

ISSUE 8 APRIL 2024



WHAT'S UP EAST HANTS

Linking Communities Together



Milford Farm

Paul Carroll's dairy farm

See Page 17 for the cover story

Photo by Al Eastman

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Did You

Know?

These blue spaces with the ***Did You Know*** logo are located throughout this issue and contain interesting tidbits of local information.

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Photo by Al Eastman

Message From The President

Dear WUEH Readers,

Welcome to the 8th Edition of What's Up East Hants!

The Christmas Display Contest was another resounding success! There were three winners, one from Milford and two from Mount Uniacke. They all gave to their charity of choice.

What's Up East Hants also chose a charity for the year, and our focus this time was mental health in East Hants, so our donation went to After Trauma Empowerment Network (ATEN). We will be donating to the four food banks in East Hants for this year's charities.

Remember to support local businesses—their success is our success. And a special shout-out to the advertisers in What's Up East Hants, who enable the creation of our publication—without them, you wouldn't be reading this book.

Thank you for your support.



Thank you,

Bob Bona

President

MEET THE TEAM BEHIND WHAT'S UP EAST HANTS



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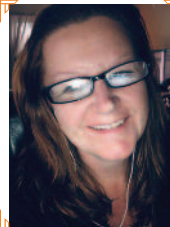
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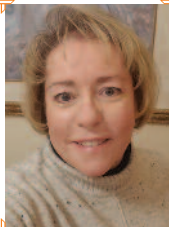
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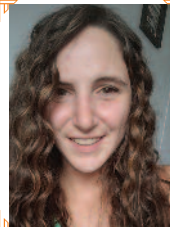
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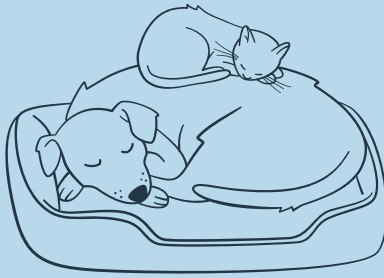


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Did You Know?

- ▶ The W.D. Lawrence, the largest wooden sailing ship ever made in Canada, was built in Maitland and launched in 1874. The ship was designed and built by William Dawson Lawrence. The ship measured 262 feet long and 48 feet wide and had a tonnage of 2459.
- ▶ Whiskey peddlers were unscrupulous traders who sold cheap liquor to the shipbuilders and sailors, causing drunkenness and disorder. William Dawson Lawrence led a campaign to drive them out of Maitland and protect his workers from their influence.
- ▶ Lower Selma Museum and Heritage Cemetery is housed in a former church that was built in 1865. Its plaster interior was actually hand painted using feathers. The museum has a section dedicated to war heroes, quilts, flags, and a Titanic display.
- ▶ The Walton Lighthouse, which is the last original, shingled, wooden lighthouse in Hants County, was built in 1873 and offers a panoramic view of the cliffs and Fundy tides.



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ATEN and the Violet Rose Gift & Thrift Shop



The Violet Rose Thrift and Gift Shop is an inseparable part of the After Trauma Empowerment Network (ATEN), a registered, non-profit mental health organization that provides free, professional, trauma-informed counselling, therapy, and peer support. Their aim is to enable individuals, families and communities affected by trauma to live an empowered life and to reach their fullest potential. Governed by a volunteer board of directors, ATEN helps the growing number of people who need mental health support, but cannot afford it.

Vida Woodworth and Margaret Mauger, the Executive Director, were working together at the Colchester Sexual Assault Center when they realized that people who have experienced trauma need to access services without worrying about financial barriers. They co-founded ATEN in January of 2020. Established in October 2022, the Violet Rose Thrift and Gift Shop was recently awarded the Innovative Business of the Year after being nominated for five awards at the East Hants and Districts Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards ceremony.

The shop is run by a part-time employee, Jessica Webb, and several volunteers. Everything in the shop is designed with trauma-informed concepts and ideas, including the colors, temperature, lighting, music, artwork and the types of items on display; for example, no toy guns. Even the number of items on display are limited, to avoid clutter, and there is in-house training for confidentiality.

Different people come to the store from all walks of life, but a particularly special little customer is a home-schooled boy who enjoys the shop because it is one of the few places that accommodate his hypersensitivity to germs. The staff also enjoy his visits, as the little boy brings treats when he and his mom come to the store.

One space in the Violet Rose Shop is dedicated to the gift shop, where local vendors can pay a small fee for a rental unit to sell their products. But perhaps the most exciting part of the shop is the community room. There, all sorts of events are offered to the public free of charge, including music jam sessions, different mental health related workshops, and senior groups Chat & Craft. You can find an updated schedule on the ATEN website under the Violet Rose Gift & Thrift shop tab, as well as on their respective Facebook pages. Drop in to enjoy the event, socialize, and partake of tea, coffee and treats!

If you are interested in volunteering at The Violet Rose please visit <https://www.atenns.ca/violet-rose-gift--thrift-shop.html#/> and click on the 'Volunteer Application Package' link.

Internships and placements in collaboration with local programs and initiatives are also welcome.

ATEN accepts donations from both businesses and individuals, as well as leading an annual Holiday Auction Fundraiser. Donating items to the Thrift shop is a good cause for people who want to give back to their community. Donations turn into dollars, and 100% of the proceeds from the shop go directly to ATEN to help with overall operating expenses, including the hiring of qualified therapists and day to day operations. The main



reason of WUEH is to give back to our wonderful community, so we love to support ATEN! You can learn more about ATEN's activities and history by visiting: <https://www.atenns.ca/>

For more information about attending an event or making a donation, you can call 902-758-3967 or email admin@atenns.ca. Most importantly, if you would like support for any mental health reason and you are over the age of 15 (with some exceptions) reach out to info@atenns.ca or phone 902-758-3967, regardless of your background and income.

ATEN Executive Director, Margaret Mauger accepts a donation from What's Up East Hants. Pictured left to right are Lea-Ann Julian Administrator/Coordinator and Co-Director of ATEN, Rhonda Steeves (WUEH Financial) and Margaret Mauger.

ENFIELD: The demolition of a historic Enfield landmark has begun, leaving its past patrons with many fond memories.

Story by Pat Healey - The Laker News

Work began on a Wednesday afternoon to tear down the former Curly Portables Pub and Grub on Highway 2 in Enfield.

A few people had gathered mid-afternoon to watch as the excavator tore into the building, tearing it down with what appeared to be much ease.

The well-known business opened in 1984 and overcame a fire in 1990 to reopen six months later. It closed for good in 2019.

Jim Isenor, who owned the business and property it sits on, was among those on hand watching as it was being torn down.



He said the property remains for sale, after a proposed development that had been pitched was turned down by East Hants council.

Isenor said theoretically the property will become a development. As workers began to tear it down, people relayed the message and when video and photos began posting on social media and The Laker News Facebook page, people who had been patrons to the restaurant began reminiscing about the times they went there and their memories.

He said tearing the building down should help him save some money. "I've been paying commercial taxes on it for the last four years, an empty building," he said.

The Laker News asked people what their fond memories of Curly's were. Here is just a sample of the responses from our Facebook page post.

Sandy Totten remembered fond times from her visits to Curly's.

"Thursday nights were hopping in my day. If you didn't show by 9:30, you didn't get in," Totten recalled in a Facebook comment. "The music, the dancing, the laughter. Some of the best times of my young adult life."

"The food in the early years when they won the Taste of Nova Scotia. My favourite menu item was the Bunkhouse Billy Jawbuster," said Gerald Doutré.

Travis Ashley asked, "who could forget the Thursday night at Curly's?"

"That's where me and my wife Lorrie used to go when we first started dating," he said. "Used to be a guy that would come around through the night that you could buy flowers from and the pizza at the end, so good."

Matt Doudelet said the Beach Parties were memorable—or not.

"Best memory I can come up with is that - I don't have any memory from any nights there. #BeachParty," he said.

Elisa Christensen of Windsor Junction said Curly's was the first place she ever had a Mozza Stick.

Cindy Renouf had a story about Curly's from her days as an RCMP officer. "Driving a prisoner back to Enfield Detachment by myself on a Thursday night, no back up available and there was a full-scale brawl in the parking lot of Curly's as I was driving past," she said.

"I flipped on my siren, jumped out on the hood of the police car, and started to shake my canister of pepper spray saying, 'Who else wants to go to jail?'"

"The parking lot very quickly cleared out. My poor prisoner in the back seat."

Nick Marshall said he and his co-workers used to go to Curly's.

"What a shame, such an iconic place," he said. "Had many a lunch there with a coworker."

Lyndsay Brightman remembered her time going to the business but said, "What happened at Curly's stays at Curly's."

Tammy Lee Beamish said she never missed a Thursday night.

"Met some of my still best friends there," said Beamish.

Angie Isenor said going to Curly's was always a good time.

"Everyone mostly knew each other," she said. "The bands, dancing, good food. Good Times.

"Newfie Nights were awesome."

Candice Ross was sad to see the tearing down of Curly's begin.

"So many great memories and fun," she said. "Mike and I met again here and started to date.

"I think about some of the nights I had there all the time.

"End of an era for sure."



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On the Cover

Paul Carroll's Dairy Farm Milford, Nova Scotia

The red dairy farm situated at the heart of the image is owned by Paul Carroll. The picture is a portrayal of the Nova Scotian agricultural heritage and the owner's dedication. Paul's dairy farm is a testament to generational continuity. Established in 1954, the farm was passed down to Paul from his father Martin Carroll and his uncle Ken Carroll, who took the farm over from his grandfather after the family had to relocate from their previous farm near the National Gypsum in Dutch Settlement. Paul, serving as the owner, manager, and hands-on operator, tends to the approximately 48 cows, undertaking responsibilities ranging from cleaning to feeding and milking. This snapshot also features the Vermeuland farms on the left, which further represent the collective history of farming practices in the region.



Photo by Al Eastman

Did You Know?

- ▶ According to local historian John Hawkins, the first farmer in East Hants was Philip Andrew Horn. He bought 700 acres of land on Grand Lake and established Horne Settlement.
- ▶ In 1965, the late Graham Isenor of Enfield, as an 18-year-old, was accepted to participate in a 10-day tryout for the Boston Bruins.
- ▶ “Indian Brook” was the colonized name given to Sipekne’katik by the Crown. Only 10+ years ago, the Chief and Council of the day reinstated their Mi’kmaq name, Sipekne’katik First Nation. NS highway signs have not yet been updated to the proper name.
- ▶ The Mi’kmaq language was the first language spoken here.
- ▶ While the English language consists of 26 letters, the Mi’kmaq language consists of 16 letters: A E I O P T U K J L M N Q S W Y (Y is also a schwa letter)

New Recreational Sport Opportunity in the Community of East Hants

Harold MacNeil/Danielle Shreenan

For the past two years, East Hants Youth Links has partnered with East Hants Curling Association (EHCA) to provide free curling to East Hants and surrounding youth at the East Hants Sportsplex from October to March.

Opportunity knocked when funding was applied for and received from Sport Nova Scotia under the Equity, Diversity and Inclusive program. The funding was used to purchase shoes, brooms, gliders and sliders, enabling the youth to experience the game of curling with the correct equipment. EHCA also purchased four sets of youth curling stones. All of the gear enhanced the game for our youth, but the most significant difference was the availability of curling shoes, as our players could now concentrate on their game without slipping and falling.

Providing the opportunity for our youth to engage in the sport of curling was truly a community effort. The EHYL Coordinator, EHCA members and the parents who were on the ice helping out or watching from the stands, all added to the community spirit of the program. Every additional skill or experience that we can offer to our youth both enriches their present and teaches skills that accompany them through life, including future involvement in curling in the community or other curling clubs. The youth were so happy to be given the opportunity to curl, a sport they might not have experienced without the support of the greater East Hants Community.



Some of the youth participating in the EHCA Rising Tides Bonspiel, a first for East Hants.

One of the goals of the program was to enrich the lives of our youth by providing more physical recreational opportunities. But the addition of curling to the repertoire of sports that our youth can experience is only part of the picture. The youth of East Hants and surrounding communities experience a fun event every week, where they engage in an activity that gets them out, teaches them something new, encourages new friendships, gets them physically active—and hopefully introduces an activity that will have a long lasting effect on their lives. The measurable skill progression of our youth—not to mention their enthusiasm—reflect the success of the original goals of the program.

Thank you to all the adults in the community who were there to support our youth, and a special thank you to Danielle Shreenan and the East Hants Youth Links for partnering with EHCA for this program; providing opportunities like this for our youth is so, so important. Whether they take these skills into the future or not, their experiences will forge memories that they will have forever. When they think back on the time they spent sliding down the ice, chasing and sweeping stones along the curling sheet to the button as fast as they could in order to win those precious points in the game—surely they will smile.

As is often heard on the curling sheet: HURRY HARD and enjoy all life has to offer.



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Did You Know?

- ▶ Unlike English, the Mi'kmaq language does not have foul/cuss words.
- ▶ The first maps did not have names of places like they do today; instead, they were labelled based on applicable resources in certain areas. Hence the name Sipekne'katik – meaning where wild potatoes grow or ground nuts.
- ▶ Mic Mac is the English spelling for Mi'Kmaq.
- ▶ When the Europeans arrived here, many were very ill from their trek across the Atlantic Ocean. Mi'kmaq people helped heal them with their traditional medicines. Many of those medicines are still used today.
- ▶ Back in the day, all non-indigenous people had to be off the reserve by 9pm.

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If you've lived in East Hants for a while—and especially if you live in the Enfield/Elmsdale area, you've probably heard of Horne's Roofing. They've been roofing so long, Kevin Horne had to draw me a family tree.

"My great-grandfather, Frank Horne, was installing roofs in the early 1920s and his son Vincent was roofing in the 1940s," explained Kevin Horne. "Frank Horne did work in the 1920s for the great-grandfathers of some of Enfield's residents today. And I'm doing roofing for the current generation."

Kevin Horne is also related to the MacDonells—the Hornes and the MacDonells are two of the oldest names in the area. Such an ancient line of reputable roofers has obviously gone through some changes, and Kevin doesn't see eye-to-eye with some of them.

"The biggest difference is all the safety precautions. I'm old school, and the harness systems are annoying; it takes longer and ropes get tangled. We used to make our own wooden scaffolding and sometimes it would give way and we'd fall. I've had some spills over the years. Now there's steel scaffolding, but a few months ago I fell off the steel staging and fell 20 ft. Broke a few ribs. Fell 35 feet when I was 20."

Perhaps it's not surprising that the Hornes balk at some of the new rules, but it's not the ones that 'take longer' they object to the most—it's the time-saving changes that impact the final result. "You can't see what you're doing with an air gun," said Kevin Horne. "With hand nails and a hammer, you know your nail has gone in." Clearly, this family is 'old-school' in more ways than one. Solid, dependable, hard-working and focused on doing a top-notch job in every case—the family starts young and finishes old. Kevin Horne began "helping the old man" with roofing when he was in school. Throughout his life, he also held down a full-time



job in Air Canada and his brother Darcy still works with AC—just like the previous generations in the family, most of whom worked from their teens until their 70s and held down two jobs at the same time. Kevin's Uncle Greg Horne (Frank's grandson) retired from his full-time career with CN rail years ago, but he still works every day with Kevin and Darcy, even though he's pushing 70.

Greg's brother, Terry Horne, has also long retired from his career in the school board, but he's still roofing at 77. Like the others in the family, he has also had a few falls. "There was this house in the North end of Halifax and the space between the houses was too narrow for the steel, so we built our stage and it broke—I fell 24 feet," Terry Horne said, "but I'm never nervous on a roof. When we did the church roof near Sullivan's Pond we had to hoist the shingles up 115 feet by hand. We could see the Halifax Harbor from up there."



When asked if he at least used the required harnessing at his age, Terry Horne replied, "Yes, it's the law."

There was a pause. "I gotta watch what I say because my kids don't want me to keep roofing."

Kevin Horne is no spring chicken himself, and he finds himself avoiding difficult jobs like steep roofs or churches today, but he doesn't plan to stop soon. "It's a physical job, but you feel like you've done an honest day's work," he said. "My brother Darcy and I never thought about whether we liked it, we just wanted to do it. We're used to it."

Their 'old-school' work ethics have built a solid reputation for generations of happy customers. But sadly, this is the last generation of our local roofer family who have been with us for over a century. "My brother and me have girls," Kevin Horne said, "and they're not interested in roofing."



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Did You Know?

- ▶ Buying local helps support local sports teams - Hockey, Baseball, Soccer, Basketball, etc.
- ▶ The location for the Stanfield International Airport was chosen because the area is fog-free!
- ▶ Sisters of Charity taught at E. H. Horne school in Enfield for many years.
- ▶ People used to come from all parts of Nova Scotia to partake in suppers prepared in the hall of St. Bernard's Church. Most of the supplies and labour for the dinners were donated by local businesses and residents. Did you attend suppers there?



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What do you need to know?

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Did You

Know?

- ▶ ShubieFM is a First Nations community radio station that broadcasts at 97.1 MHz in Sipekne'katik, Nova Scotia, and first aired in 2011. They have a Facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/shubiefm.supekanekati/>
- ▶ The Shubenacadie railway station was served by the Nova Scotia Railway, Intercolonial Railway, Canadian National Railways (CN) and later Via Rail. In the 1970s and 1980s, it was served by Budd Rail Diesel Car passenger trains operated by CN and later Via, until the end of RDC service in Nova Scotia in 1990, when it was demolished.

Osborne Organizing leverages CBDC support to bring organizational services to clients



Meghan Osborne has always had a knack for creating organized and functional spaces. In 2021, when Meghan decided to turn her talent into a business, CBDC and the Self Employment Program helped her get started.

“As a single mom of three active children I’m always looking for the most efficient and effective way to be more present with my family, have more time for my own interests, and to spend less time doing and micro-managing domestic chores. I’ve developed systems and routines that have helped me make it easier to manage my home and my life.”

Over the past two years Meghan has helped many families have more time for what matters. “I love sharing these skills and systems. Every home has potential and I want to help you find that balance in your home.”

Meghan started with business planning and taking online training offered by CBDC Hants-Kings during the pandemic. “It was such a key use of down time because once the restrictions were lifted, I was able to implement the skills I learned into growing my business. The work that I had done was pivotal in the successful launch of my business in 2022!”

Meghan works with clients to create intuitive and functional systems. By designating a place for every item within the home, all family members can follow the system and contribute to keeping things organized. “Families in our communities are busy and have a lot of stuff to accommodate the many activities that keep our families active and on the go. Managing all of the stuff through each season can be chaotic and stressful, but I can help!”

In addition to home organization, Osborne has found opportunities in real estate, moving assistance, office organization and more. Recently, Meghan made her first foray into paid content creation with a partnership with Kent Building Supplies showcasing a playroom makeover.

Osborne Organizing is based out of Enfield and serves the East Hants, HRM, Truro, and Wolfville areas. Learn more about Osborne Organizing at www.osborneorganizing.com and on social media @osborne_organizing



Looking for community based support for your small business?

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Economic Development Officer

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Whether you're starting a business or looking to grow, we're here to help.

WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

Toutons

Ingredients

- 3 cups flour + more for mixing
- 1/2 cup butter (melted)
- 1 tbsp Fleischmann's active dry yeast
- 1 tbsp sugar + 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 cup warm water + more for mixing
- 1/4 tsp salt
- Molasses (optional)

Directions

1. Make the dough. Place 3 cups of flour in large bowl and add the butter. Mix until sandy. Make a well in the dry. Pour prepared yeast + 1/4 cup sugar into the well. Blend with the flour mixture until the liquid is absorbed.
2. Add water as you knead the dough to ensure all the flour is incorporated.
3. Continue to knead the dough until it is soft and stretchy. Make it into a ball and place in an airtight container in a warm, non-drafty area to rise the dough for 1 hour.
4. When dough is double in bulk, punch it down with your hands, refit the lid and allow to rise for 30 more minutes.

5. After it has risen twice, cut the dough into equal pieces approximately 2x3 inches.

6. Heat a skillet on medium heat and add butter to the pan. Once the pan is piping hot lay each piece of dough in the hot pan. (You may have to fry 2-3 batches as you do not want to over crowd your pan. Be sure to tip the toutons on their side to allow the edges to cook.)

7. Enjoy warm with molasses, maple syrup, or topping of choice.




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How Revenge Can Misfire

At the time this story took place almost half a century ago, Laurie Isenor and Sons was a second-generation family business in our community that manufactured products like pallets and boxes. Although many of you might remember this mill, the story you are about to read will probably be news to you.

The story was given to us by a prominent citizen in our community, who asked to remain anonymous due to certain revelations in the story—namely, his own light-fingered pilfering when faced with great temptation—even though most of us would probably have done the same thing! Therefore, for the purposes of this story we shall call our 'informant' Joe.

Almost half-a-century ago, the mill used a train switch to enable trains travelling from Halifax to Truro to turn onto the rail siding that led to the Box Mill, where they loaded up blueberry and fish boxes for transport.

"I was 18 years old and working in the mill," said Joe. One night I was taking my girlfriend home and we saw a train off the tracks right by the mill. The Engine car was off, and 5 or 6 more cars. I dropped my girlfriend at home and returned to pick up my brother and we went back to the train wreck. It looked like nobody was hurt and there was no sign of the train workers, just a bunch of people we knew investigating the contents of the cars.



“Eight of us were hooked onto a bolt of carpet and were dragging it away when the CN Police arrived,” said Joe. “Of course we were only taking the stuff to make sure it didn’t burn in a fire or anything.”

It’s fantastic to live in a place with such good, altruistic people, isn’t it? Such forward-thinking! Of course there wasn’t actually a fire, but...there might have been! It’s just a shame that Joe didn’t find the car full of alcohol before the police got there, because that would have totally exploded in the fire.

“We were handing out stuff for weeks like we were Gods,” chuckled Joe. “Boxes of cigarettes—not cartons, but whole boxes. We were some popular for about two weeks.”

So how did our local residents enjoy an influx of stolen goods saved from a fire in 1974? How could a CN train be re-routed down a siding when it wasn’t supposed to be? The train engineer hadn’t expected to be re-routed from the main rail to Truro, down a siding leading to the mill, but the switch had been flipped. The train would have been going far too fast, and that’s why it shot off the rails. Who flipped the switch to re-route the train? How did this happen?

Nobody is certain, but Joe has a theory. “I’m pretty sure that an unhappy, fired employee threw that switch. An employee had been terminated a couple of weeks earlier and he was pretty mad. I bet he flipped that switch out of spite.”

Sometimes revenge is sweet; sometimes not so much. Granting the community many gifts and more joy probably wasn’t the outcome our avenger had envisioned. Worse, he created heroes when he wanted to create harm. Don’t forget that Joe heroically saved all that free loot from a fire!

Did You Know?

According to Thedailymeal.com, The Housekeepers Assistant first suggested serving pancakes with maple syrup in 1845. Eating an early morning meal was popularized during the Industrial Revolution, as rigid work schedules in factories and shops demanded an early start, so people needed the energy, according to the BBC. MerriamWebster.com says that breakfast has its origins in the Middle English word “brekfast” from the phrase “breken fast,” which means to break or end your overnight fast after waking up.

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Hants East In The Library

The River that Missed the Boat by Barbara Grantmyre of Elmsdale: Barbara told the story of the Shubenacadie River and its canal system that was plagued with so many challenges.

Renfrew Gold by Jack Hawkins: In one of his many local history books, Jack tells how Renfrew reluctantly gave up its gold and about the men who toiled to get it.

Stories you will not hear in Sunday School: Though the identities of some of the characters are still protected for obvious reasons, this anthology is based on one man's recollection of growing up in Elmsdale.

Richard John Uniacke: This biography tells the story of the former owner of the Uniacke Estate in Mount Uniacke and his many contributions to democracy and farming in Nova Scotia.

Stories, Memories, Reflections: In this biography, we learn of Doug Knockwood's family's fight against his being sent to the Residential School in Shubenacadie and the many challenges he faced while growing up as an Indigenous person.

Hants East On Youtube

This is Us: Produced by the East Hants Historical Society, the video gives a history of Hants East in this professionally produced video.

Farms in East Hants: In 2017, a number of the owners of the dairy farms throughout Hants East produced short drone videos that profiled their respective farms. Check out: Sunnycroft Farm (Milford) and Scothorn Farm (Hardwoodlands).

Shubenacadie Tinsmith Man: Singer Wayne Rostad tells the story of Harry, the Shubenacadie Tinsmith.

Hants East On The Internet

Vintage Pictures of Enfield: The collection available online features a number of historically significant pictures of Enfield and its residents during days gone by.

East Hants Sports Hall of Fame: Featured in the video are a number of local sports heroes who made East Hants proud including those who helped build the current rink.

Provided by Wayne Garden and is not the responsibility of Whats Up East Hants




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Welcome Spring!



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New (Scotland) in Your Community

If you are in the Enfield area and happen to be out on a nice Monday evening in the warmer weather, you may hear the soulful sounds of the highland pipes and drums. New Scotland Pipes and Drums, formerly 36 Pipes and Drums, has been holding practice at the Enfield Legion since early 2021.

New Scotland Pipes and Drums is a volunteer Pipe and Drum band (not for profit organization) who have established a strong objective for over 40 years of providing our membership the opportunity to join and take part in continuing the proud Celtic traditions of Nova Scotia. With a primarily adult membership, our goal is to afford pipers and drummers an opportunity to return to playing and, in some cases, learn to play in a band setting. The band is committed to competition in Grade 5 at Atlantic Canadian Pipe Band Association events in the Maritimes.

The community of Enfield would know our band as we have been taking part in the Enfield Remembrance Day services since 2005. This really has led to our becoming located in the area, as well as our growth in our existing relationship with the Legion. A little about what instigated the move. In one word...Covid.

Our usual practice facility, located in Halifax, was significantly impacted during the pandemic, so we were forced to look for a new practice facility. We reached out to the Legion's executive, and they were happy to offer us a practice facility. Since that time, we have been practicing weekly and very much look forward to the opportunity to participate in events and competitions in the upcoming months.

We are always welcoming to new members. If you have piped or drummed previously, or are interested in learning, we can offer you some basic lessons to knock off the rust, and if necessary, help find more suitable instruction.

We are excited about becoming a larger part of the community and would welcome opportunities to play. Please contact us to discuss, Linde.Greening@novascotia.ca or drop by the Enfield Legion on Monday Evenings between 7-9 pm.



From Kennetcook to the World

by Wayne Garden

“Entrepreneur, A Man of Vision.”

Those words are the epitaph on the headstone of Charles Everett MacCulloch, a successful businessman from Kennetcook, Hants County. Although his story is not exactly a “rags to riches” story; it is a tale of how enthusiasm, intelligence, and calculated risks turned a carpenter’s apprentice into a millionaire Halifax developer and businessman.



Charles, or Charlie, as he was known in business circles, was the son of Everett MacCulloch, a storekeeper and a carpenter, and Emma, who was at one time an actress on the New York stage. At the age of fourteen, young Charlie left school—a decision he regretted, despite the fact that he became one of Nova Scotia’s most successful investors and wealthiest citizens.

When he was seventeen, Charles joined his father as a carpenter’s helper and began to do carpentry jobs; his clients told two people, who told two people, and so on. Eventually Charlie was able to take his first big gamble. After buying three building lots for \$325 apiece, he built three houses, making a \$1500 profit.

By the age of twenty-one, he had a workforce of over 100 men—not bad for 1932. A year later, he and another Halifax business man, Don Hogan, each invested \$2500 in a company that would buy lumber in Sherbrooke, only to turn around and sell it again. In their first attempt, they doubled their investment. Within six months, Charlie was sending cargoes of his lumber to England and shortly after that, he was chartering his own ships to carry his lumber overseas.

His company continued to grow with the building of a chain of lucrative hardware stores. Soon, MacCulloch Building Companies were sprinkled throughout the province.

With his growing fortune, came an increasing popularity in the business world. Charlie wore the air of success easily. Always nattily dressed and with Clark Gable good looks, he spoke confidently and intelligently and exuded

an aura that demanded respect. He held a variety of positions, such as Chairman of Halifax Development Ltd., but probably the best indication of his stature within the investment community was the fruition of his six-year dream: Scotia Square. At the time, it was the greatest financial venture in the city of Halifax with a price tag of \$85 million. Though he was the front man, Charlie was actually gambling with a number of investors' money. He said at the time, not surprisingly, "Everyone is wondering where the money is coming from."

The bulk of the money was coming from a New York financier whom Charlie had met while on a trade mission to Russia. Apparently, the financier had asked Charlie how much he needed. When Charlie said 60 million, the New Yorker said, "Okay, let's work out the details over lunch."

Not only did Scotia Square prove to be a success, it served as a catalyst for other projects by other developers. But Charlie's dreams did not stop there. Soon he developed the largest shopping mall east of Montreal: Mic Mac Mall. In the National Film Board film, "The Journeyman", Charles tells how he wrote out a cheque for the property without first consulting his banker. Later, when the surprised banker scolded him, Charlie explained, "I thought you would probably turn me down, but you would not turn down my cheque". In the same documentary, Charlie tells that his greatest personal attribute—"enthusiasm"—allowed him to live the entrepreneur's dream: "to make something grow and to make something new."

He often said that he would need two lives in order to do everything he wanted to do. He was used to putting in 18-hour days and could not understand how anyone could expect to achieve anything with a regular 9-5 day.

With his fortune, Charlie also enjoyed life's finer things. He had impeccable taste in art. He drove a Lincoln, a Rolls, a Mercedes. He owned a yacht, a Caribbean island, and a 2500-acre country estate.

It was at his country estate that he and his new wife, former British actress Patricia Bredin, began to enjoy his semi-retirement. Here at the Monte Vista on the shores of Grand Lake, Charlie felt he had returned to his Hants County roots.

The couple enjoyed the farm's serenity, although Charlie still rose an hour before dawn each morning to review the financial markets and keep on top of his investments. They had ambitious plans for the farm, but tragically Charles Everett MacCulloch died suddenly at the age of 68 while vacationing on the cruise liner, Pacific Princess (T.V.'s The Love Boat). Sadly, the achievements of this entrepreneurial man of vision ended in years of litigation and bankruptcy.

Public Water Access Points

If you are looking to get out on the water this Spring or Summer, there are some great places in East Hants to access our public waterways.



Brickyard Park - Part of the water route section of The Great Trail, this park is located at 71 Green Road in Lantz. It has a floating dock to launch your canoes or kayaks, picnic areas and a 1.2 km hiking trail through the woods and along the river. The trail is uneven and has tripping hazards so watch your step. This is a great starting spot to go down the river, about 7.5 km to Wickwire Station and about 23.5km to Shubie Park.



Wickwire Station - Part of the water route section of The Great Trail, this park is located on Hwy 2 in Milford, at the driveway to the National Gypsum Mine. This location has two accessible outhouses, a look-off with views of the river, picnic areas and a floating dock with an EZ Launch system to launch canoes and kayaks. The EZ Launch system is great for people with disabilities, children, seniors or anyone else who needs a little extra help launching or recovering their canoe or kayak. From this location you can go upstream 7.5 km to Brickyard Park or downstream about 16 km to Shubie Park. Depending on the tidal cycle you will hit tidal waters somewhere between Wickwire Station Park and Shubie Park.



Shubie River Park - Part of the water route section of The Great Trail, this park is located on Hwy 2 in Shubenacadie. This is a great location to launch your canoe or kayak, have a picnic by the river's edge or to fish from the shoreline. This area is tidal and not recommended for kayak/canoe beginners.



Lewis Lake - Jorphie Drive, Mount Uniacke. (Parcel P2 Located across the road from 24 Jorphie Drive, East Uniacke.) There is parking and a public dock where a canoe or kayak can be launched into the calm and tranquil Lewis Lake.



Meek Road, South Rawdon - Located on the Herbert River, this is a great location to launch your canoe or kayak and go for a lovely paddle. Parking is available.

Directions to these public water access points can be found on easthants.ca

1973 - 74 Wrigley Midgets



The 1973 - 74 Midgets, comprised solely of local players, were a dominant force in the Metro Minor Hockey League, losing only one game during the regular season. That same year the Wrigley Cup was established, the predecessor to today's Telus Cup National Midget Championship. East Hants

qualified for the Wrigley Cup as the Maritime Champions. The Wrigley Midgets remain the only East Hants hockey team to compete at a major national hockey championship. Back Row (Coach) Gerald Cole, Perry Ashley, Rob Outwater, Bob Macdonald, Bert Pendergast, Wade Dunford, Walter Tingley, Marsden Neiforth, Ken Wellwood, (Manager) Jack Garden. Middle Row L-R Bill Miller, Danny Steeves, John Garden, (Stick Boy) Darren Cole, Rick Logan, Don Garden, (Asst. Coach) Gerrard Garden. Front Row Mike Hubley, Jamie Wentworth, Mike Dawe, Joe Cole, Rod Gilby.

Leigh Miller



Leigh Miller was born August 17, 1905 in Elmsdale. Known as one of the best sprinters of his era, he was arguably one of the provinces best sprinters of all time. Miller was the Maritime and Ontario sprint champion from 1925-1931. In 1928, Miller became the world record holder in the 100 yard dash, posting a time of 10.6, a mark that would eventually be eclipsed by the great Percy Williams. Miller would win a gold medal with Team Canada in the 4 x 110 yard relay at the first ever British Empire Games in

1930, while holding various Empire Games records during his career. Once he retired from the sport, he coached for over 23 years, including time as the Head Coach of Canada's British Empire Games Track Team. Miller is an original member of the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.

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The Gypsum Train

By Patric Mills

Have you ever been held up at the lights in Elmsdale by the long train with grey hopper cars? That is the Gypsum Train! Once, sometimes twice a day, a train carrying over 5,000 tons of gypsum runs from the Milford quarry to the dock in Burnside. The gypsum is stockpiled at Burnside, then shipped to wallboard manufacturing plants from New Hampshire to New Orleans.

Gypsum is an ancient mineral that has been used for thousands of years all over the world. The Aztecs and Mayans used it in Ancient North America. The pyramids were crowned in sheets of alabaster (a form of gypsum), and the Egyptians also used it in buildings and monuments. Selenite, a clear glass-like form of gypsum, was used in Greek temples for windows. They named it after the goddess of the moon, Selene.

Gypsum is an evaporate mineral. It is created when sea water is trapped and as it evaporates, mineral deposits are formed. Salt, gypsum, potash and barite are all evaporates. These minerals became part of the land mass of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

As Nova Scotia grew in the 18th and 19th centuries, gypsum deposits were identified and developed. Vibrant gypsum producing areas sprouted up all over Nova Scotia, including Windsor, Cheverie and Walton in Hants County, and Saint Annes, Big Harbour, Baddeck, Cheticamp, and Dingwall in Cape Breton.

In the early days, gypsum was shipped by schooners which were loaded by hand, so the gypsum had to be of a certain standard size. It was called "a man size rock". As demand grew, quarries became more mechanized and efficient. It was not uncommon for these operations to have small railroads to carry the rock from the quarry face to the dock.

After World War II, there was a tremendous housing boom in North America. At the same time, gypsum wallboard became the main finishing method for the inside of buildings. Previously, the interior of buildings had been finished with lathe and plaster. This was labour intensive, time consuming and expensive.

As the American housing market exploded, the demand for Nova Scotia gypsum grew rapidly. Most large American wallboard manufacturers had quarry operations in Nova Scotia. One of the larger wall board producers, with a strong Nova Scotia presence, is National Gypsum.

National Gypsum's main quarry was located in Dingwall, at the top of Cape Breton Island. It was isolated, expensive to operate, had limited reserves, and the port was ice bound during the winter.

The company carried out an extensive exploration program to locate a gypsum deposit that was both large enough to meet their long-term needs in a rapidly growing market, and was also close to an all-weather port.



Photo provided by Lee Goodick, National Gypsum

What they found was Milford: a deposit with hundreds of millions of tons of gypsum, a major all-weather port located close to the main rail line going into Halifax. The solution ended up being the National Gypsum Quarry in Milford with the shipping terminal on Halifax Harbour.

So the next time you are stuck in Elmsdale waiting for the “Gypsum Train” to pass, take the time to think about the trajectory of history in our very own neck of the woods. From people loading schooners by hand with “man size rocks” to that 5,000 ton train speeding by you at 50 kilometers an hour, on its way to load 50,000 ton ships in the port of Halifax. Nova Scotia is the home of “World Class” gypsum deposits.

Christmas Decoration Contest Winners

First Place - Wanda Croft

207 Etter Rd., Mt Uniacke. 355 Votes



Left to Right - Breanna Gilby, Suzanne Gilby, Megan Gilby, Suzanne Bona.
Missing - Wanda Croft. Donated winnings to Ritchie Gilby Society

Second Place - Becky Brimicombe and Darin Barbrick

2264 Highway 2, Milford. 194 Votes



Becky Brimicombe. Missing Darin Brimicombe
Donated winnings to Milford United Church

Third Place - Joseph Chaisson

205 Etter Rd., Mt Uniacke. 133 Votes



Left to right - Craig MacLean from Wishgivers, Joseph Chaisson
Donated winnings to Uniacke Wishgivers



What's Up East Hants is a community non-profit organization that is volunteer-based. Our mandate is to unite all communities in East Hants by promoting businesses in our area, highlighting the past and present accomplishments of our residents and so much more. We thrive on the contributions of our volunteers and are so excited to see new volunteers join our team. To become a volunteer you can visit our website www.whatsupeh.com or email info@whatsupeh.com. We look forward to working with the residents of East Hants in future endeavours.





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