

## Failed inspection

# Highland Manor facing closure

by Jim Morrow

Highland Manor in Neil's Harbour will not have its operating license renewed unless there is a commitment in writing from the N.S. Department of Health to repair the deficiencies identified by the Fire Marshall's office on July 6th.

Highland Manor's Administrator Esther Blakeney made a presentation to Victoria County Council on June 28th explaining that the fire marshal identified renovations which were required at the manor last year and that nothing had been done and that the Fire Marshall is scheduled to return in the very near future.

The 19 resident facility does not have adequate space for the residents' common room and exceeds the fire marshal's regulations when there are any social functions with guests. There is not adequate storage space for supplies nor does the furniture meet today's fire code regulations.

"All our wheelchairs have to be stored in the washroom as there is not enough floor space for them and when we need to use the washroom the chairs have to be moved out," Ms Blakeney said

One solution the Department of Health made was to close the kitchen  
*see Manor, page two*

## Englishtown Mussel Festival



The 6th Annual Englishtown Mussel Festival saw great crowds enjoying captivating displays, delicious food, sporting events and live music all graced by marvelous weather. Shown are some of the patrons in the line-up for the fresh steamed mussels grown and harvested locally in St. Ann's Bay.

## In reviewing municipal plans

# Council believes it is moving forward with County's development

by Jim Morrow

Deputy Warden, Fraser Patterson, suggested to Municipal Council that three documents which were presented to Council should be reviewed to determine where Council stands with the recommendations of each.

The three documents are 1) the *Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP)* of November 2009 2) The *Economic Development Strategy Possibilities*, also known as the McIntosh Report (December 2009) and 3) *Shaping our Future, Community Based Strategic Plan*, the Novak Report.

Deputy Warden Patterson identified items in a cursory review of these documents that could act as starting points.

Beginning with the *ICSP* which contains 85 actions, Victoria County Council has taken action or is about to take action on 21 of these recommendations. They are as follows:

**ICSP**  
Separate the County Recreation and Tourism departments so that greater focus can be placed on each.

Council advocates and politically works toward changes in sector specific provincial programs that discourage

year-round operations

Collaborate closely with Cape Breton tourism efforts and connect to the larger tourism campaign for the entire region (i.e.: Destination Cape Breton Association).

Continue to work on the revitalization of Ski Cape Smokey with the Ski Cape Smokey Society.

Employ an economic development and sustainability officer.

Join a Regional Development Agency to develop active partnerships in the pursuit of economic development

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## Where were the fireworks?

# Contributions fell way short of target

by Jim Morrow

Canada Day was a perfect blend of excellent weather and national pride all over Victoria County.

The Baddeck Canada Day parade was one of the best ever with floats, music, entertainment and did I mention the weather - nothing short of perfect.

However, some people's expectations were not met when the advertised "largest fireworks display in Eastern Nova Scotia" failed to materialize.

Over the years, the shire town's Canada Day Celebrations have benefited immensely from the efforts of the Baddeck Volunteer Fire Department

(BVFD) and the community has come to expect bigger and better celebrations drawing larger crowds from all over the County and beyond.

It should be pointed out that the purpose of a fire department is to provide fire protection to the public, not necessarily provide canteen services, entertainment or fireworks.

Presently the Baddeck Volunteer Fire Department is facing the remaining \$40,000 debt on the Community Centre roof, down from the original \$90,000 thanks to many generous community contributions.

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## Village of Baddeck Annual meeting

# Deficit comes down water costs go up

by Jim Morrow

The Annual Meeting of the Elector's of the Village of Baddeck, which was held on June 30th at the Community Centre, saw two new commissioners elected.

Fraser MacLeod and Shane MacFarlane were both nominated for a three year term so previously appointed scrutineers, Jim Bradley and Ernest Roberts, passed out ballots to eligible voters. After a tie vote and the drawing of his name from a hat, Mr. MacLeod won.

Richard Roberts was nominated for a two-year term and was unopposed.

The nomination committee's make-

up of a Commissioner and a Village employee was questioned from the floor, but, with no one with any standing to answer, the question the nominations proceeded.

Marilyn Morrison's term had expired but she reoffered and was unopposed.

The Village Commission is now comprised of Eddie Keeling, Marilyn Morrison, Phillip MacRae, Fraser MacLeod and Richard Roberts.

The Auditors report given by John Anderson of Roach Perry Anderson Chartered Accountants noted that the

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