

TownCryer

www.towncryernews.ca

Volume 2 Issue 5

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Trained assessors ready to help

Submitted by: Aaron Veinotte

Are you one of the 400,000 Nova Scotians who depend on private well and septic systems? The Environmental Home Assessment Program (EHAP) is a free, confidential service intended to help you properly maintain your well, septic system and oil tank. All you need to do is call Clean Nova Scotia at 1-800-665-5377 to request a visit from a trained assessor.



**Clean Nova Scotia EHAP Assessors
Mike White and Catherine Joudrey**

To qualify for a visit, you must have a private well and on-site septic system at your primary residence. We'll show you how to inspect your own well, oil tank and septic system to help ensure they are functioning properly. Plus, we'll discuss ways you can test your water quality and offer you water conservation tips which ultimately save you money.

During our visit we'll give you a voucher worth up to \$100 on your next septic tank pumping, a water quality sampling kit with water saving devices and a sample of an environmentally friendly cleaner. A grant of up to \$3,000 may also be available to those who qualify toward the

repair of a failed septic system. "Maintaining these critical, yet often overlooked, systems is not only important to the health of yourself, your family members and the environment, but it also saves you major financial and environmental costs in the long run," says Mike White, a Central region EHAP assessor from Clean Nova Scotia. The Environmental Home Assessment Program is province-wide and was developed by the Nova Scotia Department of Environment.

Paving project announced

Brookfield Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley MLA, Brooke Taylor, says the announcement of 8.5 kilometres of paving on Route 224 is good news for all Musquodoboit Valley residents.

"This is a significant project on one of the busiest and most important routes in the valley," says Taylor.

A tender was issued on July 16 for repaving on Route 224 from Trunk 2 in Shubenacadie south to Rte 277.

The tender closed on July 31 and Taylor says he expects the work is to be completed by October 31.

"Better roads and infrastructure are priorities of the Rodney MacDonald government," says Taylor. "We are well on track to achieving our goal of 2,000 kilometres of roadwork that we promised in the 2006 election campaign. We've completed 1,075 and will do another 425 kilometres this year."

Halifax County Ex: Aug. 13-16 (2008 theme: Celebrate Youth)

The Halifax County Exhibition has been part of the Musquodoboit Valley's summers since 1884.

This four-day event continues to promote agricultural awareness and, by combining old and new, will also continue to provide a family exhibition that attracts young and old alike.

Visitors to this year's Ex will enjoy livestock, horse & poultry shows; truck, horse and oxen pulls; flower, art and vegetable exhibits as well as a beer garden and cash bingo.

New this year is: Open Mic. All talented performers are welcome to participate. Please call (902) 384-2894 or (902) 384-2969 for more info or visit www.halifaxcountyex.com.

Wellness show

On Sept. 20, the 2nd annual Healthy Connections Wellness Show will be held at the Natural Resources Education Centre, 12014 Highway 224, Middle Musquodoboit, between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

To be included in the day's schedule are the following events:

- Guided nature walk 10:00 a.m.
- Informational talks on the following subjects:
 - ◆ Managing your Arthritis
 - ◆ Acupuncture
 - ◆ Water – Nature's Natural Medicine
 - ◆ Resisting a Healthier Life? Want to Know Why?
- Plus... info/demos on Aromatherapy, Naturotherapy, Detox Footbath, Massage Therapy, CranioSacral Therapy, Reflexology, Acupuncture, Chinese Medicine, Nutrition, Addiction Counseling and much, much more.

Lots of door prizes!! Admission: \$2. Funding in part by ESM Community Health Board. Phone: Sharon (902) 384-2948 or email healthlinks@xplornet.com

Local produce available at Co-Op

Submitted by: Musquodoboit Valley Co-operative Ltd. Board of Directors

The Musquodoboit Valley Co-operative Ltd. has a long history of buying local produce and supporting local member-producers. It is one of our founding principals since our beginning in 1938. After all, our store is owned by the member-residents of the Musquodoboit Valley.

If you are planning to sell vegetables or fruit (or any other product) through your local Co-op please be guided by the following:

1. We require several days' notice of your intentions including a description of the items for sale along with the approximate quantity.
2. Please follow the instructions of the store as to the preparation of the product.
3. All items will be on a consignment basis, i.e. you will be paid after the products are sold by our store.

Your contact person at your Co-operative is our manager, Michelle Smith. She will decide if we are able to handle your product(s). She may be reached at 384-2200.

Read The TownCryer online!

Visit www.towncryernews.ca to view past issues. Subscribe to receive your FREE monthly email copy or pick up a copy at: J&J's Country Diner, Reid's Restaurant, Horton's Convenience Store or Haverstock's Pharmacy.

TownCryer donations

The TownCryer is grateful for the generous donations received from the following people: Councilor Steve Streach, the Musquodoboit Valley and Area Business Association, and the anonymous donation left at J & J's Country Diner.

Helping hand

The Musquodoboit Valley Tourism Association extends a sincere thank you to Councilor Steve Streach for his recent donation of \$2,500. This money will be used for maintenance, flag installation, and the continued success of The TownCryer.

Sale and auction

The Middleton United Church, Middle Musquodoboit, is organizing a sale and auction to be held on Aug. 2 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Church.

Some of the items at this event include: garden produce, fancy work, fudge, baked goods, crafts, toys, furniture, and more. Donations gratefully accepted.

The auction begins at 10:30 a.m. with the larger items auctioned first. Also, there will be a canteen available with the following on the menu:

- Hot dog and drink \$1.50
- Hamburger and drink \$2.00
- Cheeseburger and drink \$2.25
- Sandwiches \$1.00
- Juice and water available.

If it rains, the sale and auction will be held inside the church.

Boots

Be sure to drop by 8412 Hwy. 224, Upper Musquodoboit to check out our shop. We have a wide selection of rods, reels, ammo, scopes, live bait plus much more! New stock every second Friday. Gift certificates are now available. For more info, please contact: 568-2426.

Free Internet listing!

The Musquodoboit Valley Business Directory is your on-line resource for everything business-related in our Valley. More than 250 listings already and still growing - including business profile, contact name, email address, and a link to your web site (if you have one). If your Valley business is not yet listed, click the FREE LISTING button and submit your info today!
www.musquodoboitvalley.karsibgraphics.com

Thank you

The Middle Musquodoboit Cemetery Corporation wishes to thank the following people for their thoughtful and generous donations to assist volunteers with the ongoing maintenance and improvements to the Pioneer and Hillside Cemeteries in Middle Musquodoboit. Thanks to: Barb and Chip Taylor, Mary Cook, Lewis Hartlin, Hazel and Ken Reed, Goldie Dickie, Edna Benvie, and Debbie and Joe Fraser

Anyone who would like to donate to the cemeteries can mail a donation to:

Middle Musquodoboit Cemetery Corporation
Attention Treasurer, P.O. Box 17,
Middle Musquodoboit, N.S. B0N 1X0.

All donations are greatly appreciated and no donation is too small. Thank you.

Spring Fling a success

The Musquodoboit Valley Education Centre Home and School Committee extends a huge "thank you" to all members of the community and local businesses who supported the 2008 MVEC Spring Fling. It was a huge success, raising more than \$2,300. Everyone's contributions are greatly appreciated.

Also, thanks are extended to Jim Reid from the MVEC Home and School Committee for donating 16 dozen cookies for the Elementary School Field Day that was held in June.

Dance

There will be a dance for those 19 years and older in Meagher's Grant on Sept. 27 to raise money for the Musquodoboit Valley Education Centre Home and School Committee. Music is by DJ: Craig Cole. The good times start at 9 p.m. and carry on until 1 a.m. Admission: \$7 per person. Ph: 384-3071 for info.

What's cookin'?

The brand new Musquodoboit Valley Education Centre Cookbook will go on sale this fall. Students will be taking orders sometime in September or October. Copies will also be on sale at the Festival of Trees in time for holiday gift giving. Phone 384-3071 for info.

Marital bliss

On Aug. 17, Tom and Dana Parker, of Middle Musquodoboit, will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. Congratulations and lots of love Mum and Dad, from Chris, Jocelyn, Dylan, Logan, Kim, Garth and Parker. Family and friends are invited to join us in celebra-ting this joyous occasion by dropping by with their best wishes to their home on Aug. 23, starting at 4 p.m.

Family reunion

The children of Mrs. Dorothy Day, of Chaswood, wish to announce their family reunion on the August 1st long weekend. We would like to invite our extended family and all the friends we grew up with to join us on Aug. 2 in the afternoon. You will find us at the old homestead on McFetridge Road.

Farmers' market

Join us at the Railway Museum, Musquodoboit Harbour, on Sundays between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. from now to October.

The Musquodoboit Harbour Farmers' Market has received wonderful support from the following groups and individuals: Seaside Business and Tourism Association, The M.H. Heritage Society and Railway Association, Councilor Steve Streach, the Honourable Bill Dooks, Musquodoboit Harbour and District Lions Club and Taylor Tim-BR Mart.

For more information, please call: Dee: 220-9114 or email: mhfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Big Bike Ride a Big Success

The Musquodoboit Valley Lions Club wishes to thank all riders and their sponsors for making a successful Heart & Stroke Big Bike Ride on Sunday evening July 20. We raised nearly \$2,400. Congratulations to the riders!

Congratulations

On July 1, Musquodoboit Valley band, Stoked, performed at the North Woodside Community Centre Canada Day Idol Contest. From the 23 performers, Stoked was included in the top six to go on to the second round of competition. When the judges and audience votes were counted, Stoked secured third place, earning the band \$200 and a trophy. Congratulations, guys!!

Exhibition highlights

The following is a brief glimpse of a few events scheduled during this year's Halifax County Exhibition.

Wed. Aug. 13: 4H Day, Children's Day and Bracelet Day (until 10 p.m.)

Street Parade: Kicking off the Exhibition, line-up begins at the end of George Street at noon. The parade route travels around the square, arriving at the Exhibition Grounds around 1:30 p.m.

Grand Opening: 7:30 p.m.

Corporate Hay Roll Event: 8 p. m

Thurs. Aug. 14: Bracelet Day until 10 p.m.

Main Ring:

Draft Horse: 4-in-hand (two breeds): 5 p.m.

Draft Horse: 4-in-hand (two breeds) driving: 5:45 p.m.

Horse Pull: 7 p.m.

Entertainment Stage:

Princess Talent Show: 7 p.m.

Fri. Aug. 15: Bracelet Day until 10 p.m.

Main Ring:

Draft Horse: 6-in-Hand Percherons: 6 p.m.

Princess Crowning: 7:30 p.m.

Truck Pull: 8:30 p.m.

Show Ring 2:

Junior Ox Pull (ages 10 – 16): 7 p.m.

Hay Toss: 8 p.m.

Sat. Aug. 16: Bracelet Day until 10 p.m.

Main Ring:

Champion Ox Pull: 6:30 p.m.

4 Wheeler Pull: 8 p.m.

4 Wheeler Obstacle: 9 p.m.

Show Ring 2:

Children's Parade: 3 p.m.

RCMP Dog Patrol/Take Down: 7:30 p.m.

Visit www.halifaxcountyex.com for a complete schedule of events.

Volunteers needed

The Halifax County Exhibition Committee is looking for volunteers to fill positions during Exhibition week. There are many jobs to fill and all help is appreciated. The Ex is a community event that takes a lot of work and commitment. To help make this event a

continued success, please call (902) 384-2894 or (902) 384-2969 to volunteer. Come out and join the fun!

Visit the Lions Booth at the Ex

The Musquodoboit Valley Lions will continue to serve delicious Octoberfest sausages and hot buttered corn as they have for the past 30 years at the Exhibition. Thank you for your patronage in the past and we look forward to serving you in the future. Soft drinks and water also available.

The Boys

Victoria Dickie, of Meagher's Grant, submitted the following poem in memory of Ed Lorraine: a former Minister of Agriculture and a friend of the Halifax County Exhibition. This poem first appeared in a newspaper clipping from the early 1900s.

Four brave, brawny boys – and our fond foolish hearts
beat high in their joy and their pride; Four treasures
immortal entrusted to us to rear, to guard, and to guide.

It was ours to fathom the gifts of each mind; To study
the depths of each heart;

And discern if we could the labour of life that Mother
Nature designed for their part.

We pondered it long; but 'twas settled at last that our
Henry a preacher should be. Our John, you could see, for
a lawyer was born, And our Joseph would make a M.D.
But, the forth was so quiet and shy in a way, It was hard
to decide about him.

And we needed his help, so we said with a sigh "We'll
just make a farmer of Jim."

So the three went forth from the farmyard gate to the
kingdom of books to toil. To delve in scholastic lore –
while Jim, he delved in the farm's rich soil.

From the pages of Nature's books, from the blossoms,
the birds, and the bees, from the soft green earth and the
changing skies, from the mountains and the surging seas,
he learned a deeper meaning of life;

Learned its scheme and its scape, sublime and in realms
that brood in solitude; Learned the needs of the soul
divine.

Unfettered by rule of measure of school his mind looked
up from the soil. His thoughts grew broad as the
universe and deep in the things of God.

And the people came and besought our Jim his
knowledge to impart; And he spoke with a simple
eloquence that comes from a human heart.

They searched out this son of toil and said that the
nation's need was his steady brain, and sturdy heart, and
his honour in word and deed. They came from near and
they came from far and they wouldn't take "no" from

him. They crowned him with title, position and fame. They made a statesman out of Jim.

The years have gone by and I sit and sigh o'er the fate of the children three,
For the world's been unkind to the lawyer born, and the M.D. and the LL.D; I think of their stress-filled, struggling lives,
Then I think of Jim – and I thank the Lord that we had the sense to make a farmer out of him.

And the winners are...

This spring, the Royal Bank of Canada, Middle Musquodoboit, encouraged elementary school children to participate in a poster contest themed: *When I grow up...*

Ten-year-old Jalmar McGinnis, of South Section, completed the sentence with, "When I grow up, I want to be a web site designer because I've always liked going to Webkinz and YTV so I thought of becoming one."

Nikole Hawkins, of Middle Musquodoboit, also ten years old and a student at the Musquodoboit Valley Education Centre, was the other declared winner. She completed the sentence with these words: "When I grow up, I want to be a pet store owner because I really love animals."



Mrs. Keddy's students at MVEC, Middle Musquodoboit, Jalmar McGinnis and Nikole Hawkins, proudly display their winning RBC posters.

Relocation! relocation! relocation!

Effective July 18, Tidy Bubbles Laundromat has moved from its location at 10 Elm Street to new spacious digs located across from Reid's Restaurant (previously the Archibald Drilling and Blasting Building). Tidy Bubbles is also under the new Management/Ownership of Craig Henley.

Anne Dillman, past Owner/Operator, would like to thank everyone for their past support. "This business is one that has proven necessary and is appreciated by many families in the Musquodoboit Valley. I hope everyone continues to support the Henley family in their new undertaking and shows as much respect for his premises as they did while visiting ours."

For your convenience, the hours of operation remain the same (9 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily).

From the Cruiser

Local beaches

With the hot humid weather there is nothing better than a quick dip or a full day at the beach with family and friends to enjoy the summer. It is our responsibility to keep these areas protected and clean for all to enjoy.

Since the start of our beach weather, the RCMP Halifax District - Musquodoboit Harbour / Sheet Harbour / North Central have been patrolling the coastal areas, beaches and waterways along the Eastern Shore. It has been noted that some of our beaches are being abused and utilized for inappropriate and illegal activity in the day and night.

Some things to remember when attending the beaches:

- Collect all garbage and place it in a receptacle. If one is not available, take it with you to discard.
- Do not throw bottles or garbage in to the water; this is dangerous for swimmers, boaters and marine life.
- Do not break bottles on the beach and, if at all possible, purchase plastic bottles or cans for your beach outings.
- Respect others. There are small children and families enjoying the beach who should not have to listen to foul language and inappropriate behaviour.
- Alcohol is not to be consumed in public and the beach is a public place.
- Underage drinking and possession of liquor is illegal.

The RCMP will continue to actively patrol these areas and will be enforcing the Criminal Code, Provincial, and Municipal violations that are observed or reported.

Bicentennial Theatre presents...

Morgan Davis, with special guest Dave MacIsaac, takes the stage Aug. 17 at 2 p.m.

For nearly four decades Morgan Davis has been on the road traveling across Canada, the United States and Europe. His performances draw from a rich tradition of country blues, as well as his own contemporary songs infused with wit and a large dose of humour.

Over the years he has had the privilege of opening for Willie Dixon, John Lee Hooker, Albert King, John Hammond, Albert Collins, and Eric Bibb. A highlight of his career was backing the phenomenal Dr. John. Morgan has shared the stage with Colin Linden (who also produced his second album), James Harmon, Gene Taylor, Sue Foley, Ray Bonneville, Carlos DelJunco, and the late Dutch Mason.

His most recent recording, *"At Home In Nova Scotia"*, pays homage to Atlantic Canada where he has been a resident since 2001.

See you in church

Over the summer, churches throughout the Musquodoboit Valley combine their services. All church services begin at 10 a.m.

Aug. 3: Provincial Picnic Park

Aug. 10: St. James', Meagher's Grant

Aug. 17: St. James United, Upper Musquodoboit

Aug. 24: Middleton United Church, Middle Musquodoboit

Aug. 31: St. Paul's, Antrim

Holy Cross Catholic Church, Elmsvale - Service begins at 9 a.m.

Wittenburg Baptist Church, Wittenburg - Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. Worship begins at 11:00 a.m.

Middleton United Church news

The Middleton United Church, Middle Musquodoboit, requires an organist starting in September. This position could be shared. Please call the Church office at 384-2520 and leave a message if you are interested or have any questions.

A second Lay Representative to Truro Presbytery is needed to represent this pastoral charge. Please contact the chair of the Official Board, Cees Verboom (384-2605) or your minister, Marjory (384-2614). A big "thank you" to Sandi MacLachlan for her many years of service to the Presbytery.

A Joint Congregational Meeting needs to be held in September so that Truro Presbytery representatives from the Pastoral Relationships Committee can form a Joint Needs Assessment Committee to review the present pastoral charge profiles. This action is a request from Presbytery and is carried out every three years.

An Appreciation Night for retiring organist, Carole Bates, of Middle Musquodoboit, was held on July 12 at the Middleton United Church. Members of the community and the congregation thanked Carole for her many years of dedicated service.

Upcoming events

Aug 2: Middleton United Church Summer Sale & Auction - Middleton United Church, Middle Musquodoboit. Yard sale 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Auction begins at 10:30 a.m. Hotdogs, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, sandwiches, pop and water will be for sale. All proceeds from this event go to the upkeep of the Middleton United Church. Contact: Ross 384-2039.

Aug 9-10: River Oaks Golf Club Four-Person Texas Scramble - River Oaks Golf and Country Club, Meagher's Grant. This event is a fundraiser for the Musquodoboit Valley Lions Club and Musquodoboit Valley Tourism Association. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used by the Lions and MVTA to support community projects. If you want to participate, or wish to purchase an advertisement for your business on a golf pin flag, please contact Lion Alvin Blades at 384-2477.

Aug 13-16: Halifax County Exhibition - Exhibition Grounds, Middle Musquodoboit. Contact: Lorne Thiemann, Tel: 384-2700.

Aug. 17: Morgan Davis with special guest Dave MacIsaac appearing at the Bicentennial Theatre, Middle Musquodoboit. Showtime: 2 p.m. Admission: \$10

Aug. 23: Free Concert at the Bicentennial Theatre, Middle Musquodoboit, featuring Bill Stevenson Showtime: 7 p.m.

To have your upcoming event included in the next issue of The TownCryer email info@towncryernews.ca or phone: 384-2751.

Deadline for submissions: Aug. 15.

Mobile public library

Information provided by Mobile Public Library brochure

Saturday Aug. 2, 16, and 30

10:45-12:00 Middle Musq, Haverstock Pharmacy

1:30-3:30 Middle Musq, Haverstock Pharmacy

Thursday, Aug. 7 and 21

10:45-12:30 Middle Musq, MVEC parking lot

2:00-3:30 Middle Musq, Valley View Villa

4:50-7:30 Middle Musq, Haverstock Pharmacy

Thursday, Aug. 14 and 28

11:00-12:15 Upper Musq, school parking lot

2:10-4:00 Dean, Sharon Presbyterian Church

5:30-7:15 Upper Musq, Fire Hall

Contact: 1-800-565-4414 to request materials.

Community history

This month, The TownCryer is featuring the community history of Mi'kmaq culture in the Musquodoboit Valley, which was compiled in 1983 as part of the bicentennial celebrations.

Records dealing with a specific name of family are scarce, but we do find evidence of their existence in the Musquodoboit Valley from the Memorials of the Rev. John Sprott, published in 1906, which are composed of edited portions of letters and notations collected by Rev. Sprott's son, George.

Page 80 specifically enumerates the life of the Native as civilization began encroaching on his domain. Rev. Sprott described them as good neighbours, truly an original people, strongly marked in their features, and totally different in their habits and manners from any people ever seen. He considered them of fine principles, mild disposition and very honest.

Rev. Sprott wrote of their courteous, gentlemanly ways and their fierce pride in their life. He sympathized with their worries as ploughed fields destroyed their gravesites, cleared woodland drove their game away, and diseases such as measles and smallpox took their toll on the Mi'kmaq tribes.

Few records exist to tell us just to what extent the local Mi'kmaq aided the early white settlers of our Valley of the Musquodoboit, but it is most likely that were it not for their guiding hand, many settlers would have perished of starvation, disease, or simply given up the struggle to settle this land had they not had the Mi'kmaq people to show them how to exist in this wilderness of the 1700s...

Contrary to the early European opinion that the Mi'kmaq people of Nova Scotia were a savage, uncivilized race of people in the 17th and 18th centuries, the native people had a well-organized, structured type of tribal hierarchy in which all aspects of life – food, housing, government, medicine, religion, language, education, etc. were well established long before their initial contact with white people...

With the settling of white people within their territories, the Mi'kmaq people found themselves losing their hunting terrain; trees that once sheltered wild animals providing their main source of meat were cut down to provide land for farming and houses. Where once they could follow their food supply at will over their respective territories, they now found this land had been sold or granted to others who did not recognize their claims.

Book of the month

"Hiking the Dream", by Kathy Didkowsky is available at the Visitor Information Centre, Middle Musquodoboit. Details at www.mvta.net

In the early 1990s, a group of trails people with a new vision became the driving force for re-forging the link between east and west, and all points in between. They envisaged what was to become, in fact, the longest trail in the world: the Trans Canada Trail.

From the beginning, Kathy Didkowsky, a founding member of the Nova Scotia Trans Canada Trails Council, had her own dream: to hike the newly formed trail from St. John's, Nfld. to Victoria, BC. *Hiking the Dream* is the story of how her dream became a reality.

In all respects, Hike 2000 – 20 kilometres a day, 10 days in each province, for a total of 2,000 kilometres – was a family affair. Kathy's three intrepid children and a friend donned their boots and backpacks and supported her every foot-blistering step of the way. Family members, scattered across the country, joined them along the trail, while cousin Bill drove the van and met them at the end of each delightful (or harrowing) day.

But, along with extreme temperatures, impassible trails, and assorted wildlife, the Didkowskys discovered something more enduring – the heart of a nation: people who offered their homes, food, stories, songs and friendship, asking nothing in return. And there were always the railway tales, shared by those who remember and pay tribute to the days when the trains were so much a part of community life.

Hiking the Dream is adventure story, travelogues, and personal saga; it is a journey by foot across the trail, and by memory along the rails.

Tarot Connections

By: Mary Boutilier

If you have a question you would like answered, please contact: tarotconnections@yahoo.ca or visit: www.maryboutilier.piczo.com. Your identity will be confidential.

Q: Mary, I have been hurt in relationships, so many times, that I'm now afraid to love again. What should I do?

A: Have you ever heard the saying "Never hide your light under a bushel?" Loving is the same thing. It's only human nature to be cautious going in to a new relationship after being hurt before. Loving someone else, gives off a light that not only fills their Soul, but our own as well. When a relationship doesn't work out, then we still have the ability to share love once again with another. It's when we become callous or fearful of loving that we suffer. For it's never the

lesson to GET love, but to PRACTICE it as well. Never let FEAR impression your soul. Peace, Mary.

The perfect plan... gone awry

MOTHER NATURE: Daughter Logic, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the World is going on down there on earth? What happened to the dandelions, violets, thistles and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect, no maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honeybees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But all I see are those green rectangles.

DAUGHTER LOGIC: It's the tribes that settled there, Mother. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers weeds and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

MOTHER NATURE: Grass? But it's so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees, only grubs and sod worms. It's temperamental with temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

DAUGHTER LOGIC: Apparently so, Mother. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

MOTHER NATURE: The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites really happy.

DAUGHTER LOGIC: Apparently not, Mother. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it, sometimes twice a week.

MOTHER NATURE: They cut it? Do they bale it like hay?

DAUGHTER LOGIC: Not exactly, Mother. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

MOTHER NATURE: They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

DAUGHTER LOGIC: No, Ma'am - just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

MOTHER NATURE: Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

DAUGHTER LOGIC: Yes, Ma'am.

MOTHER NATURE: These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

DAUGHTER LOGIC: You aren't going to believe this, Mother. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

MOTHER NATURE: What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade for the summer. In the autumn they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect small plants and bushes. Plus, as they rot, the leaves form compost to enhance the soil. It's a natural circle of life.

DAUGHTER LOGIC: You better sit down, Mother. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

MOTHER NATURE: No. What do they do to protect the shrubs and tree roots in the winter and to keep the soil moist and loose?

DAUGHTER LOGIC: After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

MOTHER NATURE: And where do they get this mulch?

DAUGHTER LOGIC: They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

MOTHER NATURE: Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. Daughter Reason, you're in charge of the ARTS. What movie do you have scheduled for us tonight?

DAUGHTER REASON: "*Dumb and Dumber*", Mother.

MOTHER NATURE: Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story line from Daughter Logic.

Want to advertise in the 50-Mile Yard Sale Brochure?



Sept 6-7, 2008

The enormously successful 50-Mile Yard sale began in September 1990 and has attracted attention to the Musquodoboit Valley area of Nova Scotia since that time. Even if you have a business not directly involved with the sales, the spin-off potential is a definite consideration.

We produce a brochure listing locations of yard sales being held and a map of the area. Four thousand (4,000) hard copies of this brochure are circulated throughout the province and beyond. In addition, the entire brochure will be available on this web site. Click [HERE](#) to view last year's brochure (2007). The printing of the brochure is paid for by donations from private sellers and corporate advertisers.

If you are hosting a personal yard sale at your home, please call the Tourism Office (902) 384-2006 or email info@mvta.net to tell us which day(s) and times you will be open for business, your physical address, and a list of items you will be selling. We'll be happy to include your personal ad in the 2008 Yard Sale Brochure (both printed and on-line versions) for a minimum donation of \$5 to MVTA.

Click [HERE](#) for details about business advertising.

As we plan our 2008 event, we request your consideration for advertising with us. Together we can create another successful event.

The deadline to have your ad
included in the brochure is
TUESDAY AUGUST 5

Contact:
Musquodoboit Valley Tourism Association
Tel: (902) 384-2006
Email: info@mvta.net