

SALMON COUNTRY NEWS

Welcome to the Village of Doaktown, stay awhile & have fun!

New Brunswick Day in the Park!

20
23

August 5 | **Junk in the Trunk.**
9am-12pm
Doaktown Community Park.

August 5 | **Have some fun for FREE!!**
10am-2pm
Join us at the park for an afternoon of free events!
Pony rides, face painting, bouncy castles, and some splash pad fun!
Free hot dogs will be available from 12-1pm!

August 5 | **Chocolate Bar Bingo in the Park!**
Bring a chocolate bar of your choice in order to play a round of bingo! 1 chocolate bar gives you one round!
Chocolate bars can be purchased at the event!

August 5 | **Artisan Market**
10am-2pm
Located on Main Street, Doaktown, across from the Village Restaurant.

August 6 | **Annual parade & fireworks.**
Join us in the community for the annual parade!
Starting as it turns dark outside, the parade will travel through Doaktown, until reaching the Elementary school. Fireworks will begin at 10pm at the school!



New Brunswick Day in the Community!

August 4th- 7th, 2023

04
Aug

Family Day at the Library!

Stop in with your family to enjoy a day full of activities! A storywalk will take place from 9-11am, and again from 1-3:30pm. Science East will be present from 1:30-3:30!

04
Aug

Cold Plate at the Doakhouse!

For only \$12 per plate, you are welcome to pick up or eat in from 1-4pm. Please call 1 (506) 365- 2026 by Wednesday, August 2nd to reserve your plate!

05
Aug

Breakfast at the Curling Club!

Everyone is more than welcome to join at the Doaktown Curling Club from 7-11am for a delicious breakfast! \$15 a person or \$40 for a family of 4.

05
Aug

Events in the Community!

Starting your day at the Doakhouse, there will be a market from 9-1pm. Beginning at 10am, Squire Doak will be available for tours. There will also be a bearded dragon and some water fun!

05
Aug

Events in the Community!

Many other events will also be held at the park and arena. Stop by and check out the Touch a Truck event, chocolate bar bingo, and get your face painted! Central NB Artisan Market will be set up from 10am-2pm across from the Village Family Restaurant.

05
Aug

Celebrate with the Museum!

From 10am- 3pm, it will be a busy day at the museum! Live music, lots of games for children, a delicious bbq, cake and plenty of snacks will give everyone something to look forward to! There will be free admission to the museum's exhibits as well as a sale in the gift shop!

06
Aug

Annual Parade & Fireworks!

Join us at 9pm throughout our beautiful village for the annual Salmon and Fiddlehead parade, followed by fireworks beginning at 10pm!

07
Aug

Celebrating the Historical Society!

Located at the Doak House, a BBQ will be held from 11:30am- 3:30pm. Children's games, calendar sales, and live music will be held throughout the day. An official ceremony and cake cutting will take place in the afternoon. Gary & Friends will be performing from 2:20- 3:20pm!

We Hope to see you There!

START YOUR DAY WITH

BREAKFAST

DOAKTOWN CURLING CLUB



DATE: SATURDAY, AUGUST 5
TIME: 7 AM TO 11 AM
PRICE: \$15 OR \$40 FOR A
FAMILY OF 4

MENU:

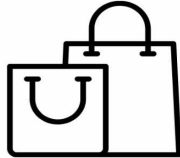
EGGS, BACON, SAUSAGE,
HOMEFRIES, TOAST, JUICE, TEA
AND COFFEE

Market

9-1

Saturday, August 5th

Doak Heritage Site • 386 Main St. Doaktown



Cotton candy

Starting at 10:

Slip n' slide

Face painting

Beth the bearded dragon will
be here, as well as Tom Daley
as "Squire" Doak



Missing You, Darrah

*If time could turn back the pages,
Oh, what a time it would be;
You would be at the restaurant
Having lunch with me.*

*We were such good buddies,
No one else can take your place,
With your special beard and mustache,
And a great big smile on your face.*

*It's been five years since you left us,
It just seems like yesterday
When you helped with all my gospel sings,
Listening to all the gospel music we would play.*

*Life has never been the same
Since I lost you and Dad;
Words can never say how much I miss you both,
The best husband and son I ever had.*

*No one else can take your place,
You were both gifts to me from God;
One of these days we'll all meet together
On the streets of gold we'll trod.*

~ Love and miss you both so much,
Wife and mother Alice Long



Darrah Long (d. July 23, 2018)
Aubrey Long (d. January 13, 1996)



**NEW BRUNSWICK DAY
AT THE MUSEUM
263 MAIN STREET, DOAKTOWN
SATURDAY, AUGUST 5
10 AM - 3 PM**

*** MUSIC BY BAYARD O'DONNELL
AND GREG AMOS ***

**Enjoy your favourite tunes from the comfort of
our big front deck or one of our picnic tables**

*** LOTS OF GAMES FOR CHILDREN ***

**Stop at our Ticket Booth and buy your tickets
(\$3.00 - \$20.00) to play our games and win
some prizes**

*** BBQ (until we run out) ***
"Real Salmon" Burger
(back by popular demand)
Just a Burger - \$7.00

Burger with Pop or Water - \$8.50

Not Your Average Hot Dog
With Pop or Water - \$3.50
Just the Hot Dog - \$2.00

**Ice cream available in our Gift Shop
from Northumberland Dairy
in various sizes and in lots of flavours**

*** All for \$5.00 each ***

Cotton Candy / Popcorn / Candy Carmel Apples

ALSO IN OUR GIFT SHOP

**10% Off almost everything on our shelves
and no tax**

**IN OUR AIR-CONDITIONED RIVER ROOM
NB Day Cake**

**FREE ADMISSION TO THE
MUSEUM'S EXHIBITS
(see if you recognize any
familiar faces in our new
Hall of Fame display)**

DOWNLOAD
recycle coach

- CUSTOM COLLECTION SCHEDULE
- COLLECTION REMINDERS
- WHAT GOES WHERE SEARCH TOOL
- NOTIFICATION ALERTS (STORM CANCELLATION, ETC)
- REPORT A PROBLEM

DON'T DELAY. DOWNLOAD THE RECYCLE COACH APP FOR FREE TODAY!

DON'T HAVE A SMARTPHONE? CONTACT US TO REGISTER FOR TELEPHONE NOTIFICATIONS OF SPECIAL EVENTS, SCHEDULE CHANGES AND MORE.

Recycling Hotline 778 - CART (2278) | Toll Free 1-844-307-CART (2278)

www.greatermiramichirc.ca | GMRSC - Solid Waste Services

**Celebrating
50 Years**

The Central Miramichi Historical Society invites you to join us in celebration of our 50th anniversary

Live Entertainment • Games • BBQ • Free Cake • And More!

**DOAK PROVINCIAL HERITAGE SITE
11:30 - 4:00
MONDAY, AUGUST 7**

**VILLAGE OF DOAKTOWN
GARBAGE PICK-UP
SCHEDULE**



AUGUST 2023

Monday, August 7
Regular Garbage

Monday, August 14
Regular Garbage / Recyclables

Monday, August 21
Regular Garbage

Monday, August 28
Regular Garbage / Recyclables



A great big Miramichi "thank you" to everyone who made the 2023 **River Run 4 Vets** such a success -- we made **\$8,469.42** in profit this year! We would like to express our sincere appreciation to everyone who helped put this event together, those who worked on July 1st (especially grill

master Marshall Gaston), and to our wonderful sponsors. Thank you to everyone who attended the meal, bought packages, meals and tickets. We hope everyone had a wonderful day on our magnificent river.

Prize Winners:

1st prize (\$1,000 cash) - Jean Ryan of Blissfield

2nd prize (\$500 in gas cards) - Betty Dawn Nason of Ludlow

3rd prize (Canadian Mint Poppy Coin) - Sherman O'Donnell of Doaktown

Jake Allen Jersey - Brent Robinson of Doaktown

Sponsors included: Winston Gilks, Norman Betts, Betts' Equipment, Parker's Diner, Tim Hortons Doaktown, Village of Doaktown, Doaktown Gas Bar, Doaktown Auto Supplies, The Ledges Inn, Mike's Bar, T&T Construction, S&S Logging, High Wheeler Antiques & Collectibles, Joey's Independent Grocer, Adam Arbeau Plumbing & Heating, Robinson Fuel, Lower Ledge Gastropub, H&L Logging, Storeytown Cottages, Miramichi Financial, Betts' Home Hardware, B&L, Betts' Village Restaurant, Doaktown Pharmacy, Clay Hill Equipment Inc, Carroll Enterprises Ltd, Canada Post, Kent Building Supplies, Patterson's Sales and Service, Rae's Trailer & Sports, Towne Ford, Doreen Parker, Brenda Weaver, Wanda Amos, Bruce Montrose and Marlene Gaston.

With several members stepping back, the *River Run 4 Vets* Committee is looking for replacements. If you would like to see this event continue, we have to have some new members with some new ideas. If you are interested in helping, please call Kenny Carr at 506-365-5154.

CROCHET DAY
Doak Heritage Site • 386 Main St. Doaktown
August 23 • 2 - 4:30

Come learn some basic stitches
Please bring your crochet hook and yarn
Refreshments served
\$5 fee
Please call 506-365-2026 to reserve your spot

The **Central NB Self Help** would like to express our appreciation to everyone who attended our Bingo on July 8. Special thanks to Our Lady of Annunciation Catholic Church for the use of the Parish Center and to all the volunteers who helped put the event together.



Self Help will be hosting a fundraiser on **Saturday, August 19** at our location (7 Miramichi Street, Doaktown) from Noon until 3:00 pm with a BBQ and music. Hope you can come out and join us for a fun-filled afternoon.

For more information, please call us at 506-365-4374.

*The Battle for the Mind
and the Freedom in Christ
that is yours.*

For an appointment, call Wendy
at (506)365-7105

or email

endyon@nb.sympatico.ca.

Confidentiality is my #1 priority.

Doaktown Community-School Library

430 Main Street, Doaktown, N.B.

Phone: 506-365-2018



Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9am – 11:30am and 12:30pm – 4:30pm
Thursday: 12:30pm – 4:30pm and 5:30pm – 8pm

Follow us on Facebook for up-to-date information on programs and services

We have Curbside Pick-up!!! Call 365-2018 to book an appointment!



JOIN US FOR OUR LIBRARY PROGRAMS!!

KEEPING ACTIVE

CHAIR EXERCISES

Tuesdays 2pm



WELLNESS ACTIVITIES

GAMES IN THE LIBRARY

Mondays 12:30pm



BRIDGE

Wednesdays 12:30pm - 4pm

SCRAPBOOKING

Thursdays 5:30pm - 7:30pm



TANGLED TALES

KEEPING YOU IN STITCHES

Thursdays 5:30pm - 7:30pm



BUSY BEE QUILTERS

Breaking for summer – will restart
Thursday, September 21st

Adult Summer Reading BINGO!!

Please visit the library to pick up your
Bingo Card!!



Submit your card by September 9th to be
entered to win a prize!!



Summer Reading Club



Tuesdays–1pm & Thursdays – 6pm

Stay tuned for Pop-Up activities throughout the summer!!

Join us each week this summer for crafts, stories, activities
and more!! Open to kids of all ages. Our Club slogan is
“Spooky Summer” and the theme is “I Love BOOKS!!”

Please call the library to register - 365-2018



How are your pumpkins doing?!!



In partnership with the Doak Historic Site and Community
Garden we are holding a pumpkin growing contest on
September 30th!!

Can you grow the BIGGEST, SMALLEST, or ROUNDEST
Pumpkin this summer??!!



Call the library for more details!!

Family Day!! Friday, August 4th



SCIENCE
EAST

Science East!! 1:30pm-3:30pm

Come enjoy some STEAM ACTIVITIES!



SCIENCE
EAST

StoryWalk!! 9am-11am & 1pm – 3:30pm

All participants will receive a special treat!

FREE

FREE

FREE PROGRAMS!

FREE

FREE

Teen Reading Challenge

Thursdays
6pm

Free French Classes anyone??

Would you be interested in a series of



FREE French Classes?



Please call the library or visit Facebook to vote!

Closed Monday, August 7th for New Brunswick Day

UPPER MIRAMICHI COMMUNITY LIBRARY

7263 Route 8, New Bandon, New Brunswick, E9C 2A7

Phone: (506) 365-2096 Fax: (506) 365-2052

BiblioUpperMiramichiLib@gnb.ca

LIBRARY HOURS

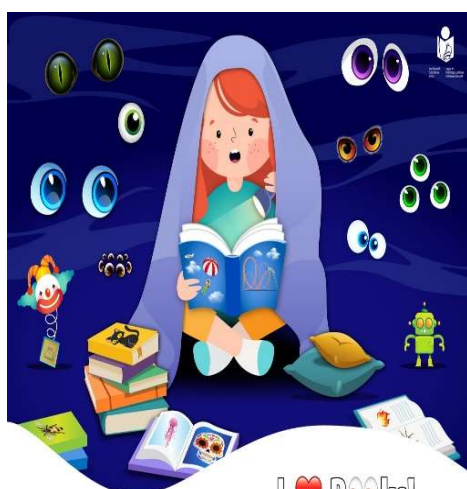
Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays: 9am-4:30pm (closed 11:30-12:30pm)

Tuesdays: 12:30-8pm (closed 4:30-5:30pm)

Library closed for NB Day, Monday August 7

- Knitting every Tuesday 6pm – All Welcome
- Cards in the library every Friday 1:30pm – All Welcome
- Home Décor – August 22 – Call to sign up
- Morning Social August 30 – Call to sign up
- Drop in to say Goodbye to our Summer Students (August 18)
- Teen Book Club – biweekly – follow FB for more info

***It is not too late to join us for SRC...daily activities! ***



Summer Reading Club 2023
Club de lecture d'été 2023

I ♥ Books!
J'♥ BOOquiner!

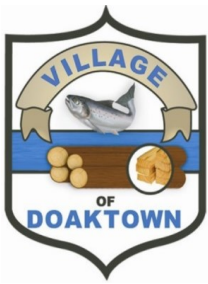


Books on Wheels (BOW) – August 15

Closing SRC Party Tuesday, August 15 – ALL WELCOME!! (FB for details)

Follow us on FB for more information on weekly programs.

Did you know we have more than just books...we have mandolins, glue gun kits, baking pans, food processor, code readers for cars and much more!! A library card is all you need!!



VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month beginning at 7:30 pm in the Council Chambers, 8 Miramichi Street, Doaktown.

For further information, please contact the Village Office at 365-7970, Ext. 102.

August 16	September 20	October 18
November 15	December 20	January 17



In Loving Memory
Of Our Dear Daughter

KIMBERLY DAWN PRICE

Who Left Us on August 22, 2020

*Every day's a struggle
And time will heal our heart;
But a piece of one is missing
Since the day we had to part.*

~ Always loved and dearly missed by
Mum and Dad, sons Brett and Cody,
Sisters Dina and Jenny, and Families

In Loving Memory Of
LARRY AMOS
Who Passed Away on August 3, 2021



*My mind still talks to you.
My heart still looks for you,
But my soul knows you're at peace.
I miss you every single day.*

~ Love from Mom, Dad, Wanda, Brian, Ricky,
Lorri, Shelley, Pat, Kenny and Families

TO JOANNE GASTON
Our "Youngest" Sister



A Very Happy 70th Birthday
(Sunday, August 27)

~ With much love from your family ~



Price Cleaning Services

Andrew Price
Owner/Operator
For All Your Cleaning Needs

506-365-5251

Weekly Appointment Available

Monday - Wednesday 8am-5pm
Thursday 8am-4pm

PHARMASAVE®

We wish to notify you of some upcoming changes at Doaktown Pharmasave. After 45 years of service to our community pharmacy and patient care, pharmacist **Linda Harding** is retiring.

Linda had expressed an interest in retirement back in 2019 but chose to stay through the pandemic to help serve her community. We will be forever grateful to Linda for staying as long as she did. With Linda's retirement comes an end of the Dickison presence in our pharmacy (Linda's grandfather started the store in the 1930s).

We want to thank Linda for her long-standing commitment to the customers and patients of Doaktown Pharmasave and wish her all the best in her future adventures. She will be missed!

We have tried for over three years to recruit additional professional staff but with the widespread shortage of pharmacists, we have yet to find a replacement. As such, we will need to adjust the Doaktown pharmacy hours of operation using a lock and leave model. **Effective Tuesday, September 5th**, the pharmacy will be open for pharmacy services Monday to Friday, 9 am – 5 pm but closed on weekends and holidays. The front store will remain open Monday to Friday 9 am – 8 pm, Saturday 9 am – 3 pm and closed on Sundays and holidays. During the hours that the front store is open and the pharmacy counter is closed, there will be certain items unavailable for sale. Completed prescriptions will be available for pick-up outside pharmacy hours as long as it is arranged and signed off by the pharmacist in accordance with pharmacy regulations.

Alice and her pharmacy team are committed to providing the same level of service as our patients and community are accustomed to. We thank Alice for her ongoing leadership and dedication with fourteen years of service helping to ensure Doaktown Pharmasave continues to provide valuable pharmacy healthcare services

Pharmacy Hours	Front Store Hours
Monday – Friday: 9am – 5pm	Monday – Friday: 9am – 8pm
Saturday: Closed	Saturday: 9am – 3pm
Sunday: Closed	Sunday: Closed
Holidays: Closed	Holidays: Closed

Doaktown Pharmasave
314 Main Street
Doaktown, NB E9C1E2
506-365-7824



Stewart's Service Station
605 Main Street, Doaktown
Telephone: 506-365-4667
Since 1996

Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm
Our Staff is here to serve You!

Oil Changes, Motor Vehicle
 and Trailer Inspections

Install & Balance Tires

New Tires & General Maintenance

Hydraulic Hoses & fittings

Hydraulic Oil and Chain Oil

**REMEMBER IN SEPTEMBER &
 OCTOBER 2023:**

Book your Oil Undercoat to help
 protect your vehicle

\$100 DRAW TOWARDS PARTS/LABOR

Enter by E-mail: Name & Telephone
 Number or drop in. Draw will take
 place on Thursday, August 31.
stewartsgarage1996@hotmail.ca



W M L Accounting Inc.

Bookkeeping, HST

& Payroll Remittances

Corporate and Personal Taxes

Seniors Discount

Cash Refunds

(Confidentiality is My #1 Priority)

For an appointment,

call Wendy Lyons 365-7105

end_yon@hotmail.com

endyon@nb.sympatico.ca

“Know Where You Stand”



In Loving Memory of Our Dear Sister

DEBBIE (HOVEY) DAVIS

December 13, 1953 - August 20, 2021

*Sadly missed along life's way,
Quietly remembered every day;
No longer in our life to share,
But in our hearts you are always there.*

~ From siblings Glorna, Geraldine (Tiss), Elma and Donnie



WEEK	CAMP THEME	AGES	MUST REGISTER BY
JULY 10 TH – JULY 14 TH	Been There, Done That	8 – 12	JULY 6 TH
JULY 17 TH – JULY 21 ST	Lil' Tykes	6 – 7	JULY 13 TH
JULY 24 TH – JULY 28 TH	River Rookies	8 – 12	JULY 20 TH
JULY 31 ST – AUGUST 4 TH	Girl Power	6 – 8	JULY 27 TH
AUGUST 7 TH – AUGUST 11 TH	Been There, Done That	8 – 12	AUGUST 3 RD
AUGUST 14 TH – AUGUST 18 TH	Lil' Rookies	6 – 9	AUGUST 10 TH
AUGUST 21 ST – AUGUST 25 TH	Mixin'er Up	8 – 12	AUGUST 17 TH
AUGUST 28 TH – SEPTEMBER 1 ST	Girl Power	9 – 12	AUGUST 24 TH

FOR MORE INFORMATION :



(506)365-7787



comeplayasm@gmail.com



www.atlanticsalmonmuseum.com

**THANK
YOU!**

We want to express our appreciation to everyone for celebrating Owen's graduation with us. Thank you for your encouraging words to Owen and for your gifts.

It is an honour to live in this community that reminds us of the *Little House on the Prairies* days where you all care about others – in action and in words. Thank you.

~ The Foster Family



IN MEMORY OF LEE WARD
 Who Left This Life 10 Years Ago
 On August 18, 2013
*In our home he is fondly remembered,
 Sweet memories cling to his name;
 Those who loved him in life sincerely
 Still love him in death just the same.*

~ From Helen and Family



CHUCKLES

My husband thinks
 I'm crazy
 but I'm not the one who
 married me.



My wife says I only
 have 2 faults:
 I don't listen
 and something else



I'm so busy
 I don't know whether
 I've found a rope or lost
 my horse.

My super power is
 holding onto junk
 for years and
 throwing it away a
 week before I need
 it.



New Brunswick
 Nouveau Brunswick

**Did you still need
 your parents at age
 10, age 12... what
 about at age 14 or 16?**

Social Development invites you to learn about foster care and older child adoption in New Brunswick. There are children and youth in our communities who need a loving, supportive home to grow up in.

*Find out how
 you could be the
 difference for a child*

www.gnb.ca/SocialDevelopment

**Aviez-vous encore besoin de
 vos parents à l'âge de 10 ans,
 de 12 ans ou encore à l'âge de
 14 ou de 16 ans ?**

Le ministère du Développement social vous invite à en apprendre davantage au sujet des familles d'accueil et de l'adoption d'enfants plus âgés. Il y a des enfants dans nos communautés qui ont besoins d'un domicile qui offre de l'amour et du support.

*Découvrez comment vous
 pouvez faire la différence
 pour un enfant*

www.gnb.ca/Développementsocial

[453-3181] [1-800-990-0119]



SERVICE CANADA representa-
 tives are now in Doaktown
 on Wednesdays at the apart-
 ment adjacent to the Central
 NB Self Help, 7 Miramichi
 Street. Business hours are from 10:00 am
 to Noon and from 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

LEARN A RHYME, MAKE A TOY, PLAY OUTSIDE



Trying to learn about the issues surrounding salmon in the area, I was asking questions and someone whispered to my ear that "the Miramichi is a river of knowledge that very few can read anymore. It's the saddest thing of all." The river carries in its flowing waters the signs of events in the environment and of the actions of the people who live and work along its banks. The river is not just about salmon; it's not just about fishing – it's about a culture that connects people to nature, making them part of it and making nature part of them. To be able to read the river, one must slow down, be in the moment, look around, see the trees, the plants, the birds, the insects. One must let the soothing effects of the running current, the dancing waters, the sparkling lights, the swirling river ponds, the warm rays of sunshine and fresh breeze bopping on the river occupy its body, mind, and soul. Just like casting, it takes practice. One must revisit the river many times to get the hang of it. Fishing is a rod that nature hands us so we can realize that we are meant to be in tune with it, quietly aware of time and space and that all of that is part of our human nature. Without it, our nature is not so human anymore. Being in tune with nature is a way of living that makes us hang the sign on the door of our everyday life that says: "Gone Fishing".

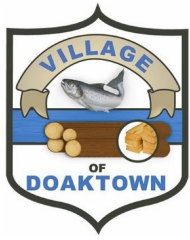
Remember Opie walking with his father Andy towards the local fishing pond and river, fishing pole on their shoulders, straw hats on their heads, wicker basket at hand, happily whistling away? How we all loved that tune! You can hear it again if you click on this site: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QRVhiLkej2g>

You will be whistling all day! Now that is an idea! Let's pick up whistling again and show the children how to do it. Such a happy sound that will remind us to go to the river more often. Check out the Atlantic Salmon Museum's summer camp for children, *Come Play on the River*. They will show you how to whistle!

Issues surrounding salmon are complicated. There are many beliefs and science has not always been the wisest of counselors. Trying to undo our wrongs is even more complicated and nature might rebalance the river in a way that we did not foresee. In any case, policies would do well to include in its studies the culture of fishing and how it fashions our humanity as well as to examine the intervention programs that make people walk away from the river.



Contributed by: Suzanne Major (Sue), PhD, Anthropology of Early Childhood Education
Christian Cailliau, MA, Policy, and Practices in Adult Education



The following is an overview of the activities in the Village of Doaktown in 2023. The current Village Council took office in January. This narrative will attempt to capture the initiatives, priorities, and ongoing business of our Community. The present Council is comprised of five Councillors and a Mayor. The additional Councillor was brought on through the Municipal Reform process. Current sitting members of Council are Deputy Mayor Doreen Parker, Robert Gilks, Jeffery Porter, Paige Ham-brook Storey, and Beresford Price.

I will begin by briefly describing what brought the current Municipal government in place, to where it is, as a result of the Provincial initiative of Municipal Reform. This controversial process amalgamated many communities, is attempting to consolidate services, and has brought more power to the Regional Service Commissions. The Village of Doaktown expanded its boundaries to include the Parish of Blissfield (Hazelton, Storeytown, Grand Lake settlement, and Route 8 to Upper Blackville). One of the initial challenges was a spike in property tax rates for those areas. Through negotiation with the Province, Council and staff successfully brought taxes down significantly; however, the same issues that elevated those taxes will be there in 2024. Our goal is to ensure our budget is designed to absorb the hikes.

One of the tasks handed down by the Province to the Greater Miramichi Regional Service Commission (GMRSC) was a Regional Strategy. This will be put in place to regionalize services such as Tourism, Economic Development, Waste Management, Transportation, Housing, and Planning. The Regional Community of Upper Miramichi and the Village of Doaktown currently have a partnership in Waste Management and Planning. The Strategic Plan was out-sourced to Marque. The plan came to the GMRSC in a draft, that draft was then critiqued. The final document was presented on the 26th of July. There was a great deal of debate on the budgeting of this plan but the goals and execution had the support of most of our board. Voting on the SP will take place on the 16th of August at a special meeting.

In January when the present Council was sworn in, we met and formulated a set of priorities which remain our focus moving forward. The three priorities of Council are a new Fire Hall, roads (the South Road in particular) as well as affordable housing. We have been engaged with Provincial and Federal representatives including our MLA, MP, and Ministers responsible. Council has also met with major industry stakeholders and developers to discuss infrastructure expansion and housing for the South Road along with the steps to make this a consolidated project. The Village has also purchased a property at 2 Dr. Hamilton Drive. We are working with all developers and agencies to provide affordable housing. The priority is with seniors. The Fire Hall is a very complex issue as the community has lost the use of a critical part of our infrastructure. There are many players involved. We have to navigate down a path to ensure the outcome is reached through insurance, Public Safety, and our Village. In the end, our citizens get fire protection and we maintain safety in Doaktown and surrounding areas.

The Community Arena had a very successful year with the addition of the *Senior Lumberjacks*, growth in our Minor Hockey numbers and the addition of new events. Council is presently going through steps to have a stair lift put in place. The stair lift would provide wheelchair access to the warm room. Our Arena Manager continues to strive to bring new events to fill gaps in bookings.

In the Water and Waste Water file, the Council has made it a priority to start recovering money for overdue billing. In order to maintain our infrastructure while being proactive in preventive maintenance, the Village requires service rendered to be paid in full. The North Side Well project is ongoing. When we were recently faced with a large increase in the cost of project completion, we made the decision to remain within budget by scaling back the project. Upon completion, this will have a minimal effect on the success of the project.

Cont'd on next page

Another issue that has been in the forefront of citizens in the community is unsightly properties. This is such a beautiful place to live and the majority of our people take great pride in how their property is presented. Therefore, Council is taking steps to rectify this. We have identified three properties in particular that are in the process of being condemned as well as two others that are being investigated. I ask for patience as we go through the process. It is not as simple as going onto someone's property and tearing down a structure(s). This is a methodical process carried out through the Provincial Government to ensure it is done legally. As a result, we, as a Village, can recover any monies spent to bring the property back to a respectful standard through a partnership between the Province and our Municipality.

In September the Village will unveil the new Community Fitness Center. This facility was totally funded between the Provincial and Federal Government and JDI Ltd. It has been turned over to the Village of Doaktown as owner and operator. This fitness center is extremely important to the mental and physical wellness of our residents. Any profits from this establishment will be used for maintaining the Center and off-setting other costs in community recreation.

As we strive to cut unnecessary expenses from our budget and try new ways to spend more effectively, the Village recently stepped away from the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB). This cost tax payers nearly \$10,000.00 annually and included a conference in Fredericton which Council felt we could accomplish in a more cost-effective way. We have decided to hold our own team building weekend locally to deal with the issues that affect our Village. We will have particular guest speakers with knowledge of local concerns and everything will be done at minimal expense. The VOD has also decided to cease funding of the *Salmon Country News* which was costing in excess of \$18,000.00 per year. We will now focus on a new way to deliver local news, events, advertising, along with some local stories in a more neutral and cost effective manner.

The final issue for this update is policing in the area. This has become one of the hottest topics we, as a new Council, have had to engage in. There is no doubt, as someone who walks through our Village daily, there is too much speeding. Council has met with the RCMP on three occasions while a representative attends our monthly Council meetings. The message has been clearly sent. We have an electronic sign moving around the Village recording the speeds of oncoming traffic. It doesn't appear to have reached its desired effect. The RCMP are under-staffed and we pay a large part of our budget to cover policing in our area. Presently, there are initial steps to investigate a Police Force for our rural area. Our talks have been ongoing with our neighbors to join in a shared initiative.

In closing, on behalf of the Doaktown Village Council, thank you for having had confidence in our ability to serve you thus far. I will add that we will do our very best to fulfill these mandates. My office as well as the offices of all of our Councillors are open. If you would like to discuss any issue, please make arrangements to come in for a discussion. Village Council monthly meetings are open to the public. Although the meeting follows a more structured venue, you are welcome to attend to be aware of what is happening in your community!

Thank you to all our staff, in the office and in the field! Without your dedication and commitment to our Village, we would not be taking these steps forward to make a better place to live!

~ Mayor Art O'Donnell
Village of Doaktown



SALMON COUNTRY NEWS

In conjunction with a recent decision by Doaktown Village Council, this will be the final edition of the *Salmon and Country News* until further notice. Please note that anyone who has paid for a yearly subscription will receive a pro-rated refund -- you are asked to contact Krista Lambert, Acting Assistant Clerk, at 506-365-7970 or at email krista.lambert@doaktown.ca.



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