



COUNCILLOR MATT WHITMAN
DISTRICT 13 ONLINE NEWS
HAMMONDS PLAINS - ST. MARGARETS

HAMMONDS PLAINS ROAD CONSTRUCTION

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents and motorists that continuing road construction will take place Monday on Hammonds Plains Road between Lucasville Road and Kingswood Drive. Crews will be on site weekdays from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. until August 18. There will be an altered centreline with stop-and-go traffic during this work. Motorists should expect delays in the area and are asked to take alternative routes, if possible.

PAINT IT FORWARD FUNDRAISER

Local artist Sadie Jane of Seaborn Art Studio in St. Margaret's Bay regularly hosts 'Paint It Forward' fundraisers to support a wide range of local groups. On July 29th she is hosting a fundraiser to support the Marsden family so they can be at their son Hunter's side while he battles cancer. For more information on this event, see her [website](#).

CALL CENTRE HOURS CHANGE

Starting this month, HRM's 311 Customer Contact Call Centre will be changing its hours of regular operation. The new hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Residents can still obtain transit and garbage/recycling information by selecting the automated self-service options after hours. Service requests can also be submitted online anytime [here](#). Please contact our call centre to report any municipal issues in your area so we have a record and can remedy the situation as soon as possible.

AFRIFEST

The Africa Festival of Arts and Culture will be held from July 21st – 23rd at Sackville Landing on the Halifax Waterfront. Afrifest is an annual festival that showcases the unique cultural heritage and artistic works of people of African descent living in Nova Scotia. For more information, see their [website](#).



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PRIDE FESTIVAL 2017



This July 20 to 30, Halifax will celebrate the 30th annual Halifax Pride Festival.

This festival allows us to reaffirm our commitment to dialogue, engagement and

continued efforts related to diversity and inclusion across the municipality.

The Mayor will be raising the rainbow flag on July 20th at 5:00 p.m. and Pride Crosswalks will be repainted this week in several locations around the municipality. The rainbow flag is synonymous with the 2SLGBTQ+ community and we are delighted to show our support in this way again this year.

For more information on the events and activities of this years Pride festival, including information about the screening of Milk at City Hall, see their website [here](#).

MUNICIPAL WEBSITE UPGRADE

The new Halifax.ca website has launched with an easier to use interface, improved accessibility, mobile-friendly design, improved search functions and improved navigation. New e-services have also been initiated including a tool for paying parking tickets online.

With the update, a lot of old links are no longer valid. Staff is working to address the issue and if you can't find the information you are looking for please feel free to call my office and we can assist you. Check out the new and improved website [here](#).

STORMWATER RATE CHANGES

On April 12th, 2017 the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) approved a number of stormwater rate changes including those listed below. The changes have taken effect as of July 1st. 2017.

These changes will allow for a tiered billing system based on each properties impervious area (concrete, asphalt driveway, roofs etc.)

Teir	Area (Sq meters)	Old Rate	New Annual Charge	# of Customers Effected
1	< 50m ²	\$33.39	\$0.00	2,326
2	50 – 200m ²	\$33.39	\$14.00	44,710
3	210 – 400m ²	\$33.39	\$27.00	31,041
4	410 – 800m ²	\$33.39	\$54.00	7,768
5	> 810m ²	\$33.39	\$81.00	2,123

These changes will mean a rate reduction for 88% of Halifax Water customers. Halifax Water has also made significant improvements to their website to make more information about stormwater charges available and accessible for residents. Check out the website today for more information.

PUBLIC WIFI

Public WiFi service is now available at the Grand Parade and on the Halifax and Dartmouth waterfronts. Bell Aliant is responsible for monitoring and responding concerns regarding connectivity or access issues.

To check it out, logon to HfxPublicWiFi next time you're downtown.



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HAMMONDS PLAINS CENTRE SUMMER CAMPS

Check out the KidSing and Mad Science childrens day camps being offered at the Hammonds Plains Community Centre this summer.

KidSing will run from July 24th – 28th. Campers will explore emotions and feelings while performing songs that feature different moods. KidSing Summer Day camps encourage creativity, cooperation and the development of confidence.

The Mad Science Secret Agent Camp from August 14th – 18th is a fun journey into the world of detection, spy science, and forensics. Full and half days are available.

[Register now](#) to reserve your child's spot.

CANADA AT WAR: 1917

The Tantallon Public Library is hosting two sessions on World War I on Saturday July 29th from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Lest We Forget, is a program for adults and teens where you will be invited to read military records to get glimpses into the lives of Nova Scotian soldiers and nursing sisters.

Children of all ages can participate in The Real Winnie the Pooh program. Pooh-Bear was introduced in 1917 as Canadians were fighting in World War I. Kids will participate in Pooh-Bear crafts and discover an array of related books and films.

Call the library today to register.

REGIONAL COUNCIL RECIVES COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD

The municipality recently partnered with [United Way Halifax](#) to present Living on the Edge – a challenging and thought-provoking experience and discussion about poverty in HRM. We have also committed to working with United Way and other community partners on an anti-poverty strategy for the Municipality.

At the end of the Living on the Edge, United Way Halifax CEO, Sara Napier, took the opportunity to thank attendees and to present Halifax Regional Council with this year's Community Spirit Award. The Community Spirit Award pays tribute to extraordinary commitment and leadership to our community made by an individual or organization.

We are so proud to be working closely with our community in any way we can to promote the reduction of poverty in our municipality. Those unable to attend Living on the Edge can try a similar experience online [here](#).

MUSIC WITH JAMIE JUNGER

Jamie Junger presents *Fishin' For Pickles*, an original, whimsical and upbeat children's album that kids love to sing along with and parents won't want to toss. Join him at the J.D. Shatford Memorial library on July 21st from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. and sing along.

TALL SHIPS 2017

Check out the Tall Ships festival starting on July 29th at the Halifax Waterfront. Tall Ships from around the world will be landing here this month. You can learn more on their [website](#).

HALIFAX



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ADULT OPEN SKATE

Start your morning off with a glide at the St. Margarets Centre adult skates from 7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from July 5th – September 1st. Visit their [website](#) for more details.

GREEN BIN WEEKLY COLLECTION

Remember you can now put your green bin out every week. The weekly collection schedule has now been extended into September. The summer collection schedule helps to fight odour and animal issues that can come with having organics sit for long periods in hot temperatures. You can find out your collection schedule [here](#).

ST. LUKES VARIETY SHOW

Stop by the Shore Club on Tuesday, August 1st at 7:30 p.m. to check out St. Luke's Variety Show. Admission is \$6.00 adults and \$3.00 for children under 12 years. There will be a fish pond and sucker pull for the children, a bake table, trash to treasures, fancywork and auction.

NATAL DAY 2017

The Halifax-Dartmouth Natal Day Festival runs from Friday, August 4th until Monday, August 7th, to celebrate the city's 122nd Natal Day. Enjoy family activities, live music, road races, an entertainment showcase, comedy night, busker performances, the Mayor & Council Garden Parties and one of the oldest parades in Atlantic Canada. In addition, we hold three spectacular fireworks shows throughout the weekend. For more details see the [website](#).

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP GRANTS AWARDED

Six environmental stewardship projects are moving forward this year thanks to \$40,000 of grant money generated by the [Bay Treasure Chest](#) and awarded to volunteer community groups through the Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust's Environmental Stewardship Grants Program.

Congratulations to the St. Margaret's Bay Safety-Minded ATV Association, Bluff Trail Stewardship Program and Woodens River Watershed Environmental Organization, GIP Atlantic Youth and the B.L.T Rails to Trails Association. Thank you for all the great work you do in our communities to make outdoor recreation accessible. If you would like to support the Trust in its' work preserving and protecting the wilderness areas of the Chebucto Peninsula, donations may be processed through the [website](#).

35TH ANNUAL WORLD TUNA FLAT RACES

Check out the Tuna Flat Races at 11:00 a.m. at the Hubbards Cove Waterfront Park on July 22nd. You can participate in the races by gathering a team of four or come and enjoy the beer tent, barbecue and free children's activities. See their [facebook page](#) for more detail and to register.

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