on Youth

is supported by

Susan Leblanc
MLA Dartmouth North

902-463-6670
susanleblancMLA@bellaliant.com



Dartmouth Handcrafters Guild blesses Harbour View Elementary School

by Doris Buffett-MacDonald

On January 22, the Dartmouth Handcrafters Guild presented cheques to several non-profits in the Halifax-Dartmouth area. Harbour View School was delighted to be selected as the primary charity at that event. Kim LeBlanc, principal of Harbour View, was thrilled to accept a cheque for \$4,500 on behalf of the school.

“Two years ago, Bev Doman from the Dartmouth Handcrafters Guild asked how their organization could support our school with fundraising,” LeBlanc says. “At Harbour View, we are working hard to improve student achievement in reading, comprehension and number sense. This year our work includes school

beautification projects, and special programs in addition to high impact classroom instruction. These projects are costly, requiring generous partnership and support of businesses and multiple community groups in Dartmouth North.”

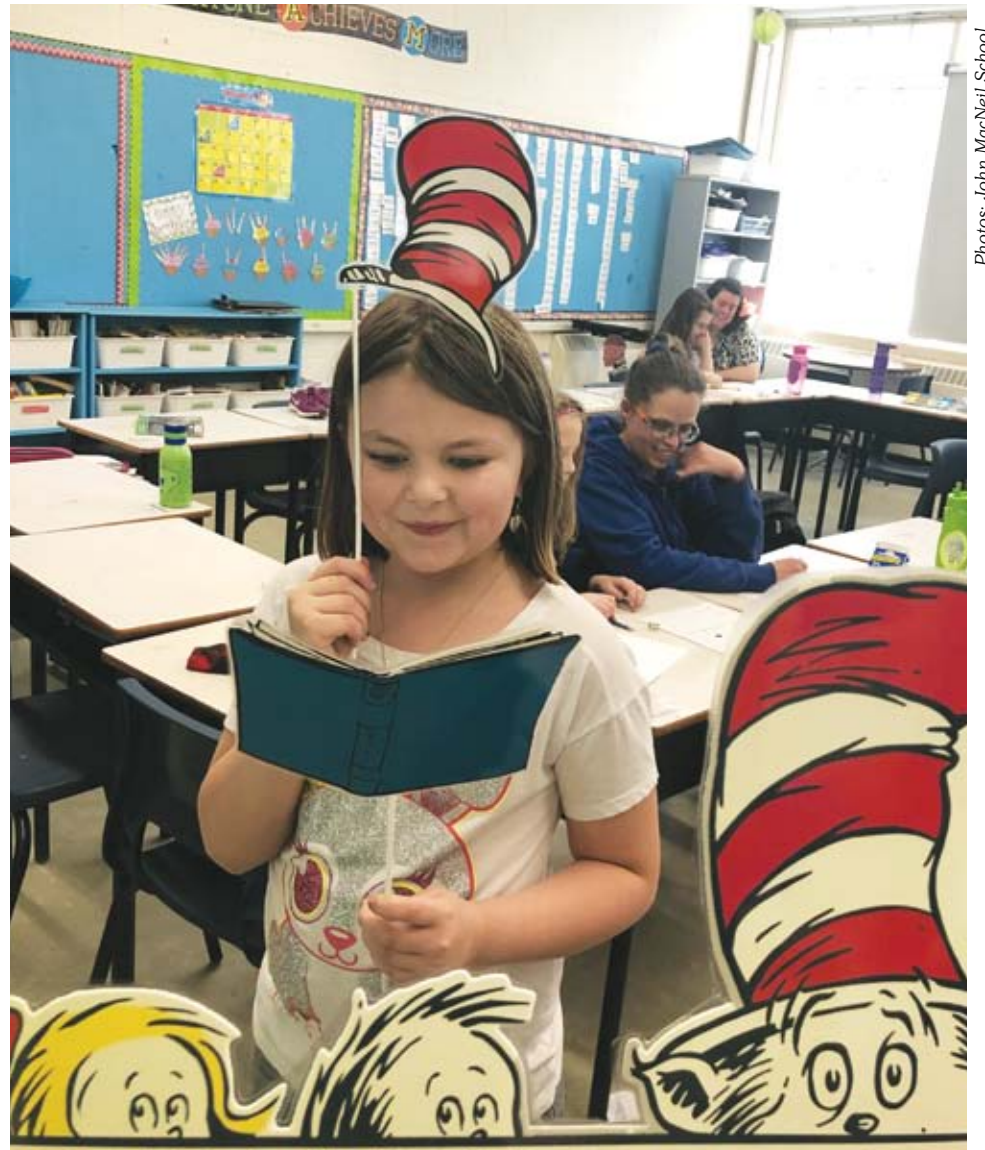
In October 2018, they were given the opportunity to sell tickets on a gift card tree at the Christmas Craft Festival at the Dartmouth Sportsplex (now renamed the Zatzman Sportsplex). In addition, students were sent home with three tickets to sell. That, coupled with the ticket sales at the sportsplex, resulted in doubled ticket sales.

“We are very grateful for this partnership with the Dartmouth Handcrafters Guild and

appreciate that they chose us as their primary charity,” LeBlanc says. “These funds will help in our efforts to increase student attendance, literacy and math scores. We know that when students are in school, eager and ready to learn, they are able to achieve great things.”

Dartmouth Handcrafters Guild was formed in 1974 by six craftspeople and now has 170 members. Their signature event is the Christmas Craft Festival, which takes place each October. A portion of their proceeds are donated to local charities.

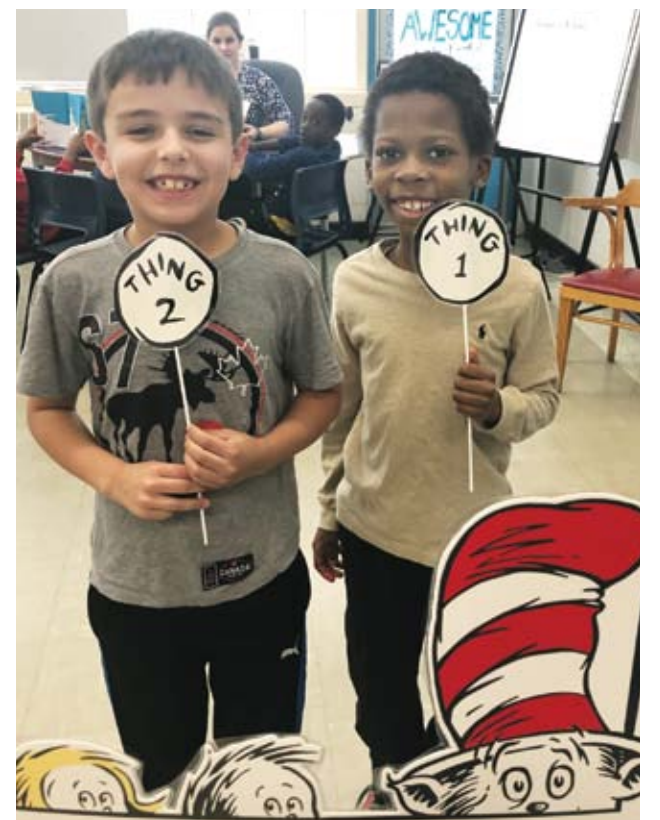
For more information on the Dartmouth Handcrafters Guild, visit www.handcraftersguild.ca.



Photos: John MacNeil School

Hats off to John MacNeil for Literacy Week!

There was a happy hustle and bustle at John MacNeil Elementary during the recent Literacy Week. Students and teachers alike highlighted the importance of reading through play, art, dressing up, choral readings, and poetry, reconnecting with old favourites and discovering new ones.



(Above and left) Literacy Week at John MacNeil Elementary School was a “thing” for the Grade 3 students who had fun Dr. Seuss style while practising their reading skills.



Photo: Doris Buffett-MacDonald

Kim LeBlanc, principal of Harbour View Elementary School accepts a cheque from Frank Ricketts, president of the Dartmouth Handcrafters Guild, on January 22. The generous \$4,500 donation will go to support student achievement through special programs and projects.

How my best friends made my life better

by Marilyn Scapinello

I can't wait to get home. As I drive up the street the weight in my soul starts to lift. I can't help smiling. I feel so lucky every time I open the door to excitedly wagging tails. If they could, they'd give me the world in exchange for a pat on the head and a kind word. Just stroking their heads or brushing their hair can lower my blood pressure when I'm feeling stressed. With them, I've met friendly people. Interaction with people is said to be good

for single or widowed people. My three elder dogs—Bizoo (17), Benji (12) and Happy (13) are not puppies! But they are full of love and devotion that young dogs still have to learn. All my previous dogs came to me as puppies. They were cute and cuddly but guess what? My elder dogs are cute and cuddly AND trained. They've already learned how to please a human! I first learned about ElderDog Canada when its founder, Ardra Cole,

was interviewed on TV. My husband Doug and I listened to the interview with our two dogs, Tiger and Bear, who had been with us since puppies. Doug suggested that's where we should volunteer when we retire. But life happens while you're making other plans. Tiger suddenly had incurable liver cancer one week after his 12th birthday. We had to do the right thing for him. That last trip to the vet was heart-breaking. Three months later,



Photo: Marilyn Scapinello

Bizoo, Benji and Happy are an inseparable, adorable trio of elder dogs that are getting a second chance at a happy home thanks to the caring people at ElderDog Canada and their new mistress Marilyn Scapinello.

my husband was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer. The next one and a half years were filled with treatments and hope, but two weeks after his 65th birthday, I lost the best husband in the world. We had enjoyed 38 years together.

Bear had a seizure that day and he was never again the same active little guy. He had a brain tumour. While the vet kept a watchful eye on him, four months later he had another seizure, and euthanasia was again necessary. I missed Bear so much. My happy family of four was gone.

Three months later, I checked the ElderDog

site and there they were—Bizoo and his son Benji. I just had to offer my home to these boys who needed someone to care about them. They needed a forever home and I needed a reason to come home. I thought I could sympathize with their situation.

Honestly, I worried about their ages. Welcoming a senior dog into my life, knowing the inevitable death due to old age may happen soon... was I setting myself up for unhappiness?

One of the best days of my life was the day I picked up Bizoo and Benji. I don't feel I "replaced" Tiger and Bear. I love these boys

because of their individual personalities. Probably they will die before me and it will be a very sad time, but I'll know that I gave them a loving home when they needed one.

I became an ElderDog volunteer. A couple of months later, I offered to foster a 12-year-old male dog whose mom had to face the harsh reality of going into long-term care. They were the best example of a beautiful human-dog relationship and it was very hard for both of them to separate. Within five minutes of meeting him, I knew I would adopt Happy.

Bizoo, Benji and Happy are a trio who sleep in a pile on top of each other—and me.

...cont. next page

Photo: NS Crimestoppers



It was smiles all around for the first place team—Plane Crazy—at the 14th Annual Crimestoppers Battle of the Wits. The Halifax Board of Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers held its event at the Atlantica Hotel in Halifax, in January.



Halifax Regional Police


A GUIDE TO POLICE SERVICES

Emergency	911
Non Emergency Police Dispatch.....	902-490-5020
General Info	902-490-5016
Divisional Commander Dartmouth	902-490-5171
Cst. Jim Smith.....	902-229-9042
Scotia Court	
Cst. Jillian Forhan.....	902-483-5434
Cst .Kim Chambers	902-483-7472
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	
Cst. Tanya Lambert	902-490-2169
Victim Services.....	902-490-5300
Anti-Bullying Hotline.....	902-490-7283
Office of Chief of Police	902-490-6500
Crime Stoppers	1-800-222 TIPS (8477)

Dartmouth North Neighbourhood Watch

Mar 20 / April 17 at 7pm
 3rd Wednesday of every month at Farrell Hall (Albro Lake Road & Windmill Road) All welcome to attend. Your co-ordinator can be reached at 902-463-5806 and Community Cst Jim Smith at 902-229-9042.

NOVA SCOTIA CRIME STOPPERS



Call Crime Stoppers With A Tip

You Could Be Holding The Piece Of The Puzzle That Solves A Crime

Remember We Want Your Information Not Your Name!

1-800-222-8477(Tips)
www.crimestoppers.ns.ca

CITIZENS ON PATROL

Citizens on Patrol volunteers work in cooperation with Halifax Regional Police to help prevent crime in our region. Conducting random patrols throughout Halifax, Dartmouth, and the communities extending from Bedford to the Sambro Loop, volunteers observe and report suspicious activity to police, from the safety of their cars.

Highlights

- Flexible shifts
- Training provided
- Valuable experience
- Support your community

Qualifications

- 19 years of age or older
- Pass HRP security clearances
- Mature, reliable, team player
- Valid Nova Scotia Driver's Licence, access to an insured vehicle, and a good driving record
- Minimum one-year commitment of at least 120 hours
- Ability to follow established procedures





Location
 Based out of Halifax Regional Police Offices in Halifax, Dartmouth and Bedford/Spryfield.

Learn more about Citizens on Patrol at
<https://www.halifax.ca/fire-police/police/volunteer-halifax-regional-police>,
 call 490-6976 or email hrpvolunteers@halifax.ca

New centre director settles in

...cont. from p.5

Fraser says the Food Centre offers an opportunity for people to come in a few times a week for a free meal put on by over 100 volunteers in the community.

"We are the only one east of Quebec and I think it's a model a lot of communities are starting to look at. It empowers community members as opposed to making them think they are charitable work," she says.

A monthly calendar for the Food Centre is also posted online.

Fraser says both sites are a central part of the

community and much loved.

"Dartmouth North is an amazing community. It is really a community where people are engaged and participating, and it's lovely to be part of that community and providing them with not just support, but opportunities to support one another," says Fraser, adding, "It's a time of growth for us and to come into an organization where people love to work is thrilling stuff. I'm excited and honoured to be a leader of this group."



Photo: Doris Buffett-MacDonald

Enthusiastic participants decorate cookies at SonLife Church's Community Christmas party.

Smiles aplenty at Sonlife community Christmas party

by Doris Buffett-MacDonald

The weather outside was frightful, but the smiles

were all delightful, at the SonLife community Christmas party hosted by the church's KidsLife workers on December 9.

The cookie decorating tables were enjoyed by children of all ages. There was also a craft table where one could personalize their own Christmas ornament, or get creative with a uniquely designed Christmas card. Both tables were a huge hit with everyone in attendance.

There was no lack of refreshments. Coffee, tea, juice boxes and chips were well appreciated until the main

attraction arrived—pizza and garlic fingers.

Thanks to the kind and generous folks at Value Village, the children were over the moon with the huge variety of toys and games. A huge shout out to the two Jills at Value Village, whose generosity and spirit of giving made for a Christmas party the children will not soon forget.

Our fabulous KidsLife workers, Eugenia, Elizabeth and Sandra, gave 100 percent. Rosa's decorating finesse helped make this a top-notch event, and thank-you to all the SonLife folks who stayed behind to clean up. You are all the "community" in SonLife Community Church.

Celebrating love at Sonlife Community Church

by Doris Buffett MacDonald

A Valentine's celebration took place at Sonlife Community Church on February 8. Upon arrival, the ladies were ushered into their seats by the gentlemen of Sonlife Church. There was special music by Emma Skeete and words of affirmation and encouragement from Eva Kelades, wife of Pastor Chuck Kelades.

Throughout the evening there were draws for door prizes and later,

one lady was presented with a large basket chock full of all that pampers and spoils. Downstairs, tables were laden with refreshments, sweets and treats.

Special thanks to Rosa Johnson, Joyce Hunt, the men who ushered and served in the kitchen, the ladies who baked up a storm, and all who participated in any way. We had a lot of fun and look forward to seeing you all again next February.

Church Events

HOLY TRINITY EMMANUEL CHURCH
30 Alfred Street
902-463-3713

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH LADIES GUILD
216 School Street

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
March 29, 7pm
Info 902-469-0937

SPRING TEA AND SALE
Saturday, April 13
2-4 pm
Bake & craft tables
Adults \$6
Children under 12 \$1

AUCTION/BRUNCH
Saturday, April 27
10:30am Brunch
11am Auction
Cost \$5



FLEA MARKET
Saturday, May 4
9am - 12noon
Admission \$.50



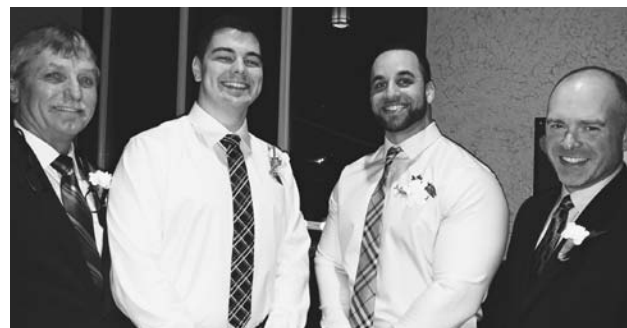
ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH
197 Windmill Road
Office 902-463-5897
saintpaulparishdartmouth.com

SONLIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH
152 Windmill Road
902-404-7000

FOOD BINGO
Feb 23, Mar 9 & 23
2-4 pm
Cards \$10

FAMILY GAME NIGHT
Thursdays
6:30-8:30pm
starting Feb 28
Free Admission
Info: gregedsnow@gmail.com

LOONIE-TOONIE COFFEE HOUSE
Wed, Feb 27
Wed, Mar 27
7-9 pm
Cost \$2
OPEN MIC plus
Sham-Rocks and I-Chix



Photos: Doris Buffett-MacDonald



(Top) Wayne, Brad, Chris and Norman were charming ushers at the Cherished-Beautiful You Valentine's event at SonLife Community Church. (Above) Dorothy Parker was the happy winner of a large pampers basket at the event.

How my best friends made my life better

...cont. from p.12

Each time I take Happy to visit his mom, I think of how difficult it would be to give up any one of my dogs due to my health. I believe Anna gets some peace when she holds Happy on her lap and knows he is loved and safe.

It is a different life for all of us. We've adapted to our circumstances and we're very happy together. These three boys came with their losses, their grief and loneliness. They have enriched my life. I hope I've done the same for them.

SOME THINGS I'VE LEARNED FROM A DOG:
When loved ones come

home, always run to greet them. Be loyal. Take delight in the simple joy of a long walk. When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body. When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently. Most of all... enjoy every moment of every day.

ElderDog Canada Inc. is a national, not-for-profit organization. Its goal is first and foremost to assist seniors and their dogs to remain together as long as possible. For more information contact Tanya at 902-483-6418.

Good Tidings From District 6

...cont. from p.5

St. Anthony's Parish Hall basement and distributes them to those in need at no cost. For more information, contact them at fohfurniturebank@gmail.com or 902-466-4580.

Support Roseanna

Dartmouth North is filled with amazing volunteers, and I want to take a moment to send a special shout out to Roseanna Cleveland. Roseanna was the volunteer CEO of the Take Action Society, advocating for at-risk youth and families in Dartmouth North. Roseanna recently suffered a spinal stroke that left her immobile from the neck down and is currently in rehabilitation. Please keep Roseanna in your thoughts and prayers, she has contributed so much to our community! You can also donate to assist with Roseanna's ongoing needs with by visiting this GoFundMe page: www.gofundme.com/roseanna-cleveland.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR



is supported by
Tony Mancini
COUNCILLOR DISTRICT 6
902-292-4823

DARTMOUTH NORTH LIBRARY EVENTS

105 Highfield Park Drive
Call 902-490-5840 to register or for information.

SHINE ACADEMICS TUTORING

For kids aged 5-18
Wednesdays, 5-7pm

MARCH BREAK:

PERLER BEADS
March 18 / 2:30pm



HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON

March 19 / 2:30pm

CIRCUS FUN
March 20 / 2:30pm

SUPERHERO CRAFT & PHOTO BOOTH
March 21 / 2:30pm

BAKED POTATO BAKE-OFF
March 22 / 2:30pm

VIDEO GAME TOURNAMENT
March 23 / 2:30pm



COMMUNITY TEA
Feb 22 & Mar 29/1-2pm

AFRICAN-AMERICAN READ-IN
Feb 23 / 3-3:45pm

GAMES ON BOARD
Feb. 23/Mar 9, 23

ACOUSTIC SONG CIRCLE
Feb 28 / 7-9pm

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TUTORING
Tuesdays 9:30-11:30am

DARTMOUTH NORTH COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE EVENTS

6 Primrose Street
Call 902-407-4610 to register or for information.

BLUE TOES FOR BLUE NOSE

Sat, Mar 9 / 11am-1pm
Lake Banook Clubhouse
Join the Good Food Crusaders as we take a chilly dip in Lake Banook to kickstart our drive to raise \$15,000 for the Family Centre/Community Food Centre. We'll take the plunge, and then warm up with a hot bowl of chili in the clubhouse. Even better, get your friends, family, neighbours and co-workers to sponsor you! Registration is \$25 and includes a hot lunch. Register online on our CanadaHelps page.



GENTLE YOGA

Fridays 2-3pm
Great for beginners and those with mobility issues. Mats and equipment provided.

CHOP & CHAT

Tuesdays 3:30-4:30pm
Join us for conversation while helping to prepare food for the next day's community lunch. No food prep experience needed!



MEN'S COOKING GROUP

Tuesdays 1:30-4pm
Discover the basics of cooking simple, delicious meals. Registration: Rob 902-407-4610 ext. 202

WALKING GROUP

(all fitness levels)
Tuesdays 10 am
Walk the neighbourhood and finish back at the food centre for lunch. Stop in any Tuesday that works for you!

FOOD DEMONSTRATION & TASTING: AFRICAN CUISINE

Tuesday, Feb 26, 7-9:00pm

INCOME TAX HELP

If you have a simple tax situation we can help. Visit the Community Action Office or call us at 902-407-4610.



DARTMOUTH HERITGE MUSEUM EVENTS

26 Newcastle Street
902-464-2300
info@dartmouthmuseum



EVERGREEN CONCERT SERIES

February 23/3:30-7pm
Tickets: \$26.50
The first of a concert series showcasing roots music from around the world, held in the historic home of folklorist Helen Creighton. Featuring Mary Beth Carty (NS); Spitzer Space Telescope (Chicago); Mohammad Sahraei (NS/Iran)

DAFFODILS FOR LOVED ONES

On behalf of the Canadian Cancer Society, the Daffodil Campaign, led by Frances Hunter and Gordon McKeen, is underway at Stairs Memorial United Church, 44 Hester Street. A time for remembering a loved one. For information please call 902-469-4472 or 902-466-2965.



EVERGREEN WRITER'S GROUP

Evergreen Writers' Group welcomes newcomers to meetings at Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle Street. They get together the first Wednesday of each month, 10:15 a.m. to noon for discussion, encouragement, feedback, guest speakers and workshops. For information, call 463-5612 or email evergreen_writers@yahoo.ca.



Photo: Doris Buffett-MacDonald

WE REMEMBER: Every Dec 6th, North Dartmouth residents, community leaders and dignitaries gather at Pinehill Park in remembrance of the victims of the Halifax Explosion. On December 6, 1917 a munitions ship exploded in Halifax Harbour, killing 2000 people and injuring 9000 more, on both sides of the harbour. HRM Mayor Mike Savage officiated at the commemorative gathering in Dartmouth North.

Community Brunch

East Dartmouth Community Centre
50 Caledonia Road

9:30 am—1:00 pm

Adults: \$8 • Children: \$5 (10 & under)
Big Breakfast: \$10

Sunday, February 24

UPCOMING DATES:
Sunday, March 24
Sunday, April 28



EVERYONE WELCOME

Presented by the
Kinsmen Club of Dartmouth

THE TAKE ACTION SOCIETY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Our two community Hub locations would love to hear from you, if you are open to making a difference in our community.



For information on our many programs and how to volunteer, please contact the Dartmouth North Community Centre at 902-209-1900 or the Demetreous Lane Community Centre at 902-989-1002.

HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY!

Getting social at Farrell Hall

by Doris Buffett-MacDonald

It was a chance for friends and community members of Dartmouth North to drop their burdens and spend a few hours being treated like kings and queens.

The Farrell Benevolent Society's Christmas Social was held in December, at its festively decorated hall on Windmill Road. About 150 community members showed up to enjoy an unforgettable evening of fun, food and fellowship. There were snacks, beverages and trays of mouth-watering sandwiches from Costco, which were graciously served by the volunteers and board members of Farrell Hall. A variety of cookies and squares provided a sweet finish to the festive meal.

Throughout the evening there were draws

for gift cards, and beautiful books for children of all ages provided by the Dartmouth Learning Centre.

The evening went off without a hitch. Farrell Benevolent Society board member Linda Rowe remarked "I would like to again thank the volunteers and the board members of Farrell Benevolent Society for once again helping to make this year's social a complete success. An extra shout out of praise and thanks to Terry and Rocky Thorne who do so much behind the scenes. We could never do all we do without this special couple."

It was a fabulous community celebration and we look forward to doing it again next year, celebrating the fine folks of Dartmouth North!

Photo: Doris Buffett-MacDonald



Photo: Sandra Weagle



Breakfast with Santa: Everyone enjoyed the Breakfast with Santa event on Dec. 8 at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Halifax, Farrell Street location. It was the first time for six-month-old Cohen Marche to have the opportunity to enjoy sitting on Santa's lap, not knowing it was his grandfather dressed for the occasion. Another fun morning for kids and parents alike!

Dedicated volunteers Rocky and Terry Thorne with Dartmouth North MLA Susan Leblanc, celebrating the best of the community at the Farrell Benevolent Society's Christmas Social.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR LITERACY PROGRAMS!

Our training will provide you with the skills and tools you need to be a successful tutor. We ask for a minimum commitment of 1-2 hours each week.

We are currently recruiting volunteer tutors for our fall and winter programs. Our volunteers provide free tutoring in literacy, math, homework, English language skills, and adult education, in community centres, resource centres, libraries, and schools in Halifax & Dartmouth.

For a list of our programs, go to Frontier College programs in Halifax and Dartmouth, NS.

For information on our programs and the process to volunteer, please email halifax@frontiercollege.ca.

COME SHARE YOUR VOICE!

at our **AGM**

Thursday, March 21
(Storm Date March 28)

Doors open at 5:30 • Meeting starts at 6:00

Seeking motivated individuals to serve on our Board of Directors. To apply, email farrellhall@ns.aliantzinc.ca or call 902-469-5769.



Everyone Welcome!

276 Windmill Road
902-469-5769

Farrell Hall

www.farrellhall.ca

Ten years of action!

Photo: Take Action Society



The Take Action Society celebrates ten years of giving back to the community.

On December 22 the Take Action Society hosted a Christmas dance and fund raiser to celebrate ten years serving the community of Dartmouth North through leadership, unity and community pride. CEO Roseanna Cleveland in 2009 had a vision to make Dartmouth North a better community for families. Today the group operates out of two locations: Dartmouth North Community Centre and Demetreous Lane Community Centre, and boasts 145 members. This is a tremendous

example of giving back to the community and making an impact on the lives of youth and families.

Participants showed their support through a silent auction, 50/50 draw and beverage purchases. This joyous occasion included a photo booth, karaoke and a dance. A huge thank you to the sponsors, MLA Susan Leblanc, MP Darren Fisher and all the local businesses who contributed to this event. All proceeds will go back to the society to support free programs.

Do you love Dartmouth North?

Do you have an idea to increase community pride, safety, or inclusion?



Between the Bridges Community Grants can help **YOU** make it happen. **We can work with you to:**

 **develop**
your ideas

 **provide funding** to turn
your ideas into reality

 **find others**
to join in



**Applications accepted
until March 14, 2019**



For more information contact:

Matt Spurway, Community Coordinator matt@betweenthebridges.ca 902.488.7446  [BetweentheBridgesNS](#)

Weldon McInnis

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS



Please go to our website for further information:
www.weldonmcinnis.ca

OUR TEAM MEMBERS

M. Jean Beeler, Q.C.
Nancy G. Rideout
Bruce V. McLaughlin
Peter Rumscheidt
Matthew J.D. Moir

Ronan W. Holland
Anthony Nicholson
F. Alex Embree
Andrew Trider
Nicole Power

- ❖ Real Estate and Real Property
- ❖ Family Law
- ❖ Wills and Estates
- ❖ Estate Litigation
- ❖ Personal Injury and Insurance Law
- ❖ Civil Litigation
- ❖ Corporate and Commercial Law
- ❖ Criminal Law
- ❖ Mediation and Collaborative Law