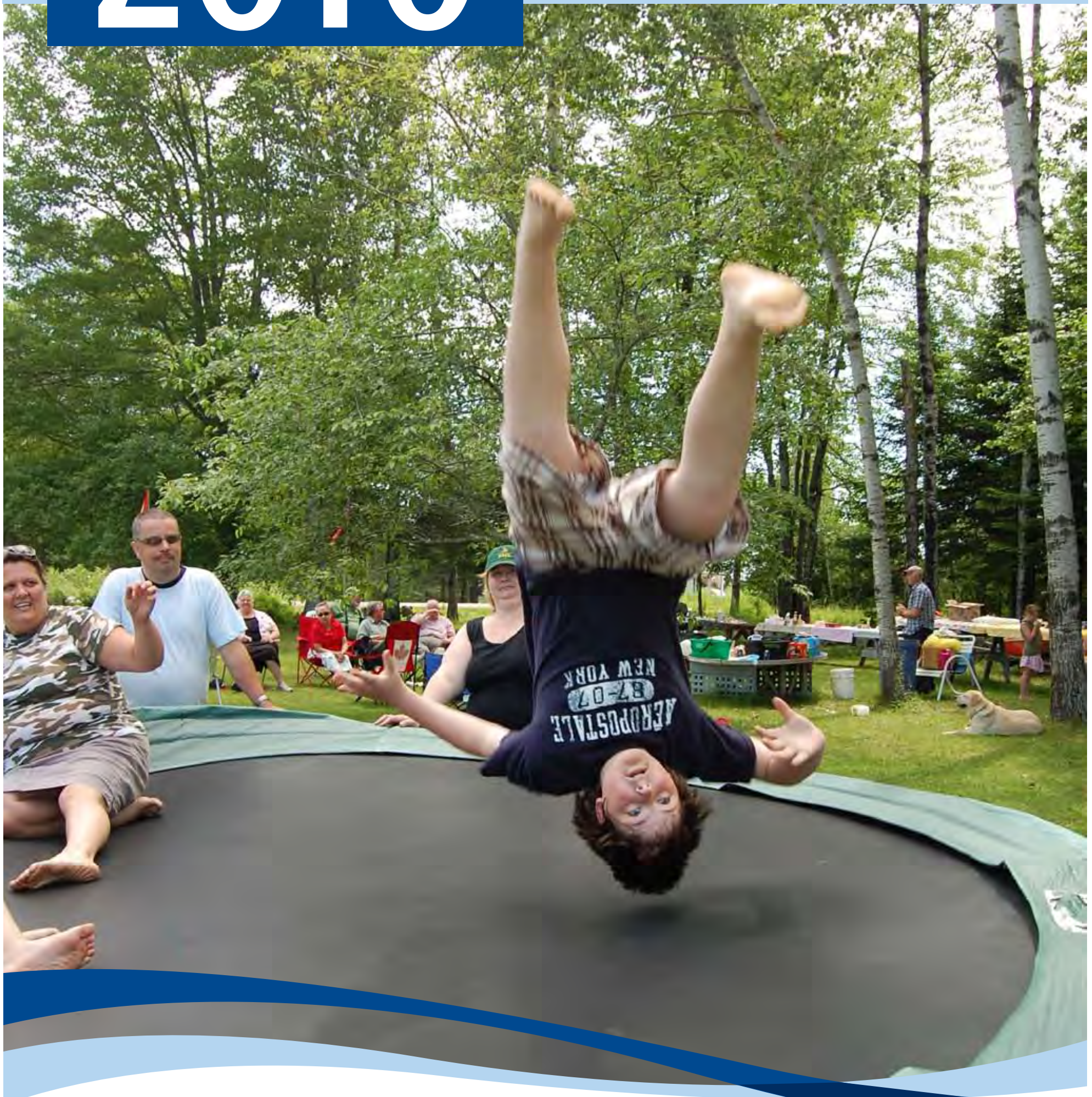


# 2010

BETTER NEWSPAPERS COMPETITION



ATLANTIC COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS ASSOCIATION



# President's Message



**Shawn Woodford**  
*ACNA President 2009-11*

Welcome one and all to the 2010 Atlantic Community Newspapers Association (ACNA) Better Newspapers Competition (BNC) Awards Gala in Halifax, NS.

Each and every year, the ACNA is so very proud to see employees of the various member newspapers attend the BNC Awards Gala and be awarded for the past year's achievements.

Being judged amongst your peers in Atlantic Canada is a great way to gauge how your particular newspaper is doing. Our judges come from other parts of Canada and they get to judge newspapers without bias and allow a piece to stand on its own merits.

Want to say special thanks the ACNA staff for their efforts in coordinating the BNC Awards, plus the overall organization of the ACNA Conference – great job as usual.

Each year hundreds of entries are received in the various categories and just to make it to the standing finalist listing is a great accomplishment. You are amongst the top three in Atlantic Canada with such a rank.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the ACNA and all member newspapers, please accept my sincere congratulations to all 2010 BNC Award winners. You all do great work each and every day and you should all be very proud. Raise a glass and celebrate.

It's not every day that newspapers make news. I encourage you all to return home and splash your accomplishments across your front pages. We are community newspapers, and the community will certainly be excited about your awards – share the joy. We don't trumpet our own horn enough at times – this is a great time to start.

But the ACNA is more than just the BNC Awards.

Our mission: "The ACNA is dedicated to the excellence, credibility and economic well being of its members through leadership, education and communication."

Through the last number of years, the Board of Directors has been working on a number of initiatives to move the ACNA forward. We have focused on three key areas of: advocacy, training and revenue generation.

The ACNA, in coordination with the Canadian Community Newspapers Association (CCNA), is the eyes and ears for the newspaper industry in Atlantic Canada. We have regular input on policy matters that affect our membership. As an example, we have been very active with input on the changes to the Publication Assistance Program (PAP) to ensure newspapers were not affected negatively. From issues surrounding recycling to taxation, we're on the case.

Training has been a major focus in the past number of years. From the Canadian Professional Sales Association (CPSA) training offered to sales reps in our member newspapers, to the various workshops held at the annual conference, the focus on continuous education is essential. Earlier this year we have been having regular idea sharing calls for both editorial and sales. We plan to expand this to the circulation group as well in Fall 2010.

ACNA is primarily funded by the Blanket Classified Program. We are in the process of looking at other revenue generators in the wake of diminishing classified, taking a more on-line approach.

To say this industry has changed in the past number of years is an understatement. The ACNA team, led by Executive Director Mike Kierstead, is consistently staying on top of industry trends to ensure we're focused on the changes ahead. Our goal is to communicate this knowledge to you in a meaningful and useful way. The regular ACNA newsletter is one of these communication methods.

ACNA as an organization is changing as well and this story will unfold in the months and years to come. Stay tuned and keep reading. Our industry is alive and well and we're so glad to have you all on board.



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**WINNER**  
**Barbara Dean-Simmons**  
**Clareville Packet**

What a great victory picture! The happy faces of the leaping victors sums up their jubilation economically - no need to read the story here.

**STANDING FINALIST**  
**Jamie Roach**  
**Kings County Record**

Another nice moment of victory. Photographer has a good sense of timing to capture seven faces screaming simultaneously. Good job of anticipating the decisive moment of happiness.



**STANDING FINALIST**  
**Chuck Brown**  
**St. Stephen Saint Croix Courier**

Good action combines well with an artistic flair created by the water droplets flying around the rugby player. Photographer was at the right position so we can see the player's facial reaction as she encounters the puddle.





General Excellence - Class 1

THE ANNAPOLIS COUNTY SPECTATOR

October 1, 2009 | Serving the Communities of Annapolis County - www.NovaNewsNow.com | 125 Vol. 54, No. 38

Home Hardware building centre 532-2319

Business Making hot news in Annapolis

Arts & Leisure Fun & leisure in the heart of the coast

Regional Bridgetown based Coastland press original

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Sports 1



ON THE WATER  
BASS CHAMPS CROWNED

HUMMING THE TORY THEME  
ALMAZAY SAYS TOO SOON TO RELEASE PE PLANTATION

RIVA SEEKING MEMBERS  
GALLERY SHOWCASES DOORAND 217

## Bugle-Observer

Vol. 99, No. 95  
The Friendship Of These We Serve Is The Foundation Of Our Progress - Since 1905  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2009



### Eyeing \$1-million mark

With more than \$900,000 raised over the past seven years, the Woodstock Relay for Life group believes the eighth annual relay can bring the total to over \$1 million.

By Bryan Tait  
The 2009 Relay for Life was the most successful yet, with the Woodstock Relay for Life group raising more than \$900,000 over the past seven years. The group believes the eighth annual relay can bring the total to over \$1 million.

### Lockout could knock out Woodstock sporting events

CUPE plans a big picket presence for Wednesday's Summer game

By Bryan Tait  
The lockout of Woodstock's major sports teams could mean a big picket presence for Wednesday's Summer game. CUPE plans a big picket presence for Wednesday's Summer game.

### Seeking a cure for overspending

Health Canada reviewing audit showing Woodstock First Nation spending more than \$1 million to operate band's health centre

By Kathleen Davis  
Health Canada is reviewing an audit showing Woodstock First Nation spending more than \$1 million to operate band's health centre. The audit found that the band had spent more than \$1 million on the health centre.

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**the Packet**  
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**Best Beats Browne**  
Remains Clarenville mayor

## the Packet

Vol. 42, No. 48  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2009



### ON BOARD THIS WEEK

Trying something new



### TARGA FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

In the driver's seat, a targa is a car with a removable roof. It's a great way to enjoy the outdoors while driving.



### Left and right

In the driver's seat, a targa is a car with a removable roof. It's a great way to enjoy the outdoors while driving.



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### Tonnes of shrimp going overseas while local plants shut down

FWA member outlines after sales could provide employment, disaster relief and government assistance

By Kathleen Davis  
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### Best beats Browne

Remains Clarenville mayor

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## The Beacon

Crossroads of the World • Gander, Newfoundland and Labrador  
Vol. 51, No. 40  
Tuesday, October 6, 2009  
Home delivery \$5.00 (includes GST) • Newsstand \$2.00 (includes GST)



### Critics come out against EI bill

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## WINNER Woodstock Bugle Observer

This was not an easy decision. What stood out for me are the different papers excelled in different categories. Take into account the Grand Falls Advertiser scored best in Editorial Page, the Amherst Citizen in Production, the Lewisporte Pilot in Photography and the Kings County Advertiser in Best Sports. Yet, none placed in the top three. Instead, there were a lot of very good newspapers but not one shone head and shoulders above the others, hence the close scoring. It was very tough determining winners. Newspapers which generally did everything well rose to the top.

## STANDING FINALIST Clarenville Packet

It's a credit to Atlantic Canada newspapers that you are not afraid to take a stand in editorials. Most were very well done with writers not afraid to take a stand on local issues. Even some papers which lost points had good editorials but they were not written locally. And what I would give to have a cartoonist! Where do you guys find them! Well done! It was very good to see modularity in layout. It gives the newspaper a good, clean crisp look and easy-to-read format. In short, this was the best overall selection of entries in General Excellence I have ever judged! Congratulations!

## STANDING FINALIST Gander Beacon

### GENERAL EXCELLENCE CLASS 2 - Circulation 3,001 - 4,999

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	TOTAL
Woodstock Bugle Observer (NB)	120	125	80	80	70	75	85	40	35	40	45	795
Clarenville Packet (NL)	125	120	70	70	80	70	80	40	45	40	35	775
Gander Beacon (NL)	120	120	75	75	80	70	70	45	30	45	40	770
Kings County Advertiser (NS)	100	110	80	75	80	70	80	35	45	45	40	760
St. Stephen Saint Croix Courier (NB)	120	120	75	80	75	65	75	40	35	40	35	760
Lewisporte Pilot (NL)	120	120	65	80	90	70	75	40	35	25	35	755
Campbellton Tribune (NB)	115	110	90	75	70	75	80	35	40	30	30	750
Grand Falls Windsor Advertiser (NL)	115	110	95	75	75	65	70	35	35	30	40	745
St. Stephen Courier Weekend (NB)	120	115	70	70	65	70	70	40	35	30	40	725
Carbonear Compass (NL)	125	110	60	75	75	70	70	35	35	20	35	710
Amherst Citizen (NS)	130	100	60	85	60	60	65	40	30	30	35	695
Shelburne County Coast Guard (NS)	115	115	65	70	60	60	65	40	35	35	35	695
Marystown Southern Gazette (NL)	110	110	70	70	50	60	60	40	30	35	35	670



General Excellence - Class 3

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# Bridgewater Bulletin

122nd year, No. 42      NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA • TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2009      Independent since 1887

**Funds flowing**  
*Ottawa promises \$404,000 for park, riverfront upgrades*

By KATHY CORCORAN  
kcorcoran@southshorenews.ca

BRIDGEWATER — Ottawa is promising the biggest wave of money for the initial step of a waterfront revitalization project in Bridgewater.

MP Gerald Kedy announced October 15 the federal government will spend \$404,435 toward a job that includes building a fishing gazebo, improving riverfront park, and improving access to King Street Court park and installation of a riverfront fountain in the Lafleur River between the town's main bridge.

Waterfront improvements along the Lafleur River within town limits has long been talked about with not as much action to back it up as some would like. This first step is a multi-year plan that will help attract people to the downtown and add to business district.

"The goal will be to be the revitalized, we're all aware of that," Mr. Kedy said at a news conference, "but we have an opportunity here in Phase 1 to give the river back to Bridgewater and I think that's what the intent is and I believe in all my heart that's what the result will be."

The project will also work for the town's tourism prospects and its economy, Mayor Gerald Pothier said.

"Many various waterfront schemes have come and gone over the past 20 years but I'm here to tell you today that the plan is about to come to life."

The federal money represents most of the estimated \$2.5-million price tag attached to the King Street Court project. The town and province previously shared an interest in the project, but the province's interest was a secondary task with promoting economic activity in town, is driving the project. Association manager Jim Scott said improvements to King Street Court will be a new jewel in the crown that is the Lafleur River. Work on the park will start later this year and finish next summer.

In a published notice, an engineering consulting firm is looking for the job until October 21.

**saunders**

**Hungry firefighter**

Two-year-old Call DeMone enjoyed seeing the fire trucks but the hot dog made get the firefighter's attention when the Northfield fire department hosted an open house October 15.

**saunders**

**No judge equals no trials**  
*Bench vacancy beginning to cause delays*

By LISA BROWN  
lbrown@southshorenews.ca

BRIDGEWATER — The lack of a full-time sitting provincial court judge in Lunenburg County may be beginning to take its toll on the local justice system.

Just one month after Provincial Court Judge Anne Crawford retired from the bench, cases had to be bumped when no judge was available October 20.

A judge had been scheduled to fill in that day, but became unavailable on Wednesday.

"Two men who were representing themselves on breathalyzer charges Thursday morning were bumped to today in late October and December. A justice of the peace accepted a guilty plea from another man on a charge of driving while intoxicated and adjourned that case until December for a pre-sentencing report."

Bridgewater is slated to get another full-time judge, but officials cannot say when that will happen.

John Piccolo, communications director for the Nova Scotia judiciary, said last week it should be soon, but could not give a date.

Sherry Alderbrook, director of communications for the Department of Justice said "the process is under way" and the department "isn't too far off."

Provincial court judges are appointed by the province from a list of qualified candidates proposed by a committee which includes sitting judges, lawyers and representatives of the general public.

When it was believed no judge would be available, Bridgewater is slated to get another full-time judge, but officials cannot say when that will happen.

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**Whither the weather?**  
*14 Wing loses Environment Canada office*

By Sara Kelly  
skelly@southshorenews.ca

"There is little or minimal impact for the base operations."

Squad acknowledges the Air Force has different weather forecasting needs than the Army, which means the Capetown base lost 14 Wing technicians "will just take what we need from the regional forecast."

The Joint Meteorological Centre in Capetown will use teams of CF meteorological technicians to prepare for deployments, and Environment Canada meteorologist and IT specialists to support and undertake applied science development projects.

14 Wing equipment will also continue to feed the Environment Canada information system.

Spoke Capt Scott Spence

**Booze spills out of Acadia dorms**

By Wendy Elliott  
wendy.elliott@southshorenews.ca

Antidote services from Metro Halifax to Middleton were implemented by a drunk alcohol poisoning episode at Acadia University last Saturday evening, Sept. 26.

Binge drinking behind closed doors in residence appears to have spilled out onto the quad between Christopher House and Eaton House.

Acadia spokesman Scott Roberts said Sept. 27, "I wasn't until they emerged that we knew we had a problem."

Ever young adults were taken to hospital with alcohol poisoning and released the next morning. A fifth, who had fallen and hit her head in an unrelated incident, was also taken to hospital.

Paul Maynard, emergency health services spokesman, said the ambulances were called about 9 p.m. after a report a female in her late teens had fallen unconscious after drinking too much. Maynard said paramedics determined the youth had "ingested a large quantity of alcohol at a party and they were showing the effects of the alcohol."

"No people were examined, a mix of males and females in their late teens and early 20s. Of these, four individuals were hospitalized for alcohol poisoning."

Ambulances were called in from Wolfville, Kentville, Windsor and New Brunswick, Maynard noted, then officers had to provide back-up.

"This is the first time I've ever heard of an incident like this, with this kind of a magnitude," Roberts said. "I think it was a combination of unfortunate coincidences all at once over the evening."

Administrators at Acadia plan to investigate the incident. Roberts said the discipline code at Acadia mirrors the criminal code, and a whole series of consequences are possible.

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Childhood educators want answers from gov't

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Whopper of a pumpkin

See page 7

Buddhist institute expands to location in Wood Islands

See page 8

Cutting 'er close

See page 23

Verbal abuse prevention advocate disappointed with lack of school support

See page 23

**EVERYTHING AUTO**

Don't miss our fall car care guide

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**THE KINGS COUNTY REGISTER**

October 1, 2009 | Serving the Communities of Kings County • www.NovaNewsNow.com | 125¢ Vol. 142, No. 40

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**100 APPLES AND COUNTING**

Seneca Hensley stands behind a Nova Scotia Fairgrounds' display of 100 apples, called in from member growers' orchards in the days before the Blue House open farm day event, connected with the Kentville research station open house, Sept. 26. Actually, by the time the photo was taken later in the day, the display was down to 99 apples missing an orchardist, as one visitor inquired whether the variety is grown locally. He was offered the apple to taste as proof for more pictures from the research station's open house, see Page 12. Locally

**Whither the weather?**  
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By Sara Kelly  
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MANIACS ARE BACK  
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FOOD BANK FUNDRAISER  
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115 Main St., Kentville

WINNER  
Bridgewater Bulletin

STANDING FINALIST  
Kings County Register

STANDING FINALIST  
Montague Eastern Graphic

Strong editorial elements across the board, front page, photographs, well written stories and clean layout. Commitment to the "story" shows throughout the paper but is more than obvious in the first 5 pages, which has been left open without advertising.

The well constructed front page draws you into an easy read. Very good use of photos, they are both of good quality and size.

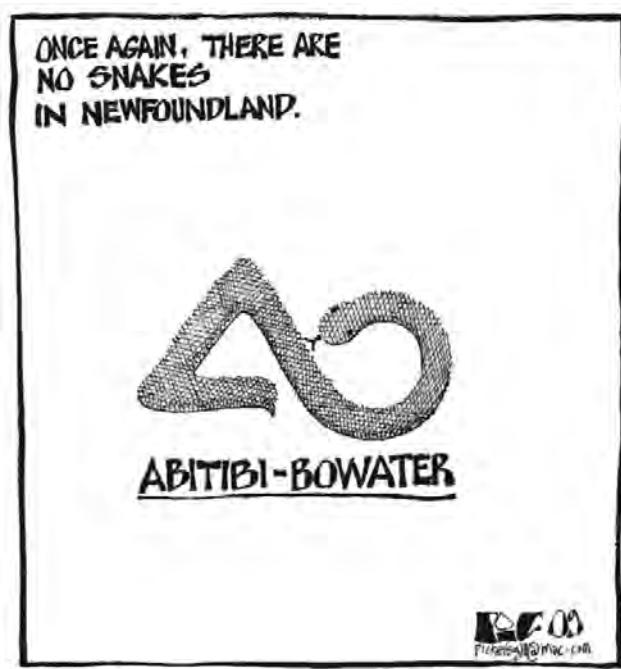
Great paper with the strongest opinion columns of this class. Good community advertising features.

GENERAL EXCELLENCE CLASS 3 - Circulation 5,000+												
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	TOTAL
Bridgewater Bulletin (NS)	130	130	90	100	90	90	80	50	40	40	50	890
Kings County Register (NS)	140	130	90	90	90	90	80	40	40	40	50	880
Montague Eastern Graphic (PE)	140	140	80	90	90	80	80	40	40	40	40	860
Enfield/Waverly The Laker (NS)	130	130	80	80	80	90	90	40	40	40	50	850
Miramichi Leader (NB)	130	140	90	90	90	90	80	20	40	40	40	850
Pictou Advocate (NS)	130	130	80	80	80	80	70	40	40	40	40	810
Alberton West Prince Graphic (PE)	130	120	80	80	80	80	80	40	40	30	40	800
St. Anthony Northern Pen (NL)	110	120	80	80	80	80	80	50	40	40	40	800
Yarmouth Vanguard (NS)	130	130	80	80	90	80	80	30	30	40	30	800
Bathurst Northern Light (NB)	120	130	80	80	70	80	70	30	30	40	30	760
Sussex Kings County Record (NB)	120	110	80	70	70	80	70	30	30	30	30	720
Antigonish Casket (NS)	110	120	80	70	60	70	60	30	30	40	40	710
Inverness Oran (NS)	110	130	80	70	60	60	70	20	30	30	30	690
Chester Clipper (NS)	110	120	70	80	80	70	70	40	0	0	40	680
<b>LEGEND</b>												
A - FRONT PAGE 150 pts	C - EDITORIAL PAGE AND OP-ED 100 pts				F - ADVERTISING CONTENT 100 pts				I - LOCAL FEATURES 50 pts			
B - COMMUNITY NEWS 150 pts	D - PRESENTATION 100 pts				G - ADVERTISING DESIGN 100 pts				J - SPORTS 50 pts			
	E - PHOTOGRAPHY 100 pts				H - CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING 50 pts				K - PRODUCTION QUALITY 50 pts			

This category is sponsored by:

PAGE 6 | 2010 BETTER NEWSPAPERS COMPETITION





**WINNER**  
**Peter Pickersgill**  
**Placentia Charter**

First place goes to Peter Pickersgill's cartoon about Danny Williams' government revoking Abitibi-Bowater's water and forestry rights after the paper company announced it was closing its Grand Falls-Windsor operation. It is clever, well-drawn and makes a very strong comment on a very newsworthy subject - exactly what an editorial cartoon is supposed to do.



**STANDING FINALIST**  
**Jason Freeman**  
**Kings County Register**

Jason Freeman's cartoon about the surprise announcement of layoffs at a local food processor was humorous, timely and "cutting."



**STANDING FINALIST**  
**Jim Oliver**  
**Sackville Tribune-Post**

Third place Jim Oliver's cartoon about Sackville town council's reticence in dealing with a traffic safety issue is a great example of the hyper-local cartoon.

**Honourable Mention - Ted Michener, St. Stephen Saint Croix Courier**  
The very talented Ted Michener received an honourable mention for his drawing skills.

Best Resources Story



**WINNER**  
**Aaron Beswick**  
**St. Anthony**  
**Northern Pen**

A well-crafted story that clearly brings home the difficult financial challenges facing fishermen catching coldwater shrimp off the coast of Labrador. The reader feels the struggle of these fishermen, who go to sea in often dangerous conditions to be paid the equivalent of less than minimum wage. The story is a pleasure to read, as well as enhancing understanding of an important issue critical to the paper's readership. "Rough Waters Ahead" is a worthy winner in the best resource story category.



**STANDING FINALIST**  
**Pam Snow**  
**Springdale Nor'wester**



**STANDING FINALIST**  
**Barbara Dean-Simmons**  
**Clarenville Packet**



# Best Community Service

## Time to Remember

Local veterans tell their intimate stories of World War II

Shorty Rhodenizer Ron Mosley Ralph Hebb Pierre Allaine Perry Vainot Merle Wentzell  
Mary Nixon Leon Whynot Leonard Hannes Frank Hammond Doug Crowell Doug Coe  
Doris Jourdey Michael Ciz Bert Wallace Bert Eagle Alvin Wentzell Albert Scott

hear their stories • learn their legacy • remember

"Lighthouse is all about telling the stories of our South Shore community. We were quick to realize these stories from our veterans were some of our most important and it was imperative to capture them right away in a high-quality presentation." — Tim Reeves-Horton, Video Producer

Go to southshorenova.ca

See the complete video collection  
Access a teachers' guide to extend the experience into the classroom  
Check out artwork from SSRSB schools  
See student writing, poetry & other interpretations  
Students, share your thoughts and opinions with other students  
Join in the community dialogue inspired by our veterans' stories  
Time travel right in your kitchen with our WWII recipes

Proudly produced and sponsored by Lighthouse Media Group

Community partners: STUDIO 7 South Shore Regional School Board DesBrisay museum LITERACY MILE

## WINNER Bridgewater Bulletin

The Bridgewater Bulletin was a clear winner in this category showing excellent initiative and creativity to cultivate an historical archive of local WWII stories. A solid ad campaign with great editorial support and online component, the Bulletin's entry had it all.

## STANDING FINALIST Mirimachi Leader

Our PEI has...

growth and opportunity.

PEIRA

www.peiruralalliance.com

## STANDING FINALIST Montague Eastern Graphic

## Best Website

## WINNER Southshorenow.ca

This site serving the communities of southwestern Nova Scotia is a region-leading effort to engage audiences around news content. Editors have an active presence in social media and make extensive use of their site to reflect community interests. They regularly link news content to past coverage to build context and they encourage audience interaction by live-blogging events. The site offers breaking news alerts and a broad range of multimedia. A strong community presence results from a spirited effort to use the medium effectively.

## STANDING FINALIST Novanewsnow.com

The site serving western Nova Scotia uses visual highlights and photo galleries to build stories that are compelling for online audiences. It showcases strong design and clean navigation to boost usability and visual appeal. Editors make a consistent effort to categorize content for easy browsing. As well, the site offers users tools to easily view the most discussed and highest-rated content.

## STANDING FINALIST Peicanada.com

Editors make considerable effort to harness the medium with regular blogs posts and use of multimedia. A solid presence in social media and a range of content on the site result in a good effort at community engagement online.

This category is sponsored by:

GoToDigital



All the entries were really good. Imagination, initiative, concentration, emotion and technical skill were all present with the finalists quickly rising to the top.



## WINNER

### Keith Cororan - Bridgewater Bulletin

The smile on the child's face as he stands proud with his fish on the line tells the story with no words necessary. Great photo!



## STANDING FINALIST

### Grace Trowbridge - Miramichi Leader

Nice action shot. I was impressed at the sharpness and contrast of the photo. While the subjects were moving at a high speed, the photographer was able to capture a sharp image.



## STANDING FINALIST

### Andrew Brown - Montague Eastern Graphic

You can see the look of hard work, determination and dedication on this child's face as he sits on a pile of his hard work. A photo that tells the story that at any age goals and dreams can be accomplished.



## Best Graphically Designed Ad

**KIA Summer Sale**

**2010 SOUL** ALL NEW BUY FOR \$81 WEEKLY  
2.0L • Power Group • A/C

**2010 FORTE** ALL NEW BUY FOR \$75 WEEKLY  
LX Plus Pkg • Power Group • A/C

**2009 MAGENTIS** BUY FOR \$92 WEEKLY  
Aluminum Wheels, Sunroof, Power Group, A/C, 2.4, 4 Cyl.

**2009 SEDONA LUXURY** \$5000 OFF  
Moonroof, Leather, DVD Entertainment Premium Pkg

**2009 RIO** BUY FOR \$56 WEEKLY  
4 Door, A/C, Convenience Pkg

**2009 RONDO** BUY FOR \$69 WEEKLY  
Auto, Power Group

**2009 SPORTAGE** BUY FOR \$83 WEEKLY  
Auto, 2.4 - 4 Cyl, Convenience Pkg

**2009 SORENTO** BUY FOR \$95 WEEKLY  
3.5L Auto, Power Group, A/C

**CASH BACK 0% ON ALL 2009 MODELS**

**Atlantic KIA**  
58 S. Albion St., Amherst  
667-2822

**500 Good**  
KIA MOTORS  
The Power to Surprise

**5 Year**  
Warranty  
We've got you covered.

**WINNER**  
**Sharon Robinson**  
**Sackville**  
**Tribune-Post**

Great use of colours, Easy to the eye, Limited text (no encyclopedia), Liked the water splash idea for pricing and the beachball for mileage. All pertinent ad copy is visible. Stands out.

**STANDING FINALIST**  
**Vicky Hines**  
**Bridgewater**  
**Bulletin**

Good use of photo, great background. Motivates you to buy paint and start painting.

**OUR BEST PRICE EVER!**  
at  
**Gow's Home Hardware**

**October 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> Only**

**Beauti-Tone**  
SIGNATURE SERIES  
INTERIOR VELVET PAINT

INTERIOR ACRYLIC LATEX PAINT  
VELVET  
WHITE, HIGH GLOSS

Now **\$16.49**

**1/2 Price!**

Limit of 12 per customer. No cash, no returns.

OPEN Monday - Saturday 8am - 9pm

**GOW'S Home Hardware** Eastside Plaza Bridgewater  
543-7121 Visit our website: [www.gowshomehardware.ns.ca](http://www.gowshomehardware.ns.ca)

**STANDING FINALIST**  
**Shawn Clark**  
**Woodstock**  
**Bugle-observer**

Down to the point, No overkill with colours.

**recliners** **loveseats** **washers** **tutons** **sofas** **ranges** **dinettes** **coffee tables**

**HELD OVER**

**HUGE Furniture Liquidation**

**>> 5 Days**

**Opening 20<sup>th</sup> NOON SHARP**

**Everything Reduced**

**up to 77%** Hurry In, Quantities Limited

**NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED**

**HARTLAND ARENA**

## Outstanding Sales Person

# BUSINESS Directory

## AUTOMOTIVE

**Is your vehicle ready for Winter?**  
Protect your vehicle with Krown Rust Protection

**COLES SERVICE CENTER**  
Your Rust Control Center  
Port au Port West CALL 648-2444

**WHITES ENTERPRISES**  
Auto Salvage & Recycling

270 Oceanview Drive, Marcho's Point, Port au Port Peninsula  
Bus: 644-2332 • Res: 644-2913

Notice to all Towns and Communities on Port au Port Peninsula - we accept all types of metal at our salvage yard, including car wrecks.

**Coastal Glass**  
Your Glass & Sign Professionals

Gary or Scott Simms  
Tel: 645-5535  
Fax: 645-4436  
Tel: 645-6281

Residential & Commercial

**Your Tire & Rim Specialist**  
RIMS & TIRES TO FIT ALL MAKES & MODELS

in Stephenville & Bay St. George

**TWIN TIRE**  
2-4 Piece Mounting & Balancing  
Tel: (709) 643-5444

**PORTER'S PROPANE**  
LUS

If you have gas pains... we have the cure!

Services provided:  
Installations, Repairs, Maintenance, Commercial, Residential, Trailers/RVs, Vehicles, Boats

Offers 27 years experience  
Licenced, Certified & Insured

## GOVERNMENT Representatives

**Judy M. Foote**  
Member of Parliament  
Riding: St. John's South

Working For You

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY**  
Antigonish and Labrador

**Tony Corbett, M.H.A.**  
District of Port au Port

Reg. Electoral District: Antigonish  
300 Highway 100, Antigonish, NS  
Tel: (902) 853-1111  
Fax: (902) 853-1111  
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Newfoundland Labrador**

**HON. JOAN BURKE, MHA**  
District of St. George's - Stephenville East

For information or assistance:  
Constituency Office:  
Ocean View - Phone: 643-5200 • Fax: 643-5200  
3rd Floor, Harbour Square, St. George's  
Stephenville, NL A1B 2Y1  
Tel: (709) 643-8923 • Toll Free: 1-800-568-5622  
Fax: (709) 643-8977 • Email: [joanburke@ga.ns.ca](mailto:joanburke@ga.ns.ca)

## DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT Services

**Emile's Pub & Eatery**

**Holiday Inn**  
Join Emile's Lunch Club  
Mon-Fri Lunch Specials \$8.95  
each time you order lunch, get your card stamped & receive your 11<sup>th</sup> Lunch free

EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT  
CARNIVAL SIZZLING STEAK BURN  
10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Call 643-5444

**Nanna & Poppa**  
invite you to join them

**BUFFET**  
BRUNCH  
SUNDAYS  
10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Call 643-5444

**Nanna's & Poppa's Restaurant**  
404 LCH Highway Junction • 645-2299

**Fillmore's**  
Fine Dining & Entertainment Lounge

Our tempting dishes will make it a meal to remember.

Party with friends in our entertainment lounge

**GREAT PUB MENU - BEST WINGS IN TOWN**  
Live Entertainment - Every Night

At Major Hotels, Restaurants - Call and make your reservation!  
\*Minimum reservation and deposit may be required.

## HOME CONSTRUCTION & Building Supplies

**Pomeroy's General Contractor Ltd.**  
Commercial & Residential  
Renovations • Decks  
Roofing • Siding • Design & Install Septic Systems

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
"No Damage, any damage we fix free"

**15% Discount for Seniors**  
A Division of Pomeroy Enterprises

Tel: (709) 643-2501 • After Hours: (709) 643-6233

**POMEROY'S ELECTRICAL**  
We do re-wires and New Construction  
Time to upgrade your home from 60 to 120 amp to 200 amp service, give us a call.

**REG BENNETT CONTRACTING**  
New home construction or renovations  
Residential or commercial  
Septic systems  
Jack hammers & foundations  
Electrical & heavy equipment

Call: 709-646-2277  
709-649-7207  
Owner/Operators: Reg Bennett & Mark Bennett

**4-D Construction Inc**  
FREE ESTIMATES  
Tel: 643-2196  
Cell: 649-7640  
Fax: 643-2076

"FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS"

**GMJ ENTERPRISE**  
GENERAL CONTRACTING

- New Home Construction & Home Renovations
- Basement Finishing
- Garage Addition
- Complete Siding
- Continuous Eave/soffit
- Gutter, Windows & Doors
- Heavy Equipment Rentals

George Young & Sons Owner / Operator, Stephenville Crossing, NL  
Call: 709-649-7810 Office: 709-646-2829 Fax: 709-646-2667

**HARVEY GALE & SON LIMITED**  
CONSTRUCTION & LANDSCAPING

Office: (709) 646-2863  
Fax: (709) 646-2903  
Cell: (709) 649-7500  
harvey@hgs-ltd.com  
Unit 24 Seal Cove Rd., P.O. Box 117  
Stephenville Crossing, NL A1B 2C9

**General Maintenance Services**  
General Household Maintenance & Repair Services  
Specializing in Project Planning, Project Management & Home Building Inspections  
Planning, general, job site safety • Electrical • Heating • Air conditioning • Water supply • Drainage • Plumbing • Painting • Home Security • Home Maintenance Work • Appliances Repair, installation, service, etc.

**NO JOB TOO SMALL**

Albert Murphy Tel: 643-3174 • Cell: 649-2276  
E: [albertmurphy@ymt.sympatico.ca](mailto:albertmurphy@ymt.sympatico.ca)

**Roberts Home Hardware**  
115 Main Street, Stephenville • Phone: 643-2843 • Fax: 643-5776

**HOME owners helping HOME owners**  
helpful advice, helpful selection, helpful prices

Randy Roberts  
Dealer/Owner

**SHEA'S BUILDING SUPPLIES**  
everything you need for your home building projects

**castle building centres**  
Brook Street  
Stephenville Crossing 646-5526

**WINNER**  
**Gloria Hunt - Stephenville Georgian**

Gloria has over 19 years of newspaper advertising experience and continually raises the bar in terms of generating revenue for her publication. On top of that, her clients love her because she helps their businesses build successful advertising campaigns that make them more money.









**WINNER**  
**Steven Lacey - Chester Clipper**

This ad is colourful and eye-catching. It draws the reader in and delivers its message. It has an agency look. Well done!



**STANDING FINALIST**  
**Staff - Enfield Weekly Press**

Nice choice of colours, well laid out, fonts are a good choice for this ad a little busy however.



**STANDING FINALIST**  
**Angie Pearson - Bridgewater Bulletin**

The ad is creative and inviting, it's also well balanced. Good copy and good use of colour.



## Frozen in time Can't see the whales for the icebergs

PHOTOS BY JEFF JACKSON  
TEXT BY DENISE PIKE

Carnaroli resident Jeff Jackson and his family spent the afternoon of April 20 out on the boat to Tracy Bay sharing whales and icebergs. Jeff, who had just come back from school, says he could have made many more sightings if he had stayed longer.

**CUTE COONS:** From left, Robert and Tara Bedford and their cousin Alicia and Daniel Jackson got in one nature at its best during a boat ride, skippered by Jeff and Daniel's dad, Jeff, in Carnaroli April 20.

**NICE BOAT:** This whale put on quite the show for the Jackson family during a boat ride in Carnaroli. According to photographer Jeff Jackson, the animal came within their boat several times, opened its mouth and belched around in the water.

**HAPPY DANCE:** The still and quiet waters of Tracy Bay provided a great stage for this whale's performance last Monday, April 20.

**ON THE ROCKS:** Alicia Jackson sits on a piece of ice, which fell from a huge iceberg floating in the harbor just off Carnaroli. Alicia, 15, has been a Carnaroli resident for the past four years. She eventually handed the ice over to her dad, Jeff, who uses it to make the best tasting ever holiday slush. "The water is still as fresh as it was when it was first formed thousands of years ago."

**BEATHEATING:** Carnaroli resident Jeff Jackson captured this breathtaking scene during a boat ride with his family April 20.



### STANDING FINALIST Jeff Jackson and Denise Pike Carbonear Compass

Magazine styled layout and very good selection of photos. Good use of Photoshop with drop shadows a very neat way to display multiple photos on a page.



### Two pulls haul in teams from all over province Sussex event scheduled for Aug. 26 at 6:30 p.m. at Princess Louise Park Show Centre

**P**ETTYCOURT—The New Brunswick Qualification Pull for the Maritime championship was held July 4 in Pettycourt.

In the light division, the first place winner was Dean McGilchrist, a 30-year pulling veteran. His team won with a percentage of 5.5. In second place was Andy Hamilton, who has been a puller for eight years. His team had a percentage of 3.36. Third place went to Corey Steeves, who has been pulling for four years. His team

pulled a percentage of 5.27.

In the medium division, Bernard Sewell, who has been pulling for 50 years, won first place. His team pulled 12,000 pounds, 42.5 inches. Scott MacLean, who has been pulling 10 years, took second place. His team pulled 12,000 pounds, 23.5 inches. Chris Hudson placed third. He has been pulling two years. His team successfully pulled 11,000 pounds 20 feet.

In the heavy division, first place went to Roy Dickson, who has been

pulling for six years. His team pulled 13,000 pounds 20 feet. Jeremy Ma-

son, who has been pulling for three years, placed second. His team pulled 13,000 pounds 18.5 inches. In third place was Alain Levesque, whose team pulled 13,000 pounds 20.5 inches. He has been pulling for 37 years.

The Horsepullers Association of New Brunswick hosted a pull the following day, July 5, also in Petty-

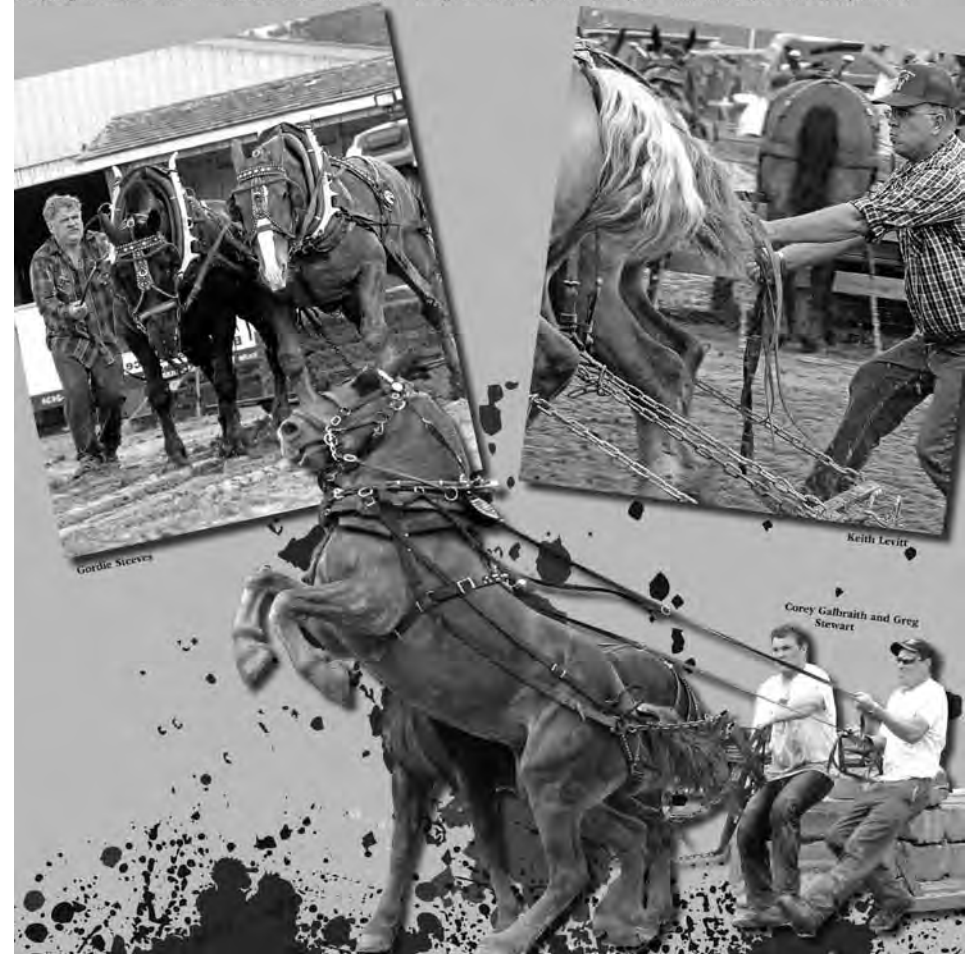
court. The light division first place

went to Shawn Sewell. His team weighed 2,892 and successfully hauled 9,000 pounds 12 feet. Second place went to Andy Hamilton, whose team weighed 2,665 and hauled 8,000 pounds 9.95 feet. Corey Steeves' 2,750-pound team hauled 8,000 pounds 6.95 feet for a third place finish.

Earl Hall took first place in the medium division. His 3,212-pound team successfully hauled 9,000 pounds 12 feet. Sidney Stewart's team weighed 3,142 pounds. They hauled 9,000

pounds 7.6 inches for second place.

David Perry's 3,250-pound team earned him third place, hauling 9,000 pounds 6.9 inches. The heavy division first place was taken by Don Dickson. He successfully hauled 10,000 pounds, with his team weighing in at 4,400 pounds. Don Steeves took home second place, hauling 10,000 pounds 114.5 inches. His team weighed 3,325 pounds. Right behind him was Alex Cormier, hauling the 10,000 pounds 58 inches with a 5,711-pound team.



### WINNER Natasha Moffett Sussex Kings County Record

Very good visual layout with light article describing the events. Unique use simulated mud stained newsprint paper associating the mud the Horse Pulling Championship endured from the day's weather.



### STANDING FINALIST Stacey Colwell Bridgewater Bulletin

Excellent use of Photoshop with jumpers, took a great deal of time to prepare these photos. Photos assembled very well overall.



### Best Original Advertising Idea

Photo: Ken Schmitt, © 1998, The United Negro College Fund

# National Philanthropy Day

**Nov. 15 is National Philanthropy Day**

**TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**  
 The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is a national organization that has been helping students like you for more than 60 years. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world.

**TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**  
 The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is a national organization that has been helping students like you for more than 60 years. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world.

*A day to recognize the work of charities and remember the extraordinary achievements that philanthropy - giving and volunteering has made to our lives.*

These brilliant, most generous, highly sophisticated, and most successful people are the backbone of our nation's philanthropic community. They are the people who have made the difference in the world. They are the people who have made the difference in the world. They are the people who have made the difference in the world.

service of all citizens of America. The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is a national organization that has been helping students like you for more than 60 years. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world.

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY CIVIC CENTRE**

**THANK YOU**  
 to the many donors and volunteers who have supported this important community project.

Small contact information and address.

**Two new funds established with United Negro College Fund**

**TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**  
 The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is a national organization that has been helping students like you for more than 60 years. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world. We help students like you go to college and make a difference in the world.

**CHARLOTTE FUNDS A KIN CLUB**

*Serving the Community's Greatest Need*

**Thank You**  
 to those who have advertised on your Charlotte Funds Kin Club calendar for the past 20 years.

**The Charlotte County Hospital Foundation, Inc.**

is a non-profit organization that has been helping patients like you for more than 60 years. We help patients like you go to the hospital and make a difference in the world. We help patients like you go to the hospital and make a difference in the world. We help patients like you go to the hospital and make a difference in the world.

**SERVICE Above Self**

Rest is ordinary people  
 making it together  
 to accomplish extraordinary things.

Small contact information and address.

**Thank You**  
 to those who have supported our community channel IV station.

**Thank You**  
 to the residents of Eastern Charlotte who have renewed community support for the past 50 years.

*Thank you from all of our present members of the Charlotte Youth Fun Club*

Anyone interested in these youth camps, or in making a donation to support the CHARLOTTE YOUTH FUN CLUB - 405-232-1100

**Be Generous. LOOKING FOR A GIFT THIS HOLIDAY FOR THE PERSON WHO HAS EVERYTHING?**

# WINNER

# Heather Cunningham

# St. Stephen Saint Croix Courier

A great non-traditional idea which generated over \$2,500 in additional revenue. As well it generated new clients which will lead to some being long-term advertisers. This ad section covered all areas of the judging criteria and was the overall choice for “ Best Original Advertising Idea.

**Bridgewater Bulletin**  
 37th Ave. #100, Bridgewater, NJ 08807 • December 1, 2006  
 Independent since 1887

# 12 Days of Christmas Giving!

**18 Winners!**

**\$9,800 in prizes to be won**

**We want to help you with your Christmas Shopping.**

Every day for 11 days from December 11<sup>th</sup> until December 21<sup>st</sup>, we will have multiple draws. The value of gift certificates given out will increase by \$25 each day.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> day, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, the final draw will be held for \$1,000 in gift certificates from Bridgewater Mall & Eastside Plaza.

*Gift certificates can also be used at Emporio Tebanus.*

**The more you shop, the greater your chances!**

BALLOTS AVAILABLE AT ALL STORES

**Draws will be held every day at 4 pm.**

**BRIDGEWATER**  
 HIGH SCHOOL

**EASTSIDE**  
 HIGH SCHOOL

Winning draw: Monday to Saturday 9:00 am - 1 pm (except 12 noon - 1 pm)  
 www.bridgetermall.ca

## STANDING FINALIST

# Penny MacDonald

# Bridgewater

# Bulletin

# THE GEORGIAN

## CARRIER OF THE MONTH

Does your carrier provide exceptional service?  
 Do you want to recognize him or her?  
*Enter your carrier's name for our*  
**"CARRIER OF THE MONTH CONTEST"**

Complete the ballot below and drop off or mail to:  
 The Georgian  
 43 Main Street, Stephenville, NL A2N 2Z4

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Carrier's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



*Proudly Sponsored by*  
**DOMINO PIZZA HOUSE**  
 Main St., Stephenville  
 Carrier of the month will receive  
**AN 18" PIZZA AND 2 LITRE OF POP**  
*Compliments of Domino Pizza House*

## STANDING FINALIST

## Staff

## Stephenville Georgian

## Best Advertising Program

**WE'RE ALWAYS TRYING TO ...**  
**Save You Money!**

**We Remember**

- WOK-BEES MADE STEAK OR ROAST **\$2.99** /lb.
- STRIPLOIN STEAK **\$5.99** /lb.
- COOKED HAM **69¢** /100g.
- 100% KRISPY KRAUT **\$1.99** /lb.
- 100% SHADOW BACON **2/13.99**
- SOLB BAG POTATOES **\$6.99** /50
- ICEBERG LETTUCE **2/13.99**
- CHERRY TOMATOES **\$1.99** /lb.
- ASST. VARIETIES APPLES **99¢** /lb.
- CHIQUITA BANANAS **69¢** /lb.
- ASK US ABOUT FIRE WOOD A WOOD ALTERNATIVE
- 800% ASST GANONG CANDY **\$2.99**

Prices in effect from Friday, November 6 to Thursday, November 12 OPEN SUNDAYS 8am - 10pm  
 All items while supplies last. Regular in-store specials available all week.

**Mainline Market**  
 1101 King Street • 543-5005  
[www.mainlinemarket.ca](http://www.mainlinemarket.ca)

## WINNER

# Tina Hennigar

# Lunenburg Lighthouse Log

[illegible]

## STANDING FINALIST

# Susan Coish

# Sackville Tribune Post



Newfoundland & Labrador  
Public Libraries

**Finding your roots**

Interested in finding out more about your family, where your great-grandparents were married, or what the community you were born in looked like 100 years ago?

**Did you know...** that your local library is a **valuable** source of genealogical resources?

**Visit us today!**

**www.nlpl.ca**

## STANDING FINALIST

# Gloria Hunt

## Stephenville Georgian



### A Day Well Spent at That Dutchman's Cheese Farm



Fun, Educational and Delicious. Open Daily.

Come visit our farm animal and nature park filled with trails, gardens, ponds, miniature varieties of pigs, goats and donkeys, emus and poultry for you to explore.

For a stroll down memory lane visit "the Attic", home to a large selection of antiques and collectibles. From tools to china we have something for everyone with over 1500sq feet of display area.

Over the years we have become a favorite destination for parents and grandparents with children, to wander our trails in search of our animals to visit and feed. Along the way gnomes and faeries can be discovered hidden amongst the trees. The gnomes are easy to spot for the little ones and the faeries are more challenging. The best time to visit is in morning while it is cooler and nature is at its best. Our trails include gardens, combining wild and domestic plants, woven between 9 interconnected ponds and waterways. If you are looking for more of a hike you can follow the trail through the woods in search of our Scottish Highland Cattle. Afterward, enjoy a traditional dutch lunch in our cafe and sample some cheese in our shop. Our cafe Opens Father's Day.

Upper Economy, NS Phone: 902-647-2751  
Visit us on the web [www.thatdutchmansfarm.com](http://www.thatdutchmansfarm.com)



Grandson, Hendrikus, visiting the pot bellied pigs.

View of "the Attic" Antiques and Collectibles.

STANDING FINALIST  
The Shoreline Journal

## Quarter Century Outdoor Party

1984 2009

Giving You More Since '84



**SATURDAY, JUNE 27/09 FROM 12 NOON - 9 PM**

**OUTSIDE - Keith's 18-Wheeler MAINSTAGE**  
featuring  
Kevin Roach's Celtic Set - St Peppers Bluegrass Band  
The Lounge Flys - The Blakeney Brothers  
Harmony - The Persuaders

**ALEXANDER KEITH'S INDIA PALE ALE**

BBQ  
BEER GARDEN

NO COVER!!

Congratulations to the Staff and Management at Curly's on 25 Great Years!  
from all your friends at Keith's.

STANDING FINALIST  
Angela Isenor  
Enfield Weekly Press

## The Apple Has Been Passed!

You've all missed the



and we're excited to announce that it will re-open!!

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup>**  
**9 AM - 9 PM**

You're invited to a **FREE Pork BBQ** during our re-opening from 11 am to 2 pm. Jim Lamb from Meadowbrooke Meat Market will be doing the BBQ, serving local omega-3 pork in a bun.

Offering local produce, meats, preserves, a in-store bakery, our famous homemade fudge and Just Us coffee including our new AppleBerry blend.

**UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP**



Ben and Melanie Blanchard and their daughter Abby, have deep South Shore roots and look forward to providing your family with fresh, local food, crafts and a fun, hometown experience.

**See you at the**



**Open 7 days a week!**

360 LAHAVE STREET, BRIDGEWATER

WINNER  
Angie Pearson  
Bridgewater Bulletin

Great layout, appropriate use of color and graphics on a green background. Headlines using apple graphic in background in conjunction with client's logo was very effective. Not too much clutter and professionally presented. I believe the objective of the ad was achieved in a professional manner.





**WINNER**

**John Gardner**

**St. Stephen Saint Croix Courier**

Gardner’s work consistently demonstrates outstanding composition. All of his photos are truly capturing and do very well in telling their own story.



**STANDING FINALIST**

**Keith Corcoran - Bridgewater Bulletin**

Corcoran has snapped some fantastic images. This is partly due to always choosing the best angles to shoot from.



**STANDING FINALIST**

**Daniel Martins - Miramichi Leader**

Martins work shows that he is able to shoot a wide variety of photography styles. By incorporating natural light in one instance, he has turned average into exceptional.



Housing: Search for answers leads to questions

**By Michael Gorman**  
The Yarmouth County Vanguard

People searching for answers to Yarmouth's housing problems might start at 10 Lewis Ave. There is nothing special about the building, which stands empty, curtains blowing through broken windows. It has the same signs in the window that are becoming all too familiar around town, saying the property is now under the watch of a property management company.

At first glance the building, which is assessed at \$89,500, looks to be nothing more than a place where things didn't work out. Property records, however, suggest otherwise.

In 2007, a mortgage of \$121,380 was attached to the property. The very next year when the property was refinanced, that mortgage went up — way up — to \$399,108.50, or more than four times the assessed value. In 2009, just one month ago, yet another refinancing shows the mortgage again back at \$121,380.

On its own, the situation would seem like an anomaly. But in looking through property records for the scores of empty buildings in Yarmouth now handled by property management companies, The Vanguard discovered a number of trends — and a number of properties — that suggest a new, less discussed element to the housing challenges facing the area.

The Vanguard discovered mortgages that far exceed assessed value on at least 50 properties it investigated. There are some common threads linking these properties.



Hard though it is to believe, this is what a property with a mortgage of \$399,108.50 looks like at 10 Lewis Ave. Michael Gorman photo

year later refinanced for \$245,655. And in May of this year, as the mortgage was refinanced again it was back to being listed at the 2007 value.

The assessed value of 7 Cumberland St. is \$70,000. The property carried a mortgage for \$217,660.50 in 2007. Also that year 45 Tooker St. had a mortgage of \$222,992.25. The property's assessed value is \$108,000. At 30 Brunswick St., a mortgage was obtained for \$217,660.50 in 2008. The property is assessed for \$116,900. Another large value spike can be seen for the property at 68 Main St., which is assessed for \$32,700 and in 2008 was mortgaged for \$129,420.

The more property records examined by The Vanguard, the more the trend of reoccurring names was observed. Names that appear as registered owners on some properties also appear as past owners on others.

Several other names appear less often, however they stand out just as much because the individuals are connected in various ways. In some cases they are related, in some cases they share a mailing address.

Such mortgage values would lead to very high monthly payments, further complicating the complaint some area landlords are making about their ability to keep up with their bills in the face of challenges related to their tenants.

As for whether or not mortgages that far exceed assessed property values also have something to do with rash of vacant and abandoned buildings in town, it's beginning to look as though that could be the case.



This property on 68 Main St. is assessed for \$32,700 and in 2008 got a mortgage of \$129,420.



This property at 189 Main St., assessed for \$59,100, received a mortgage in 2008 for \$142,222.30.

STANDING FINALIST  
Michael Gorman  
Yarmouth County Vanguard

Michael Gorman, who wrote the Yarmouth County Vanguard's series on local housing issues (including mortgage anomalies), showed his tenacity for industrious investigation of property records and an ability to look deeper into a story, thought the results left this reader a bit wanting.

His series on homelessness in Yarmouth, and his piece on a young girl trying to better her life, despite of her father's failings, are important stories that need to be told. And his choice and use of sources made the report even more compelling. Bravo!

Little miracle BIG surprise  
for Port de Grave couple

**By DENISE PIKE**  
The Compass

Juanita Stead of Port de Grave was rushed to Carbonear General on New Year's Eve for what she thought was a kidney stone attack — she left a few days later with a bouncing baby boy.

Stead, who gave birth to Nicholas George Stead at 12:31 Jan. 1, had no idea she was pregnant.

"This is some kidney stone isn't it," she says cuddling her newborn baby. "We're all still in shock. We just can't believe it."

Juanita and her husband Terry were at a house party on New Year's Eve when she started having back pain.

"I had some pressure in my back earlier that afternoon but it was nothing to be concerned about," she says. "However while I was at the party it got a lot worse."

By 9:30 the pain had escalated.

Fortunately for Juanita her brother-in-law Wayne Broughton of Broughton's Ambulance Service, Brigus was also at the party. He insisted on taking her to the hospital.

After some blood tests Juanita went for x-rays. The scan showed no evidence of a kidney stone.

"The technician looked at me and said, 'my dear you're pregnant with a full term baby,'" says Juanita. "And I said, 'no sir, you got the wrong woman and you're looking at the wrong screen. There is no way I'm pregnant. I can't be.'"

However Nicholas was about to prove his mommy wrong and he wasn't going to wait to do it. About six minutes after Juanita was taken to the case room he made his grand entrance into the world.

"Bum first," says Dr. Olealekan Akintola, who delivered the baby, "which is quite rare now. Babies that are born breeched are usually delivered by caesarean section, but there was no time to do



Denise Pike/The Compass

**SPECIAL DELIVERY**—Juanita Stead, her husband, Terry, and their two-year-old son, Cameron of Port de Grave welcome a new addition to their family, Nicholas George Stead was born 12:31 a.m., Jan. 1 at the Carbonear General Hospital. The baby, who weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces, is the first baby born in 2009 under Eastern Health Care Board and possibly the first in the province and country.

"The technician looked at me and said, 'my dear you're pregnant with a full term baby.' I said, 'no sir, you got the wrong woman and you're looking at the wrong screen.'"

— JUANITA STEAD, PORT DE GRAVE

this with this little guy, he was already coming."

Afterward Nicholas screamed and yelled for a few minutes before settling down with his mom and dad.

A short time later Terry called Juanita's parents Evelyn and George Petten, Port de Grave and his parents Evelyn and Lindsey Stead of Blaketown with the good news.

"When I told Juanita's mom she didn't have a kidney stone, but a baby instead, she told me to go to bed, she didn't believe me," laughs Terry. "And my mother told me to give up telling lies. They just couldn't believe it. It still hasn't sunk in for any of us yet."

Juanita is one of the rare women who continue to have a menstrual period during her pregnancy. She also didn't experience any morning sickness or any little baby kicks during the pregnancy.

**Earlier surprise**

This isn't the first time the couple, who have been married for five years, were caught off guard by a baby.

Juanita delivered their other son Cameron July 30, 2006 at home. While she knew she was expecting a baby at that time, Cameron arrived two months early.

"I felt like I had to go to the bathroom and out he popped, right into the toilet," says Juanita. "Terry actually scooped him out of the toilet and put him in my lap until the ambulance came."

Unlike Nicholas, Cameron was a very sick baby. Last year he had to have a bowel, liver and pancreas transplant.

"He's well now, but was far from healthy when he was born," says Juanita. "The doctors told us if we had any more kids they stood

Continues on Page A2

Guilty  
Mom admits  
murdering daughter  
to keep boyfriend

**By LISA BROWN**  
lbrown@southshorenova.ca

BRIDGEWATER — Karissa Boudreau's final words were "Mommy, don't," words the judge said should haunt the murderer for the rest of her life.

Penny Patricia Boudreau pleaded guilty to second-degree murder Friday in a Bridgewater courtroom.

She admitted strangling her only child because the 12 year old was getting in the way of her relationship with her boyfriend, Vernon Macumber.

Although the plea bargain reached by Crown and defence was for second-degree murder, the facts read in court revealed Ms Boudreau thought about the killing for days, carried it out, discarded her daughter's body and covered up her crime.

"Surely, Penny Boudreau, you can never call yourself mother in conjunction with Karissa's name again," Justice Margaret Stewart concluded.

Ms Boudreau, 34, entered the courtroom dressed in a black T-shirt and jeans,

sniffing and wiping tears. She sat through most of the proceedings, turning her chair so her back was to the courtroom gallery, occasionally rocking back and forth, using tissues offered by the deputy sheriffs who surrounded her.

She stood three times — to re-elect her method of trial and enter a guilty plea, to answer a series of questions from the judge to confirm



PATRICK HIRTLE PHOTO

Penny Boudreau returns from court after admitting she strangled her 12-year-old daughter, Karissa, last January because she wanted to save her relationship with her lover. She was sentenced to life in prison for second-degree murder with no chance of parole for 20 years.

that guilty plea, and when she was sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole for 20 years.

According to an agreed statement of facts which Crown attorney Paul Scovil read to the court, Ms Boudreau and Mr. Macumber were having issues they blamed on Karissa in January 2008. Mr. Macumber gave Ms Boudreau an ultimatum to choose between him and her daughter.

On the afternoon of January 27, Ms Boudreau took Karissa for a drive. She stopped at the Sobeys parking lot around 5:30 p.m., bought juice and bacon, and called Mr. Macumber indicating Karissa was not in the car when she left the store.

See GUILTY, A4

WINNER

Lisa Brown - Bridgewater Bulletin

Lisa Brown of the Bridgewater Bulletin does everything a good newspaper editor is looking for in a journalist. Her writing is clear, clean, concise, and moved the story forward, making the reader want to read more.

Lisa's year-later follow-up stories on the tragic murder of young Karissa Boudreau, aside from being extremely informative, were at times written in a style worthy of a crime novel - a good one.

The same can be said for her series on Steven Hall.

And Lisa's involved features on Lunenburg Harbour fisheries officers made this landlubber further appreciate the hard work of these dedicated professionals. So, here's to another dedicated professional - Lisa Brown.

STANDING FINALIST  
Denise Pike: Carbonear Compass

Denise Pike of The Compass shows a penchant for stories that cover important social issues. Her initial story on the "miracle baby" - which was picked up across North America - was made better two weeks later when she went back to look at the fallout, both positive and negative.

Her Meals on Wheels piece, and her story on eating disorders, made a good use of statistics and provided valuable information to readers - often more than once. Nice work





PHOTO BY JIM DUMVILLE  
With Hartland Fire Department Chief Mike Walton at the wheel and Deputy Chief Fred Roberts in the front bucket, a backhoe is used to carry Riverbank residents through the flood waters surrounding their homes Sunday afternoon.

**WINNER**  
**Jim Dumville**  
**Woodstock Bugle-Observer**

This photo forcefully captures the plight of people as they are rescued from floodwaters that engulfed their homes. The unique mode of rescue makes for a light moment during a major disaster. The photo is framed with enough environment to give us visual context as to the extent of the flooding.



**STANDING FINALIST**

**Kent Burton - Grand Falls Windsor Advertiser**

This photographer was in the right place at the right time to capture this moment of drama at the fire. The crumbling building, as the firemen look on helplessly, shows the destructive force of this fire in a very visual manner.



**STANDING FINALIST**

**Charlene MacKenzie**  
**Sussex Kings County Record**

Sometimes events happen and a news photographer has to move fast to get to the location as it all unfolds. This photographer moved quickly enough to get photos mere minutes after an altercation. The photo captures the tense moments of this frightening event.



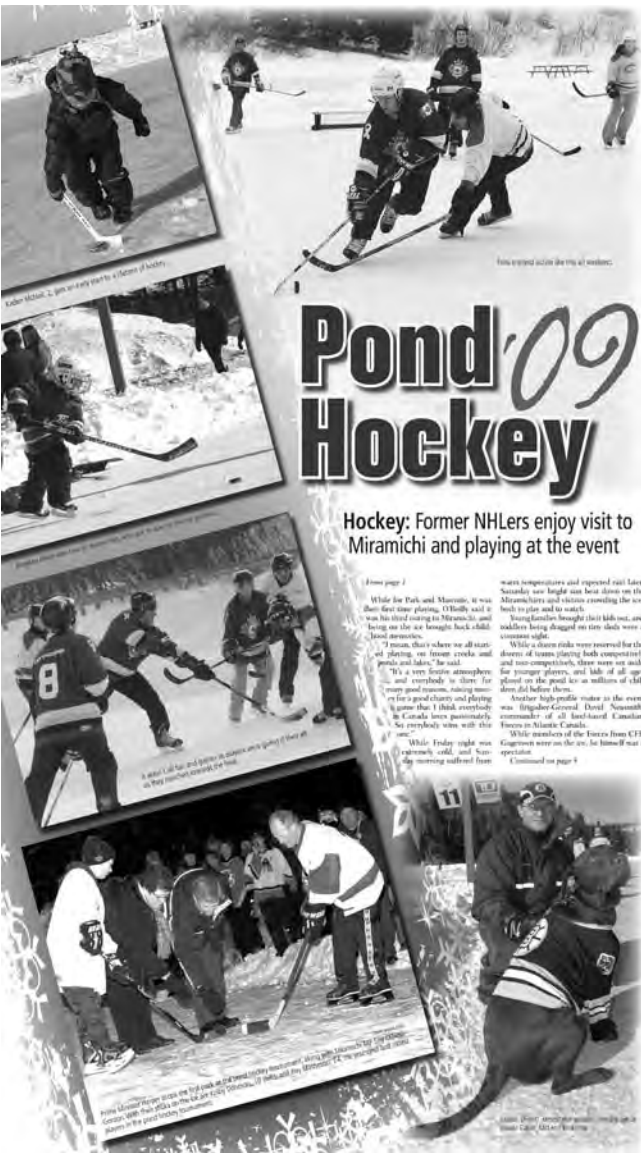
WINNER  
Anne Assaff  
Miramichi Leader

It's clear a lot of thought went into the design of this eye-catching spread. The clever layout (a play on a roll of film) and attention to detail (judicious use of the drop shadow, the snowflake motif in the background) made this entry stand out. Even the choice of colours seems well planned, so the page doesn't clash or become overwhelming to the eye.

Also, the design of the headline says "fun", which is an entirely appropriate thing to do with light copy.

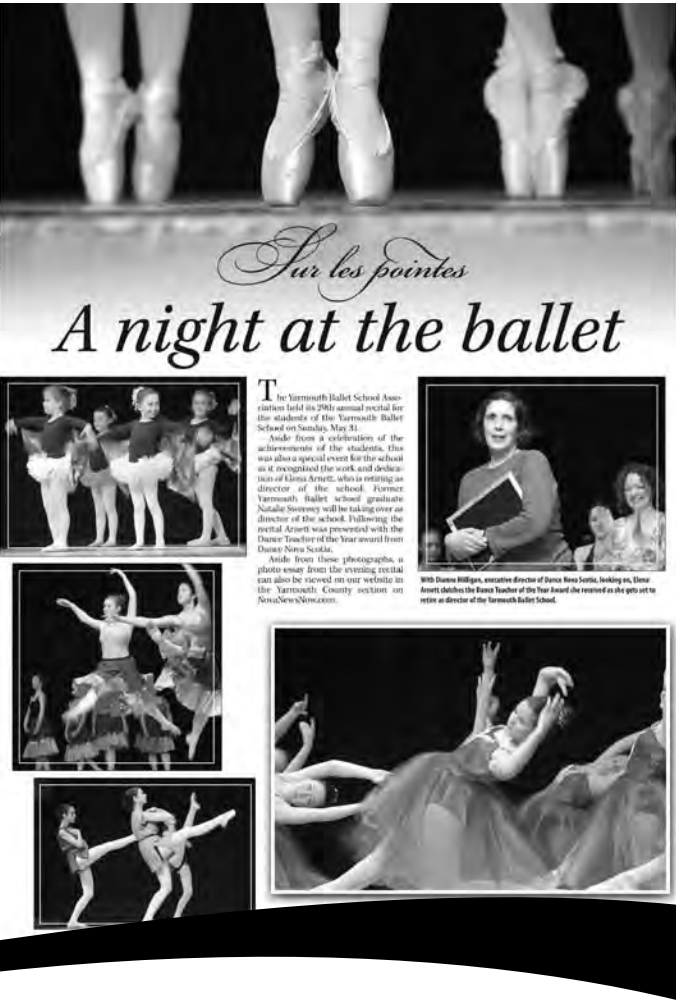
STANDING FINALIST  
Tina Comeau and  
Crystal Turne  
Yarmouth County Vanguard

A clean, simple layout can be very powerful. This spread, in black and white, doesn't try to do too much and as a result comes off looking clean and sharp. The decision to anchor the spread with a shot of the dancers' feet showed original thought.



STANDING FINALIST  
Chuck Brown  
St. Stephen  
Saint Croix Courier

The effort put in by the designer is obvious. I like this page because it goes way beyond the standard "photo, cutline and headline" offerings that are all too often on display in newspapers across Canada





Her body lies over the ocean...

Why haven't the remains of a Canadian daughter "of some prestige" been returned to rest with her family in a Kings County cemetery?

By Charlene MacKenzie

**H**AMMONDVILLE—For more than 90 years, the sun has shone the grass has grown, the leaves have fallen, and the snow has lain over Gladys Winifred Fowler's grave in Hammondsvale.

But she has not been in it.

Just close to a century, the body of the 15-year-old has rested not in the earth of her native land but in a vault at Kensal Green, a historic cemetery used by British gentry since the 1850s. Her body was deposited in the catacombs beneath the Anglican Chapel at Kensal Green Cemetery on a temporary basis, but remains there to this day.

The Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery, a volunteer organization involved with the historical cemetery, want to know why the body of the Canadian daughter "of some prestige" was never returned to Canada. It's an international mystery.

The cemetery group has a copy of Gladys Fowler's death certificate, which indicates her father, George William Fowler, was present at her death, which occurred April 17, 1917 at Berens Hotel in London. His rank is listed as Lt. Col., 15th Battalion, Canadian Infantry.

The Gladys Fowler mystery was discovered only after the cemetery attempted to write another mystery. The catacombs contained two packing cases reputed to have been sent from India by someone so the coffin within could be buried in Kensal Green Cemetery, but without funds or further instructions.

"I am not sure how the India story developed, but it was certainly in valid currency until a few years ago when the General Cemetery Company opened both cases to establish the identity of the remains," said Harry Smith, chairman of the Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery.

"For many years we were led to believe the packing case contained a coffin sent from India and never claimed. The case was opened some years ago and the depositum placed on the lid of the coffin were revealed the identity of the deceased," explained Susan Hoffman of London, magazine and website editor for the Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery.

A search of cemetery records revealed the caskets deposit in the catacombs with the intention presumably being to return Gladys to Canada at the end of the First World War.

"We have two coffins in the catacombs which were enclosed in packing cases for onward transport but which, for reasons we are still trying to discover, never left again as intended," said Smith.

The other packing case contained the coffin of a 14-month-old American girl who died of influenza in 1919 while her family was in England.

repeatedly to avoid creditors in the United States.

Whether Gladys was in London visiting family, attending school or for medical reasons is not known. Berens Hotel in London, where she died, closed its doors in January 2004 in a refurbishment and is reopening this year.

Smith sent along a copy of Gladys Fowler's death certificate discovered in England as cemetery associates tried to trace how the young woman came to mysteriously rest in a Kensal Green catacomb.

"She appears to have suffered greatly," he told the *Kings County Record* in a small correspondence.

The death certificate indicates her cause of death as a combination of heart disease and illness over a period three months.

"Another mystery is why she was not in hospital at the time. Had she come to England to visit her father, and been taken suddenly and finally ill or was she here for medical treatment?"

Smith found information on the funeral director who carried out the necessary arrangements in 1917 and noted the coffin is of good quality.

"We would be very interested to know why Gladys was never taken home after the war," said Hoffman, herself a native of Canada with family in Saint John.

**Military clues**

Descended from New York Loyalists, George Fowler was a hammer at law and served about 21 years in federal politics as a Conservative. He also served in the military, ending up in Britain during the First World War after enlisting in his mid-50s in Sussex in 1916.

Conscription records for the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force indicate George William Fowler, born in "Hammond Vale," was declared fit for military service.

On his application, he indicated he and his wife Ethel lived in Sussex, and that he had 20 years of military service with the 15th Hussar Regiment.

He signed on as a lieutenant-colonel in the 10th Overseas Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, which was absorbed about a year later into the 15th Canadian Reserve Battalion.

Curiously, he listed his religion as "pagan," an unusual hold during his time on a military application at that time and place.

What happened between the date he enlisted for military service, Feb. 21, 1916, and his daughter's death, 11 months later, is not known.

Back home two months after the death of his daughter Gladys in London, George William Fowler became someone for Kings and Albert counties June 29, 1917, serving until his death on Oct. 2, 1921.

During these years he owned several

businesses along Main Street in Sussex. The Sussex fire of 1923 claimed 80 businesses, houses and outbuildings including, according to an article in the *Weekly Record*, "Senator George Fowler's brick block on the south side of Main Street."

As is often the case in records dating back a century and a half, there are inconsistencies in dates for George Fowler. Several records state his birth date as Feb. 24, 1859, but on his conscription he gave his birth date as Feb. 24, 1861. His death date is listed in some records as Sept. 2, 1921.

Here buried in the Hammondsvale Community Cemetery, where a modern granite memorial bears his name, and those of his daughter, his wife Ethel (1874-1936) and a son, Eric MacLeod Fowler (1900-1930).



Above: Gladys Fowler's elegant coffin was discovered crated for shipment in a London vault. Below: This monument marks the site of her intended burial with her Hammondsvale family.



Kensal Green Cemetery "Who's Who" burial ground

**L**ONDON, UK—Kensal Green Cemetery is on a 29-hectare site in west London, bordered on the north by Harrow Road, where there are two gates in daily use, on the west by Scrubs Lane, on the east by Ladbrook Grove and the south by the Grand Union Canal.

According to the historic cemetery's website, "the General Cemetery of All Souls, Kensal Green, was the most fashionable burial ground in Victorian England."

It had its beginnings with London burier George Frederick Gaden (1798-1874), who saw "commercial potential" in creating secure, grassy landscaped cemeteries for the middle and upper classes in suburban areas.

"Through the help of influential committee members in the 1830s, the new type of cemetery was finally launched."

More than 170 years later, the same is often the case which, according to the cemetery's website, usually

conclude with tea and biscuits at the "Dissenter's Chapel," where the Friends' site in west London, bordered on the north by Harrow Road, where there are two gates in daily use, on the west by Scrubs Lane, on the east by Ladbrook Grove and the south by the Grand Union Canal.

In early July, the Kensal Green cemetery holds an Open Day with tours of the cemetery and catacombs including a specially tour such as "The Great and the Good" and "The Do-Well's."

On that day the cemetery takes on a village fair atmosphere, with a lot of Gothic music and culture shown. Visitors may see people dressed in period costume riding penny-farthing bicycles, view horse-drawn carriages or attend an outdoor concert.

One British journalist described it as "a cross between a market, a gig by the lake and a village fête."

For more information on the Kensal Green Cemetery, visit [www.kensalgreen.org.uk](http://www.kensalgreen.org.uk).

STANDING FINALIST  
Katelin Dean - Woodstock Bugle-Observer

These stories – an initial news report and follow-up – turn a spotlight on the spending and governance of the Woodstock First Nation. Solid, detailed reporting that presents both sides of the story make this a fine investigative piece.

WFn Band under review

Woodstock First Nation's spending habits questioned

By Katelin Dean

Tensions boiled over at the Woodstock First Nation on Tuesday afternoon as a pair of band residents showed up at the band hall demanding answers for the chief and council.

"There's the chief," screamed Valerie Polchies, one of the frustrated band members, as Chief Jeff Tomah headed towards his truck. "Ask him questions."

Polchies found out on Tuesday morning that she was ineligible for the band welfare she had applied for Aug. 22. She had entered the band hall to ask council for a copy of social services guidelines. She admitted she acted out of frustration.

"I'll get that to you when I want to," one of the councilors screamed as Polchies and her sister – Sally Polchies – exited the building.

Chief Tomah told the Bugle-Observer on Wednesday the Polchies sisters "staged" the event. He did not appreciate the media showing up unannounced.

"People want to shove cameras in people's faces, they'll (the cameras) be seized and people's vehicles will be seized and I'm not threatening, I'm promising," he said.

Tomah's wife attempted to take a camera from a Bugle-Observer reporter after he took a photo of Tomah walking away.

In terms of what Polchies was looking for, the chief explained, the social service guidelines are available from the Department of Indian Affairs or from the band council office.

"The same individual that's asking – asked two years ago for these documents and we had them ready for her and she never picked them up," Tomah said.

"She's more than welcome to have copies of it, to have copies of manuals and copies of different policies."

"If you're not entitled (to welfare), there's rules," he said. "There's got to be rules to maintain some kind of peace and order."

"I won't put up with (her methods)," Tomah continued. "That's totally unprofessional."

"If you want to deal with issues, there are ways to deal ... that are respectful, mindful and courteous," he said.

The issue Tuesday, is that someone wasn't entitled to social," Tomah said. "They were done working, and they



WINNER  
Charlene MacKenzie  
Sussex Kings County Record

It was a mystery more than 90 years in the making. How did the remains of New Brunswick teenager Gladys Winifred Fowler, who died in England in 1917, wind up neglected in a London crypt? Charlene MacKenzie decided to find out, and her investigation attracted international attention and ultimately led to the return of Fowler's remains. Thorough research, engaging writing and a commitment to see the story through to its conclusion make this the best investigative piece of the year.

STANDING FINALIST  
Michael Gorman - Yarmouth County Vanguard

In this well-researched, two-part series, Michael Gorman puts a human face on an urgent but neglected problem in a small Nova Scotia town – homeless youth. The stories explore the extent of the problem, the reasons young people are on the streets, and what needs to be done to help. An excellent example of public service journalism.

By Michael Gorman  
THE VANGUARD  
www.vanguard.ns.ca

**T**onight, just like any other night, at least 30 people in Yarmouth will not know where they are going to sleep. That number is a conservative count – some people suggest it could be as high as 90.

Many of them are teenagers.

The problem is not a new one. In fact, members of local service groups have tried for years to get government officials and the community to acknowledge that the area has a homelessness problem and work towards finding a solution.

Today, those same people hope they might finally have a way to do it.

Representatives from local community groups have come together to form a group called Supportive Housing with Youth Focus Team (SHYFT).

Krista Morris of the Tri-County Women's Centre is a member of the SHYFT committee. She says the plan is a follow-up to a needs assessment that was conducted in the area several years ago. That needs assessment showed that not only is there a lack of support

systems and options for young people, there is also an issue with homelessness and lack of resources for people with no place to go.

"There are kids that do sleep outside," says Morris. "Just because they're not sleeping on Main Street – and we keep going back to couch surfing – but there are kids that are sleeping in parks, abandoned buildings, in cars; that is going on around Yarmouth."

Morris says the next step for SHYFT is to engage area youth on the matter. But Morris says young people tend to be skeptical about something happening now because there have been so many starts and stops on the subject in the past.

They are hoping that, with change as there becomes greater awareness on the matter.

The group is participating in the annual Raising the Roof campaign in an attempt to highlight the issue in Yarmouth. At this Saturday's Mariners game, toques will be on sale as a fundraiser for the national campaign to help homelessness.

Awareness is still the biggest problem. How do you convince a small town that prides itself on being hospitable and friendly that they have a problem with homelessness that extends from young to old people, especially in a town where, more often than not, people don't have an easy time talking about that area's shortcomings, much less addressing them?

"The kids, the girls, the adults, they're coming to us on a regular basis and we're just not able to help them," says Jeff Purdy, the person who oversees the youth centre on Queen Street and the executive director for the Split Rock Learning Centre. "It's affecting the community as a whole. (By) solving this problem it's going to improve the image (of the area) as a whole."

Purdy says people who don't think the area has a homelessness problem are kidding themselves.

"People have to understand that the

A SPECIAL REPORT



THIS IS NOT A PHOTO OF A HOMELESS PERSON IN YARMOUTH.... But it is a photo of a homeless person huddled under a pile of blankets to keep warm as his socks and other items of clothing are left to dry. People interviewed for the story on this page say Yarmouth has between 30 and 90 people, many of them teenagers, who do not know where they will be sleeping each night. So far a scene like this one has not yet become common in downtown Yarmouth. The photo was taken in a city on the west coast. (D.A. Taylor/CP Press)

Homeless in Yarmouth

From 30 to 90 people said to be not knowing where they'll sleep

homelessness we're dealing with (includes) people sleeping on their friends' couches," he says. "You're having kids up to 10 people, renting apartments and all pitched together but it's a bachelor pad ... and it only lasts a month until the landlord comes and sees what's going on and kicks them out."

"I think the town has to be brought up to speed on what's actually happening. Sometimes, it's not the fact that they deny it, maybe it's just that a lot of (people) aren't informed on what's actually going on."

In addressing that challenge, Bernadette MacDonald, coordinator of the women's centre, says there have been talks with the mayor and at least one councillor. MacDonald says she was pleased with the initial conversation and hopes to soon be able to make a presentation to council.

"They're keen," she says. "They want to hear more."

When that time comes, MacDonald is likely to say what people such as Morris and Purdy have said for some time: the town needs emergency beds for people with no place to go and it needs a long-term plan for young people where

Continued on page 7

People who don't think the area has a homelessness problem are kidding themselves.









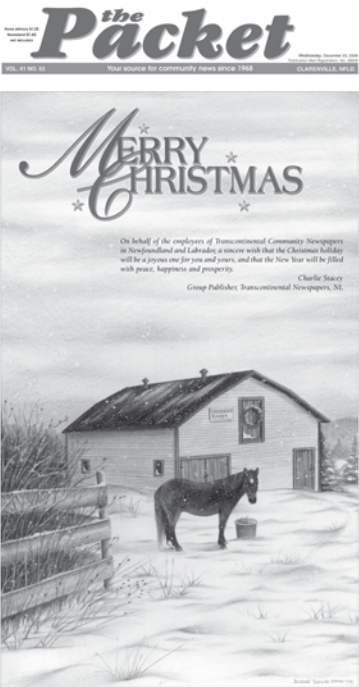


Best Christmas Issue

Congratulations to the winners and all the newspapers for very good entries. Atlantic Canada can be proud to have so many newspapers which go the extra mile to publish Christmas issues loaded with stories celebrating the season.

WINNER  
The Northern Pen

Was the most complete. It had it all from local stories, plenty of photos and a good presentation.



STANDING FINALIST  
The Packet

Good job! It was heartening to see newspapers continued to publish news in their Christmas edition. The news does not stop at Christmas! Over the years, I've read too many entries which publish only Christmas stories. Good job to all!

STANDING FINALIST  
Bridgewater Bulletin

Proving you did not need to publish "Letters to Santa" to be an award winner. Their package of local stories shone above the other newspapers.

This category is sponsored by:

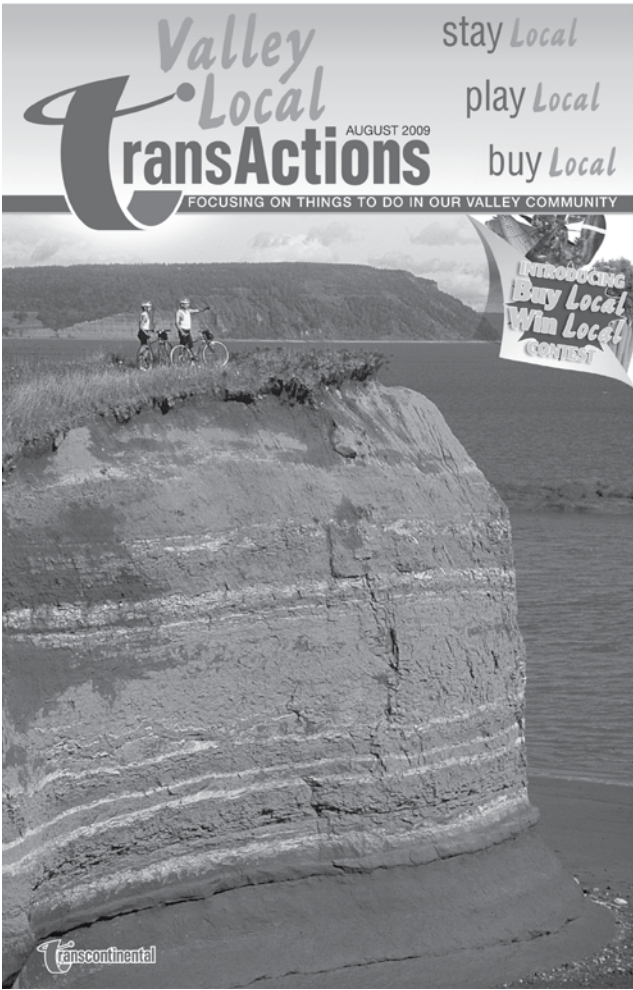
METRO



Best Special Section

WINNER  
Kings County Register

Enticing readers with contests, area map and description of things to do and places to go. Excellent layouts of ads, vibrant colors within the section on the ads and one of the best centre spreads on a participating merchant 10 week contest we have seen.



STANDING FINALIST  
Gander Beacon

There were a tremendous amount of ads that were created especially for this special five day event. Pictures of famous people shaking hands with locals was a nice touch in this section .



STANDING FINALIST  
Bridgewater Bulletin

A very unique idea, upgraded newsprint stock, excellent use of color, well laid out section with picture and stories about the South Shore.





## PAGE 24 | 2010 BETTER NEWSPAPERS COMPETITION



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 Come in to try the all new  
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 THE NEW ADVANCE  
 Home delivery \$1.14  
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 For reservations call 466-7911  
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**the Packet**  
 THURSDAY May 21, 2009  
 Publisher: Mai Registration No. 28599  
 VOL. 42 NO. 21  
 Your source for community news since 1968  
 CLARENVILLE, Nfld.

**ON BOARD THIS WEEK**  
 With prayers and miracles  
 Brant Dodge fought his way back from the end, taking family and friends on an incredible medical and spiritual journey.  
 See story page A2

**THE ROAST BEEF WAS GREAT**  
 "The cook looked around on hearing my involuntary exclamation of delight and after a moment's pause said, 'If you say so I'm damned well about this. I'll kill you and then your car will be the next'."  
 Victor Pittman writes page C4

**Taking shape**  
 The work looked around on hearing my involuntary exclamation of delight and after a moment's pause said, 'If you say so I'm damned well about this. I'll kill you and then your car will be the next'."  
 Victor Pittman writes page C4

**Take a peek inside the progress on Clarenville's new recreation and arts centre.**  
 See story page B1

**Quishing up lobster**  
 While the current low price of lobster is not news for fishermen, it's certainly a boon to the consumer.  
 Joan Over writes page C8

**Notthin' wrong with baymen**  
 Baymen's wife takes a shot at female zero.  
 See story page C1

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**  
 "This is a prime example of Clarenville's strong reputation because we never could about it." — Errol Babin.  
 See page A2

**Transcontinental**  
 VISIT OUR HOME SHOW - SUNDAY, JUNE 7  
 Fantastic Home Show Specials  
 CABOT HOME CENTRE  
 466-7824  
 "Great service, competitive pricing always"



This ice iceberg is as ready to topple over as these old houses. *Clarenville Packet*

## NURSES ON STRIKE

### Local hospitals enact contingency plans

**BARBARA DEAN-SIMMONS**  
 WITH ELLA HODGSON'S ASSISTANCE

Surgical services will be affected and the number of medical beds will be reduced, but most all other services will carry on as usual at the G. B. Cross Memorial Hospital in Clarenville during the nurses' strike.

Collette Smith, director of resident and patient care, Clarenville and fleuveville, told the Packet on Friday that outpatient appointments with family practitioners and specialists will carry on as scheduled.

Laboratory and x-ray services will also continue.

All PA's, stress tests and heart monitoring will go ahead, and all physiotherapy, speech therapy and occupational therapy appointments will also go ahead.

Chemotherapy appointments will also continue as scheduled.

"So the main impact on services is the surgical services area," she says.

The surgery schedule will be scaled back by half. Who gets scheduled for surgery will depend on assessments by physicians in prioritizing which patients need to be seen.

Most urgent cases will be seen first, says Smith.

"Any elective that can safely wait, will wait. But if the physician deems they cannot wait, we will go ahead and do those cases," says Smith.

The hospital at Clarenville has 28 medical beds, notes Smith, and four of those will be closed.

"If we do need to open those four beds, we will, but we are hoping to keep them at 24."

Please see page 7

**NO VISITORS ALLOWED!**  
 Norwalk Virus hits Clarenville hospital

**BARBARA DEAN-SIMMONS**  
 WITH ELLA HODGSON'S ASSISTANCE

As if they didn't already have enough to contend with as they were preparing for a strike by nurses, staff at the Dr. G.B. Cross Hospital in Clarenville are also contending with an outbreak of the Norwalk virus.

Starting last Tuesday the hospital has had a strict "no visitors" policy to prevent the spread of the virus.

Collette Smith, director of resident and patient care, says some people are just not hearing the rules.

"We are having great challenges getting people to respect that policy," she said Friday.

"The visitors are still coming into the hospital, they're bypassing through the back corridor and coming up onto the unit, and questioning their ability to visit us not visit."

Smith says the only way to prevent the spread of this virus is to limit contact between people.

Please see page 11

**TURNING ON THE TAP**  
 Isthmus towns get water/sewer dollars

Now it's a matter of calling for funds.

Come By Chance, which has been testing water treatment since early spring, will receive \$1 million towards the project.

In neighbouring Summerside, \$2.2 million will go towards filtering the water and sewer system in that town.

The money comes from both federal and provincial coffers, with each town chipping in, and was announced last Thursday by Windsor Finance Minister and municipal affairs minister Diane Whalen.

"We're quite pleased — we weren't expecting to get that much," says Brenda Munro, town manager of Come By Chance. Her town will spend \$114,000 on the project.

They've been trying out a new water treatment system for two months. The membrane technology filters water through a semi-permeable membrane, and takes care of turbidity and heavy metals in the water.

"It's made a huge difference to the filters," she says.

Please see page 11

**Wanted: Doctors**  
 Chamber steps up recruitment of family physicians

**EMERITATION**

Clarenville is stepping up efforts to recruit physicians, led by local businessman Keith Rodway.

Rodway is chairing a commission of the local chamber of commerce to attract family doctors to the area.

"The chamber can't be a bunch of mumbo jumbo," says Rodway. "Number one, first and foremost as citizens in this community, we want to ensure that our residents have access to health-care. The second reason is it makes good business sense to have good medicine in the area. It attracts people."

Please see page 2



## STANDING FINALIST

### Staff

### Miramichi Leader

Miramichi Leader for placing an ad with a pair of bare legs beneath an editorial photo of a choir director shot from the waist up. Very funny!



**South African night introduces the locals to new food, music**  
 By Laura Macleod

The dinner was a success for the church and the community. The food was well received and several of the guests were in search of the recipe at the end of the night, which were available for a small donation which was to help fund a mission in their country.

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The Miramichi community choir dressed in traditional attire as they participated in the dinner. Photo: The Miramichi Packet. Photo: The Miramichi Packet. Photo: The Miramichi Packet.

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## STANDING FINALIST

### JoAnn Sooley

### Grand Falls-Windsor Advertiser

Grand Falls-Windsor Advertiser, in its "A look back..." feature, reprinted some restaurant coupons circa 1986 and some customers tried to use them. This is a great story for the salespeople to use with clients to show the Advertiser is very well-read!

**Mary Brown's WINTER SPECIAL**

**\$3.49 DINNER SPECIAL**  
 Offer expires January 31, 1986.  
 Our Dinner is 3 pieces of Golden Fried Chicken and a generous serving of French Fries. With this coupon only...  
 Not redeemable for cash. Limit one coupon per customer.

**\$3.49 Mary Brown's Fried Chicken.**

**\$7.59 9 PIECE SPECIAL**  
 Offer expires January 31, 1986.  
 Treat your family to 9 pieces of Golden Fried Chicken at this extra special price...  
 Not redeemable for cash. Limit one coupon per customer.

**\$7.59 Mary Brown's Fried Chicken.**



**WINNER**  
**Barbara Dean-Simmons - Clarenville Packet**

Any bit of inattention can lead to public and very sometimes very embarrassing errors. There were not a large number of entries in this category - it appears Easterners make far fewer errors than the rest of the country.

The Packet takes first place for a large front page headline that reads, "NURSES ON STRIKE." After sending the issue to the printers on Monday, but before its Thursday distribution, the nurses and government reached an unexpected agreement and there was to be no strike. In the next edition's editorial, editor Barbara Dean-Simmons touched on the error and used it as a starting point in taking the government to task for exacerbating the situation. Well done for making the best of an imperfect situation and taking it all in stride!



Gridiron offers alternative path for St. F.X. star

by Corey LeBlanc  
corey.leblanc@stfx.ca

When Kwame Osei receives his X-ring next month, it will be a milestone he would never have envisioned just a few years ago.

It's certainly a long way from being held at gunpoint.

"To this day, I still don't know how I came out alive," Osei said.

The fourth-year St. F.X. student-athlete has also been stabbed, sustaining wounds to his chin and right eyebrow.

"I've seen people dead on the ground from knife and gun violence," he added.

Osei said he has had several "near death experiences" growing up.

"They all add up and let me know I am here for a reason."

Osei grew up in Rexdale, a neighbourhood located in the northwest corner of Toronto, in an area where young men are often as likely to spend time in jail as finish high school and for not getting a university degree could be just a dream.

"It has one of the highest percentages of violence and gang activity in Canada," the 5-Men football hybrid back (half fullback, half receiver) said of his hometown.

Unlike many young people in his neighbourhood, Osei had a mother and father at home, who loved him and taught him "right from wrong."

Nevertheless, Osei started down the wrong path growing up, finding role models in those who patrolled and often controlled the local streets.

"I started to follow my friends and do what they were doing."

"It was like a lot of kids who emulate what they think may be cool," Osei added.

In Rexdale, Osei said young people see the drug dealer who has a nice car, lots of money and girls by his side.

"There are so many young people who have no other role models, who say they are going to be like him," Osei said.

With those people to look up to, Osei said he and his friends often had lowered expectations.

"Growing up, I didn't think I would ever be in university. I didn't think about anything past high school."

"Just went to school because my parents made me go. I stayed in school but I skipped a lot," he added.

adjusting everything he learned growing up in Rexdale – would not happen overnight. Maturity and focus did not come easily, Osei admitted. Little did he know much of the change in his life would take place in small town Nova Scotia.

**Wake-up call**

"The funny thing is when I came on my recruiting trip I said there is no way I am coming back here," Osei laughed, describing his attitude as a "Toronto mentality."

"I lived in Montreal as well so I was used to the big cities."

"I went to the [Piper's] Pub and wondered 'what the heck is this?'"

Osei described the entire experience as a "culture shock."

He added his now X-Men teammate Akem Foster, who also made the recruiting trip, "loved it."

"He was preaching to me about coming here. He was on board from the first day," Osei said.

At the time, Osei was sure St. F.X. was not going to be his next stop. He was considering offers from UBC and Concordia, along with options from a couple of NCAA Division II schools.

Still undecided, a conversation with a former high school teammate (and former X-Man) Travis Noel helped change his mind.

"He said we should go to the same school. He convinced me



Kwame Osei has been a key contributor to the X-Men football team's offense and special teams for the last four seasons. (Emery Gbadosou photo)

mortality made him think God was watching over him.

"It made me realize I was supposed to be doing something with my life."

Through it all, Osei said friendships, including with his roommates (and teammates) Cauchy Muamba, Kwasi Nkansah, Jonathan Hood and Henry Muamba, helped a great deal. He started going to church more and changing his way of life.

From there Osei became more focused athletically and academically.

Osei also switched to X's human kinetics program.

"I started to realize I needed to be about more than just a football."

"I don't want to be just a football player. I want people to see me as more than that," he added.

**Maturity and devotion**

The changes in Osei since his arrival at St. F.X. have not gone unnoticed.

X-Men football head coach Gary Waterman described his veteran player as a "fine young man."

"It is nice to see how much he has matured as a person," the first-year head coach said.

Waterman added Osei's development and maturation is what coming to a university such as St. F.X. is all about.

"I believe the very nature of a university like St. F.X. allows for individuals to find themselves, grow and become better citizens."

Waterman said Osei is a giving person who has become a community role model.

"He has been involved in numerous charitable events and has devoted countless hours towards helping others."

St. F.X. director of athletics and recreational services Leo MacPherson said he has witnessed Osei's development as a student, an athlete and a person.

"St. F.X. has provided him a platform to test and enhance his skills and talents both on and off the field and he has taken full advantage of it," MacPherson said.

The X athletic director said Osei has excelled in a number of roles, including as co-chair of the school's varsity athletes' council. Osei is also one of the creators of X Athletes for Charity, a group of student-athletes who host annual fundraisers.

**Going home**

When he returns to Rexdale, Osei said he focuses a great deal of his time working with children, including talking to students at his former elementary school.

"I try to help them out and to have an impact on their lives. They are probably looking up to people who are like my cousin or me when I was young."

"I want to show them there is



Fourth-year X-Men football wide receiver Kwame Osei says his student-athlete experience at St. F.X. University has helped change his life. (Corey LeBlanc photo)

more to life. There is more than just what happens on the streets of Rexdale that they can be part of," he added.

Osei suggested young people from his community can relate to his story.

"Even if I am able to touch one student, it will be worth it," he said.

Back home, many of his childhood friends are gone – victims of violence or spending time in prison. For those who remain, he soon realized he had to change the people in his circle of friends.

"It was hard at first because they were my friends. I still talk with them, but I realized I could

not hang out with them.

"It's okay now. I have a new group of friends," Osei added.

**Honouring Gilbert**

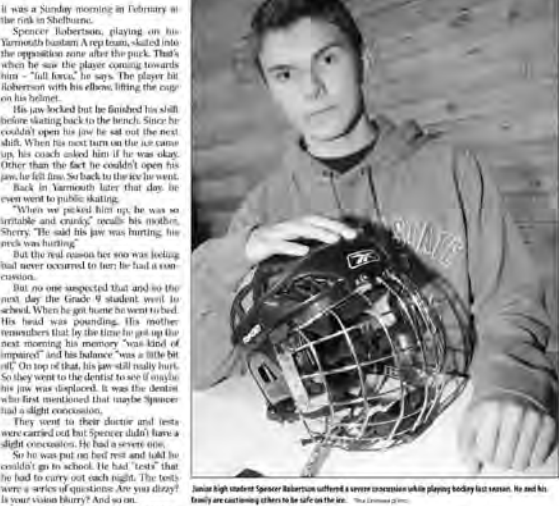
After graduating this spring, Osei hopes to get a shot at playing in the Canadian Football League. If that doesn't happen, he would like to spend a year travelling in Europe or start work on his education degree.

"I want to teach and coach or do something fitness related."

"I don't know where I will end up, whether it is back in Toronto or not, but I know I want to work with young people and help as much as I can in my community," Osei said.

Wherever he ends up or whatever he does, Osei will carry his cousin Gilbert's memory

By Tina Comeau  
tina.comeau@stfx.ca



Junior high student Spencer Robertson suffered a severe concussion while playing hockey last season. He and his family are cautioning others to be safe on the ice. (Tina Comeau photo)

"The doctor labeled him as that point: severe concussion, mild brain injury," says his mother.

So the question asked was how did he get hurt?

"The doctor said if he was wearing a helmet with a cage, how could an elbow make contact with his face?" says Sherry Robertson. They had the helmet with them and Spencer put it on. The doctor told the cage right off his face and said, "What protection do you have now?"

The problem? The hockey player wasn't wearing the helmet properly.

"The thing I tell kids in hockey is the same rule of thumb we tell them with bicy helmets. If when you strap your jaw the helmet doesn't move on your head, the strap under your chin is too loose," explains Dr. Gordon. "If by dropping your jaw you pull the helmet on your forehead even an slightest, then the jaw strap is exactly where you need it to be."

"What happened with Spencer was the helmet came off his head because the chin strap allowed the helmet to pop up off the head at the moment he needed it to be there for him," the doctor adds.

A concussion is an injury to the brain. Not a structural injury, but a functional one, says Dr. Gordon. So with a concussion you experience memory loss, dizziness, early on nausea, double vision.

"You get into difficulty reading, sleep disorders, trouble reintegrating into school, getting overwhelmed and easily irritable," adds the doctor. "These are all early symptoms."

And if they're not picked up and acted upon, they'll persist. Dr. Gordon says he's treated players in various sports, not just hockey, who have been suffering from a concussion for months or years because it was never treated. Or they've never recognized what is causing their discomfort.

"All of a sudden they feel bad, they're not happy, their school performance is off, and they don't know why," says Dr. Gordon. "They haven't put two and two together and linked it to the initial hit, or often they

**Quick GLANCE**

A quick test to see if the chin strap on your helmet is where it is supposed to be at the proper tightness. Grasp your chin (lower jaw) as wide as possible without moving your head. The top of your helmet should pull down. If it does not move, the strap is too loose.

with him. When he receives his X-ring, it will be engraved with his cousin's initials.

"I hope one day I can go to his kids and tell them about the impact he had on my life. I want them to know their father was a good man, even though he did a lot of bad stuff. He loved his family and tried to take care of them," Osei said.

When he goes home, Osei said he makes sure he visits Gilbert's grave. He fills his cousin in on what's going on in his life.

"I want to make him proud. I don't think I have succeeded yet, but when it is all said and done I think I will reach that goal," Osei concluded.

STANDING FINALIST  
Tina Comeau  
Yarmouth County Vanguard

Comeau put it all out there – the definition of a concussion, the effects it has on people, and the sheer danger any concussion, mild or severe, can cause an athlete. Strong quotes and an interesting young man drove this piece. Athletes and non-athletes alike would get something out of reading this story. Great job!

WINNER:  
Corey LeBlanc - Antigonish Casket

This one grabbed me right away and although it could have been trimmed because it ran a bit long, LeBlanc's writing style and the subject matter afforded him an ease with which he was able to pull off extra paragraphs without harming the overall piece. An excellent, informative read!

STANDING FINALIST  
Angele Cano - Enfield Weekly Press

I liked this one because it celebrated a young athlete whom it seems will continue to set new goals and break records. Good writing and nice photos. Congratulations!

Dedication, training, sacrifice  
all part of Cormier's success

**LANTZ** by Angele Cano

Record breaking is one of the best things an athlete could hope for. Imagine doing it at 12-years-old. James Cormier of Lantz set a new Nova Scotia Provincial Record swimming the 50 metre butterfly. At 0:30.41 seconds, he set a record that hadn't been challenged since 2001.

The time he achieved in the 13 and under category on Oct. 21, qualified him to attend the age group nationals for long course swimming to be held in Winnipeg in July 2010.

"It feels great; there are not a whole lot of words to describe it. You've got to work hard for it, so it's (rewarding) to be able to say I broke a Nova Scotian record," said James Cormier, who is in Grade 7 at Newbridge Academy in Sackville.

Newbridge Academy is an elite sports school in Sackville. The school allows him to work his with curriculum and sports schedules. He also plays hockey



James Cormier of Lantz stands with his surplus of awards received in the Nova Scotia V Swim Program. This is his second year in the program and already, he has broken a Nova S provincial record swimming the 50 metre butterfly on Oct. 21. Left: James Swimming the but at the East Coast Championship in PEI, March 2009. (Cano photo)



James Cormier of Lantz stands with his surplus of awards received in the Nova Scotia V Swim Program. This is his second year in the program and already, he has broken a Nova S provincial record swimming the 50 metre butterfly on Oct. 21. Left: James Swimming the but at the East Coast Championship in PEI, March 2009. (Cano photo)







I enjoyed reading the editorials and finding out what concerns we Canadians (West Coast and East Coast) have in common. For the most part the entries were of sound opinions and compelling arguments.

Enough with the H1N1

Are you scared yet? Have you boarded up the windows? Maybe you should go and buy a year's worth of canned goods and bottled water, if you haven't already done so.

The H1N1 influenza has cancelled sports, and, God forbid, cut down on the number of trick-or-treaters this past Halloween. Some people believe the world will come to an end 2012. However, unlike 2000, when we thought planes and satellites would fall from the sky when midnight brought in the new millennium, it looks like a flu could be our downfall.

There are precautions you can take to prevent the spread of germs, but is this new news? Did we just learn that washing our hands could prevent the spread of germs? Some parents may let their child go to school, but don't want them practicing with a sports team. What's the difference if they wear sweaty hockey gloves, or touch a doorknob or stair rail on their way to math class?

It seems that ever since 9/11 the world has been so easy to scare — so easy to sway. We see H1N1 as this apparent germ beast that's threatening to take over society, as if Godzilla itself was perched on top of Gander International Airport swatting oncoming planes with gigantic pig-fists.

The fact is, life must go on, and we can't go through life constantly thinking about H1N1. We don't stop leaving the house because we're scared of getting hit by a car. We don't stop playing sports because we're scared of breaking a leg. We don't stop hunting because we're scared another hunter will mistakenly shoot us. So why stop going to hockey practice because we're scared of contacting H1N1? If we were going to avoid everything that can make us sick or injure us, we'll panic and panic until the ol' ticker stopped beating.

People wait in lines for hours for a vaccination that hasn't been tested properly, yet we'll have unprotected sex when we know AIDS WILL kill us...not might...WILL, and yet we still have unprotected sex. Why don't health boards, and/or government ministers hold news conferences about that?

In 2006, it was estimated that 5.5 million South Africans were living with HIV. It was also estimated that 70 newborn children an hour were infected with the virus by their mother, and 45 infants died from AIDS-related causes every hour.

WINNER  
Matt Molloy  
Gander Beacon

"People wait in lines for hours for a vaccination that hasn't been tested properly, yet we'll have unprotected sex when we know AIDS WILL kill us. . .not might. . .WILL, and yet we still have unprotected sex."

In Canada, over 1,500 young people under the age of 19 were diagnosed with HIV between 1985 and 2005. It was reported in 2006 that as of 2005, 666 Canadians between the ages of 10-24 were diagnosed with Aids.

The Public Health Agency of Canada released information in 2006 stating that 58,000 Canadians were living with the HIV virus.

Sure, it's great to practice procedures that could limit the spread of germs, but washing your hands shouldn't be a new practice — it should have been something you started doing when you were high enough to see over the sink. Keeping furniture and office equipment clean is something people have been doing for years. Not going to work, or staying home from school when you're sick has been going on for many, many, many, years. We don't have to be reminded of this.

There's no reason to panic, and there's no reason to shelter yourself with a SARS mask and bottle of Javex. We'll shudder, and wash our hands with fear when we hear of a H1N1-related death, but hearing that Aids took someone's life makes us go, "That's too bad."

We couldn't take outside water bottles, not even toothpaste, on planes after 9/11, and now H1N1 is keeping people away from sporting tournaments, extracurricular activities, and treat-or-treating. So, what's next? Mandatory SARS masks when we take public transportation? Will police officers charge people who shake hands? Will the government issue pamphlets on how to cover your nose and mouth when you sneeze? Maybe we'll have to start wearing gloves like Michael Jackson...and people thought he was crazy.

CEWs should get a second look

Whether it's the public inquiry into the death of Robert Dziekanski at Vancouver's airport or the case of Stephanie Doucette who tried to attack her husband with a knife at the Sussex Mall, conducted energy weapons are a hot topic.

CEWs, most commonly known as Tasers, are lightening rods in the court of public opinion each time they are used by police departments across Canada.

So controversial are these tools of law enforcement, the Canadian Police Association and Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police stepped up to microphones recently to talk about misconceptions around CEWs. But in doing so they admitted Tasers have been used too often.

Meanwhile, RCMP commissioner William Elliott has said that CEWs should be used only in cases of "active resistance" or when cases involve threats to officers or public safety.

These admissions aren't exactly

ringing endorsements for the use of Tasers, which have been under intense scrutiny for some time. It does, however, leave the door open to placing these instruments and their use under an independent microscope, one free from outside influence.

Taking Tasers out of the hands of police officers isn't the answer though. With more demands of their abilities, officers of the law need all the tools necessary to keep Canadians and themselves out of harm's way. It's also a safe assumption that if faced with the choice of either staring down the barrel of a gun or the end of a Taser, most would choose the CEW. But it's also clear that a significant number of Canadians feel that staying the course isn't the answer either.

Tasers, like spell check on computers, can leave their users vulnerable to complacency, which is why the answer is not in a ban or in the status quo but somewhere in between, where the guidelines replace varying shades of gray with black and white.

STANDING FINALIST  
David Kelly  
Sussex Kings County Record

Making the news

It's shocking how quickly those of us who live in Newfoundland get tarred with the same brush whenever the seal hunt issue gets brought up.

The seal hunt, of course, was in the news a lot last week, because of the brave(heart — according to Peter McKay) actions of our esteemed Governor General Michaëlle Jean, who, while visiting Nunavut, helped gut a seal carcass and ate some raw seal heart with her Inuit hosts.

While it was a move that simply grossed out some people around the globe, it also raised the issue of the seal hunt versus other hunts around the world and what the difference is.

News comment sites were buzzing all week, with various views, many positive, many negative.

One thing that seemed constant was that people, especially the animal activists, wanted to clarify the difference between an Inuit hunt for seal and the East Coast commercial seal hunt, which is commonly but erroneously known as 'that barbaric Newfoundland hunt.'

It's a shame this issue has gone the way it has, with insults being hurled at us 'murderous souls' without a real discussion taking place about the issue at hand, the seal hunt. Opinions are flown left and right about the issue, often by people who have never been to Newfoundland or the Eastern provinces, and quite possibly by people who have never, ever lived in a rural setting, where the death of animals and livestock for food an accepted part of that life.

And while the seal hunt is an issue many of us have grown up hearing about, most of us really don't have a large stake in the issue, except for our reputations as Newfoundlanders.

For those who are against the seal hunt, but eat other kinds of meat, they seem to take issue with the point that the seal is only hunted for its fur.

That is a good point, especially in this day and age of reducing waste. It is a shame that years ago sealers and our government didn't realize this and at least attempt to utilize more of the seal than its fur. There is lots of good stuff in there and seal meat, so rich in nutrients and good oils, could have been a godsend to remote communities looking for opportunities to grow and prosper and perhaps this could have happened if more thought were put into the issue.

There are some activists we will never see eye to eye with, especially those who completely believe it is wrong, without a doubt, to kill animals for food or any other reason.

They have a right to their opinions, but it doesn't seem a logical argument for this planet. There will always be meat eaters. There will always be some people who choose to not eat meat.

It is great to discuss these issues but beware of discussing them with anyone who lumps us all in as a blood-thirsty race because of the activity which sustained our people and communities for centuries.

Elizabeth MacDonald,  
Editor, The Charter

STANDING FINALIST  
Elizabeth MacDonald  
Placentia Charter

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# Everywhere a sign

*"Sign, sign, everywhere a sign,  
Blocking out the scenery, breaking my mind"  
- "Signs," Five Man Electrical Band*

If the provincial government follows through with its plans, there will be far fewer signs on the sides of highways and byways in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The province wants to make signs in this province match what tourists see in other Canadian provinces, throughout much of the United States and in many other countries.

Gone will be the interesting and creative billboards beckoning tourists from home and away to the restaurants, craft shops and museums off the beaten path.

Those signs, many interesting and unique, will eventually be replaced by small, standard blue and white directional signs. Nothing else, no matter how far back from the side of the road, will be allowed.

As a first step, government intends to start removing signs that don't meet even the current, more lenient rules early next month. The province has warned those businesses and organizations, just like the song says, "you ain't suppose to be here."

When the government asked departing tourists a few years ago how their trip to the province fell short, the most common response was that signage was confusing and inadequate. Visitors said they had difficulty finding major attractions.

That seems to point to the need for more signage, not less.

The province claims using the standardized signage system will make signage more convenient and effective. It says the fingerboard style signs will be less distracting to drivers.

It is hard to imagine that a fingerboard sign with only a business name can be more effective than a billboard that can list location, distance off the highway, a telephone number, season of operation and more.

It is equally hard to understand how a tourist, or anyone else, could be less distracted by trying to decipher a dozen or more fingerboards gathered together than several large signs spread over several kilometres.

It's interesting to note that the fingerboard signs are administered through the provincial Department of Transportation and Works, and cost participating businesses a little over \$140 a year.

*"Sign said you got to have a membership card to get inside."*

Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador wants municipalities to adopt similar rules. But not all towns agree.

The Port aux Basques Town Council doesn't see anything wrong with the status quo. The consensus at last week's council meeting was that the new policy is misguided.

The town has to check into its own signs, including the one that directs people to the Bruce II Sports Centre.

As Mayor Brian Button told his fellow councillors, "we spend too much time trying to be like everyone else."

The province is right to enforce the rules currently on the books, but the idea of eliminating all but provincially controlled signage is too much.

*"Do this, don't do that, can't you read the sign."*

- Natalie Musseau

## WINNER

**Natalie Musseau**

**Port Aux Basques Gulf News**

This editorial is well researched and clearly written with a strong, well argued point.

# Co-operation will benefit region

Last week, the town council of Bishop's Falls gave the people of this area something they have been longing for since Dec. 4.

They came out with a plan of how to start to recover from the loss of the AbitibiBowater paper mill.

It was the first bit of real vision, real leadership and creative thinking any of us have seen since the announcement. And it has given some of us the feeling that at least there may be some hope.

Yes, Premier Williams' expropriation was a bold move, and boldness is something this province needs if it is to finally come out from behind the shadow of the Upper Canadians who have been telling us for 60 years we are a poor cousin. There is no indication, though, that there was any plan involved, though, beyond taking back the proverbial playground ball so another player can take it and run.

At least the leaders in Bishop's Falls are willing to put their ideas out there.

In the largest town in the region, the council has had discussions as to where to go next and insiders say there actually is some kind of a plan. Too bad no one has told the rest of us about it - the people who cast the votes so they could have some representation.

Bishop's Falls has gone through something similar to the mill closure before.

When the railway was shut down in the province in the last half of the 1980s, they saw one of the major employers move out - but the town survived.

Businesses were established in the town that provided employment and spin-offs, some which are still in operation today.

Mayor Jody Fancey and her council have suggested the province help with increased municipal operating grants and they have asked that benefits from power generated at the hydro facility in the town stay in the town, both of which are very reasonable demands.

One point contained in the Bishop's Falls plan is one that is the easiest and best idea any one has suggested since the closure was announced.

They want to work together with Grand Falls-Windsor.

It makes sense that the only way for the communities directly affected by the AbitibiBowater closure work together. They should take a page from the union songbook and adopt a "united we stand, divided we fall" attitude.

There should be an immediate gathering of the councils of the communities of the Exploits Valley to discuss what their ideas are to help the area survive what will be a period where negativity and darkness will abound.

The media has taken criticism for calling on elected officials to provide leadership and roll out plans, but that is what residents of this area need and deserve. They need someone to keep throwing torches to those on the path through this terrible time so we can see our way out.

Leaders must have several traits to be effective: they must have vision, passion, character, be team builders and learn to be great decision makers.

The town council of Bishop's Falls have shown they are able to lead - they have demonstrated they might have all of these traits. Hopefully they will be able to form a team with all of the other town councils in the Exploits Valley.

Their suggestion should not be looked on as a threat to the autonomy of any other community, but rather an opportunity to demonstrate true leadership.

The only way for the people of the Exploits Valley to survive and even prosper in the wake of the mill shutdown is to do it together.

David Newell

## STANDING FINALIST

**David Newell**

**Grand Falls Windsor Advertiser**

# True patriot love

Last week Antigonishers learned the community's fireworks celebration for Canada Day will not be occurring this year. Organizers stated the official reason for the cancellation is the construction of the artificial field at St. FX. leaves no appropriate venue for the colourful display. Fireworks at Columbus Field or Dr. John Hugh Gillis damages property at businesses and homes Mayor Carl Chisholm said.

He also said brief discussions were held with the county about a location but parking and fire risks left no workable alternative. The inability to find an appropriate location is disappointing but not as much as Town of Antigonish recreation director Tricia Cameron's comments on the situation. Charged with the organization of Canada Day celebrations, Cameron said, "I'm sure we'll get some reaction, but here's a thought. If somebody wants to react, let them come forward with another location."

Cameron's comments were short-sighted and flippant. Here are six locations that come immediately to mind.

Riverside International Speedway. Grandstands, concessions, parking and a fallout area make this location perfect for a town and county celebration of Canada Day. There could be family games during the day, a concert in the evening and fireworks to top it off.

The Antigonish Mall. There is a field for fallout behind the mall. Staging could be set up somewhere near the Visitors Information Centre. Parking could be toward the Canadian Tire end of the mall and at St. FX.

Saint Andrews Junior School and the Antigonish Education Centre. There is parking in the front, the new gazebo could serve as part of a stage and people could sit along the soccer field. Fireworks could be displayed over the fields beyond the school property.

Market Street area. Parking could be at Walmart, Superstore and Staples with a concert in front of Central and fireworks launched behind the store.

Mount Cameron Estates. Staging could be set up at the bottom of the new development and fireworks displayed over the Antigonish Harbour. Imagine the view from Williams Point and other areas. Parking could be at Bethany and along the upper portion of the development.

Reconsider the high school. Were residents asked for input? If the celebration took place at the football and baseball fields, would fireworks displayed above the soccer fields damage houses?

Were these six locations, or any others, considered and discussed between the town and county? If so, you would think they would have been mentioned so the public could see that an effort was made.

We are a few years removed from when the fireworks between the county and town were over annexation/amalgamation. Since that expensive debate was settled, the celebration of Canada Day, complete with pinwheels, Roman candles, Catherine wheels and sparkles, is one event that helps bring the entire community together.

While no one doubts council's or Cameron's patriotism, the lack of creativity in finding a solution makes one wonder if finances played a role in the decision not to pursue a location for a fireworks display. The town finished the year with a deficit of \$115,164 and county council was more than \$28,000 in debt. If finances were a consideration then council and town employees should have been open about the situation. Using finances as an excuse would have been easier to swallow than flippant remarks by a key organizer of the Canada Day celebration.

This year Antigonishers will celebrate Canada Day with a breakfast at the Legion Hall as well as a hypnotist, cake cutting, concert and movie night at Columbus Field. In the county there will be celebrations mid-day at Teasdale's Field. Yet, the events will lack the sparkle that comes with true patriot love. Next year let's hope the celebrations go off with a bang.



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## STANDING FINALIST

**Brian Lazzuri**

**Antigonish Casket**

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WINNER

Marilyn Puddicombe - Gander Beacon

This promotion involves carrier points which is a sure fire way to boost sales and put a real face to the paper. There is incentive for the carrier to increase their deliveries and get more ongoing pay for it as well as getting a prize. It also provides incentive to do more given the more points the better the prize. They had over 900 new customers and that's what any successful circulation drive is all about.

STANDING FINALIST  
Staff  
Enfield Weekly Press

This promotion was very much a community one involving a local hockey association – East Hants Minor Hockey Association. I was impressed by the creative approach to teaming up to sell subscriptions and giving back a portion of each sale to the hockey association. It was successful because it generated 187 new households to the paper. I thought the ad layout was clean and understandable. The Post it Note was great added support!

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## Minister's reputation IN TATTERS

There is a massive political target on the chest of Allan Campbell, and the Innovation Minister has no one to blame but himself.

To put it lightly, the last few weeks have been disastrous for Campbell. Either through misspeaks, misinformation or flat out misleading statements, the minister has seen his reputation tattered.

Most troubling for taxpayers' is the revelation the provincial government loaned Mariner Seafoods \$500,000 for crab processing. The issue is whether the loan violates the long contentious Polar Foods agreement with Ocean Choice International. If it violates the agreement taxpayers could be on the hook for millions.

Under terms of the Polar agreement government cannot offer support to competitors of Ocean Choice without offering similar support to OCI.

Ocean Choice processes crab, yet Campbell's department never informed OCI of the Mariner loan. The minister contends he has a legal opinion to support the department's contention the Polar agreement was not violated.

Legal opinions are like numbers; pay a lawyer enough and you'll get the opinion you want. All government has managed to do is rightfully anger OCI.

The deal with Mariner lacks transparency. Taxpayers wouldn't know it existed if a court hearing did not force its disclosure. The question now is what other loans are out there that taxpayers don't know about? What else is Campbell's department hiding? And remember just last summer OCI signaled its willingness to negotiate an end to the Polar deal. The company is still waiting for the Ghiz government to come to the table.

The minister's reputation further eroded over his now contested statements in the legislature that a new liquor store in Stratford would not cost taxpayers a cent.

Liquor Commission CEO Brooke MacMillan was ordered by the premier's office to take one for the team and impale himself in an attempt to save Campbell. It didn't work. Mac-



**Paul MacNeill**

*Against the Tide*  
paul@peicanada.com

Millan's clarification simply rings hollow.

Taxpayers will not only pay \$25,000 to break an existing lease with 7.5 years remaining, but we will also pay \$700,000 to renovate the new space. The cost for rent will annually be tens of thousands of dollars higher.

Add it all up, and Campbell's idea of no cost to taxpayers is laughable.

Then there was Campbell's insistence that the province is negotiating a new Provincial Nominee Agreement with the federal government. Again his public statements were wrong.

There are no negotiations. And more importantly the federal government has no intention of entering negotiations. It is still stung by the arrogance and idiocy displayed by the Ghiz government in its decision to ramp up the PNP program despite an order from the federal government to shut it down.

A pattern of misleading Islanders is emerging. What we don't know is whether it is intentional or whether Campbell is being led by his department rather than the other way round. Neither is acceptable.

If these issues had arisen while the legislature was sitting or even several weeks prior to the recent cabinet shuffle, it is possible that the Souris area MLA would have been on the receiving end of a cabinet demotion. As it is, he is lucky to still be in cabinet, albeit now with a significant credibility issue.

If he wants to stay he needs to elevate his game, because when ministers try to bluff their way through an issue it always has a habit of catching up with them.

*Paul MacNeill is Publisher of Island Press Limited. He can be contacted at paul@peicanada.com*

## WINNER

### Paul MacNeill - Montague Eastern Graphic

P.E.I. Premier Joe Ghiz may have had more finesse on the putting green than Paul MacNeill some 25 years ago, or so MacNeill writes. But these days MacNeill regularly takes the "quarters off" Ghiz and his government for its vision, programs, patronage and spending. MacNeill raises issues, questions decisions and reveals information that demand accountability and spark discussion not only around the cabinet table but also the kitchen tables across Prince Edward Island. This editorial writing champions the public interest and MacNeill is relentless and sets the bar high.

## Lighting a fire under a better Canada

The massively organized 2010 Winter Games Torch Relay, with all its gas-guzzling vehicles and commercial excitement, made a one-hour pit stop in Wolfville, delighting most people on a warm November day that seemed to prove the existence of global warming.

Feeling pretty cynical on my way to President's Field Friday, I ended up 50 per cent okay with the event.

Emcee Randy Ferguson, perfectly bilingual, initially sounded like a preacher pumping up the congregation at a revival meeting. He got the crowd roaring and told us all to create a better world, build a better Canada and a better Wolfville. Nova Scotia. There was lots of mom-and-apple-pie sentiment during the lead up to the arrival of the torch.

No question Wendy Beddingfield was a super choice to light the cauldron on campus, and O'Neal Blackman an equally good selection for the departure of the torch.

Ferguson kept asking, "Are you feeling happy?"

Well, happiness is obviously a bottle of Coke.

"Open up some happiness today," was the commercial message we received from talented Coke-sponsored drummers.

Then, we were told RBC was donating \$50,000 to Acadia University, but no details were given. Thousands of freebie plastic tumblers were handed; the crowd roared.

Are we an infantilized populace, defined by entertainment and the instant self-gratification of free soft drinks?

My impression of the longest torch relay in Olympic history? It is fundamentally bread

and circuses, with patriotic overtones. As best I can determine, the \$30 million budget for the relay comes from sponsorships, corporate partners and our various governments. That's not to mention additional local costs, like extra policing.

Meanwhile, social activists in places like Antigonish, who questioned the "here, there and every where torch run," were intimidated by RCMP. Jesse Campbell and Rachelle Enanga told CBC they had wanted to be provocative because they believe public money is better spent on housing and social programs than on sports infrastructure for the Olympic Games.

With demoralizing economic news in Canada and food bank use up 20 per cent, no wonder the government is happy to distract the populace. The irony is not lost on many advocates today. November 24, is the 20th anniversary of parliament's promises to end child poverty. Perhaps the torch run will make some forget their misery.

Premier Darrell Dexter, at least, got it right when he said recently, "in the long term, the most constructive and productive thing that we can do is actually find ways to break the cycle of poverty, move people out of the positions that they find themselves in, in order to be able to make better lives for themselves."

So the show on President's Field was fine and fleeting entertainment, but it should not be viewed as truly nation building. A better Canada ought to be a land where no one suffers due to grinding poverty, and not just a land where our athletes beat their previous Olympic medal count. One without a focus on the other only dupes Canadians.



**Wendy Elliott**

## STANDING FINALIST

### Wendy Elliott

#### Kings County Advertiser

Wendy Elliott's well-researched thoughtful columns are rooted in the community yet take the reader beyond the obvious. For instance, a glitzy stop in Wolfville of the 2010 Winter Games Torch Relay is a jumping point for Elliott to discuss real nation building and its connection to the eradication of poverty. In another instance, Elliott attends a posh public dinner featuring local food and wine and then discusses the politics of food and nutrition. Poverty especially among children raises the question that Elliott poses to her readers—how we use our wealth. Elliott is well connected to her Valley community—both past and present—and her columns inspire readers to civic action.

## STANDING FINALIST

### Fred A. Hatfield

#### Yarmouth County Vanguard

Whether it's from his hospital bed or the editor's desk, Fred Hatfield's columns draw you in with stories so conversationally written it is if he were in our living room sharing a cup of tea. A letter to grandchildren speaks poignantly about today's passing culture. Reflections about a recent murder case told through pictures from a family photo album. We're with him all the way. When medical staff at the VG told Hatfield that he is "a remarkable man," people who read his columns nod in agreement and add, he's a master storyteller.

## The Miracle Man among us

Here's the story. I'm writing this in the hospital. Near as I can tell I've been in hospitals in Yarmouth and Halifax for what, six weeks or so?

I came to days after having been airlifted to an intensive care unit at the VG in Halifax. Dr. Meredith Chausson—one of those, I've been told, that worked with feverish dedication to save my life—was standing over me saying, "You're a remarkable man."

I was confused, and frankly even with my ego I thought the doctor had come into the wrong room. Remarkable? Me? Huh?

The sensible one, forever by my side, through all this, smiled through her tears.

"What," I asked, "is it with all the doctors looking in here smiling?"

Right about then one of them, Dr. Phil Davis, I think, came by, and said something to the effect of,

"Well, I finally get to say hello to the miracle man."

Remarkable man?

Miracle man?

I looked at the sensible one again.

"Someone tell me what's going on."

"What do you remember?" she asked.

I thought for a moment.

"In a word—nothing."

Dr. Meredith soon fixed that.

"Do you want to wait a few more days, or do you think you'd like me to fill you in now?"

I said fill me in. I'm still trying to get my head around the story she told.

From the sound of things, it's probably a good thing that I can't remember. Despite the fact that I spill much of my life out through columns, I really am a private person. So I'll skip most of the details.

I had an operation, like I said last time I wrote, and lost my third organ. I went home and discov-

ered I still couldn't breathe. Collapsed. Back to doctor. Admitted and then in ICU in Yarmouth.

That's all I remember.

Our kids, their partners, and the grandkids flew home from B.C. It wasn't a pleasure trip.

With the life-saving support of a whole team of health professionals here in Yarmouth, plans were finalized to airlift me to Halifax. They tell me when I finally was bundled into the ambulance

and on the way to the Lifelight airplane at the airport, behind me I left caregivers who feared they would never see me again.

Apparently things went from bad to worse, and at one point in that long, first night in Halifax, Dr. Phil told my wife, "Your husband is the sickest man in this hospital tonight."

Sounds serious. At each turn, another machine and another medicine was added to the list keeping me alive. The point came when the sensible one had to make decisions: no spouse should ever have to make. Give him the clot-buster. Very, very risky.

But his only chance. I had already been resuscitated twice. If I arrested again within 10 minutes of the beginning of administration, they would do CPR one last time, but after that I'd be on a DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) order. She gave the permission. I didn't arrest. Time passed. And still, I was not doing good.

Basically, in the most advanced medical/surgical critical care unit in the province, they had almost run out of options. Dr. Phil told the sensible one they could try one more thing—a last resort. There was a catch. Docs didn't know whether I had suffered brain damage and the treatment carried its own dangers. Youngest daughter piped up, "Do you know if he has brain damage?"

No and we can't wait to find out, sensible one

was told.

The sensible one decided she wasn't ready to give up on me, and pointed to the message written on the board just inside the ICU's doors. It said, "When all reason has been exhausted, hope still remains."

Tense times for those who lived it. I'm the lucky one. I wasn't there. The last resort worked and by morning, apparently, I was responding to commands from the health team who had been working so hard to save my life.

I know that I'm here because of medical technology—the tests, the medicines and the machines were the tools used to save my life. But it is a community of health professionals who never stopped working to save me, even when the odds weren't in my favour, that earns my gratitude.

And sometimes, the care that meant the most wasn't at the end of a needle. It came with a smile, an encouraging word, the touch of a hand. Like one of my ICU nurses back in Yarmouth. Her name is Kathy Wilkinson and every shift that she cared for me was memorable. She began and ended each day with laughter and constantly reassured me that things would get better. She made me believe it was possible to recover. There's a lot to nursing—they need a lot of skills. She had all the skills, but it was the caring in her care that was so important to me at that stage of my recovery.

There is always a danger of forgetting someone when you start to say thanks. And there are so many who worked hard to keep me going through all of this. They were incredible and they are all appreciated. The recovery road is a long one and as I travel it, I'll hang up my pen—as they say in this biz—to concentrate on getting better.

So you won't hear from me for awhile. But I hope the day soon comes when you welcome me back into your homes, as you have done for over 40 years.



**Fred A. Hatfield**





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