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JOB WELL DONE!

A thousand thanks to the
110 volunteers who made serving
1330
steak, lobster and vegetarian meals to the
Cabot Trail Relay participants look so easy.



**Baddeck Lion's Club
 and the Race Committee**



Municipality of the County of Victoria

Notice of Public Hearing

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT The Municipality of the County of Victoria intends to consider and, if deemed advisable, accept the following:

- 1) Application by Mr. Kurt Johnston to amend the Baddeck Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law to allow Tourist Commercial Uses (Cottages or Cabins) in the Residential Urban (R-1) Zone in Baddeck subject to larger zone requirements.

Copies of the Staff Report which provides more detailed information on this application can be inspected at the Municipal Office in Baddeck, or the Eastern District Planning Commission office, 32 Paint Street, Unit 4, Port Hawkesbury between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays or on our webpage at: www.edpc.ca.

Any written or oral representation or objections to the proposed recommendations may be made before Municipal Council at a Public Hearing to be held in the Court House, Baddeck on:

Monday, July 4th, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.

DATED at Baddeck, NS, June 13th 2011
 Sandy Hudson, Chief Administrative Officer

Posted in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Government Act.

Strictly for the birds

by Bethsheila Kent

As the weather finally warms and the black flies and mosquitoes that present daily challenges to our patience and forbearance emerge, the presence of the insect eaters – flycatchers, swallows, wood warblers and others – take on an almost reverential importance. It is astonishing just how much, by weight, these active and generally small birds can consume between sunup and sundown and I, for one, take great pleasure in their swooping (if swallows), their patient perching on bare twigs of snags before darting out and catching something that may have had its eyes on me for a small snack (if flycatchers) or their deliberate foraging in the mid-to upper canopy range of both hard- and softwoods (if wood warblers and others, such as red-eyed and solitary vireo). If we must endure the annual ritual of the biting and stinging creatures, then bring on their nemeses, the birds!

Spotlight on the Olive-sided Flycatcher:

Our most common Tyrant flycatcher (Tyrant flycatchers are characterized by large, often crested heads, broad, flat bills and the presence of bristly whiskers), olive-sided flycatcher are found in and around the margins of bogs and open, wet areas of conifer forests. A large member of the Tyrannidae family, it measures approximately 7 1/2" in length, is a drab olive-brown above and along its flanks and sides and shows a distinctive streak of white from its chin to its undertail coverts. Two white patches on each side of its rump are sometimes difficult to see. Its tail is short and square. Olive-sided flycatcher display typical flycatcher foraging behaviour. It will perch for long periods on leafless branch ends or atop snags before darting out to grab a snack and return to its perch to enjoy it. Olive-sided flycatcher has a very distinct song that sounds, remarkably, like "quick-three-beers", the second note always higher and the third note long and drawn out. Highly visible because of its penchant for perching in open areas, the olive-sided flycatcher is an early returnee and will suddenly disappear in early fall.

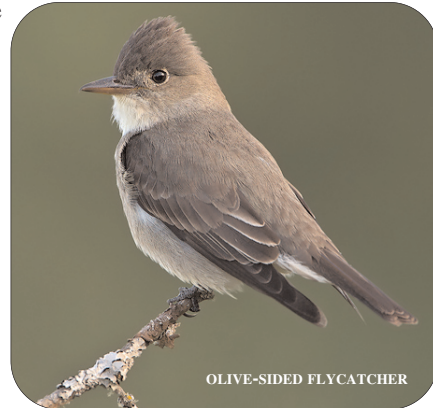
On the water:

I can honestly report that Victoria County's shores, both the Atlantic and Bras d'Or Lake are virtually bereft of bird life as ducks, geese, gulls etc. are consumed with the rigours of ensuring their species. What has been observed this reporting period can likely be counted on both hands – a few double-crested cormorant, the odd herring and great-black backed gull, an American black duck or two, a few pairs of mallard, an occasional belted kingfisher and the odd great blue heron, often in flight, were noted in several locations. Wilson's snipe has been both seen and heard near low-lying wet areas of field margins and high in the sky above, their wing-beats creating their unique winnowing; ovenbird call noisily from wet woods and American woodcock, always furtive, have been flushed from the

margins of several streams. On ponds and small lakes, Canada geese are enjoying parenthood, ring-necked duck appear not to have settled on nests as both male and female birds have been noted and the few common merganser seen on the barachois at River Bennett are likely failed nesters but a pair of wood duck found on a local pond appear to be very close to nesting. I believe a boat ride out to the Bird Islands could remedy this lack of sightings as Atlantic puffin, black guillemot and other sea birds species that nest off shore are there in excellent numbers.

Land Lubbers' Report:

There is no end of sightings to report landward! The most significant personal sighting this reporting period was a brown thrasher at Big Harbour, a huge surprise as this large (to 11 1/2") songbird is normally found no farther east than western New Brunswick. It was its beautiful song – clear whistled notes in complex, melodious phrases repeated two or three times - that dragged my attention



OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER

from the chestnut-sided warbler I was enjoying watching. Other wood warblers noted this reporting period, all in suitable habitat, include yellow, Wilson's, yellow-rumped, magnolia, black and white, northern parula, common yellowthroat, blackburnian, American redstart, black-throated green and Eastern palm. Other

flycatchers include yellow-bellied, least and alder, again all in suitable habitat. All swallow species are present and accounted for, all in suitable habitat – barn and tree near human presence and cliff near water. Common grackle and red-winged blackbird are nesting as are evening grosbeak, blue and grey jay, American robin and all of our woodpeckers – yellow-bellied sapsucker, black-backed, hairy, downy, pileated and northern flicker (single individuals of all species noted in various locations). Other common thrushes, Swainson's (in wet areas) and hermit (not so fussy about habitat) are still singing as are red-eyed and solitary vireo and ruby-crowned kinglet. Lincoln's sparrow has been heard but not yet seen in several suitable locations. Both black-capped and boreal chickadee and golden-crowned kinglet are early nesters and are already out and about with young in tow. Feeder activity is, well, very active! There are flocks of 20 – 30 birds of the following species taking advantage of the bounty at many feeders – American goldfinch, purple finch, pine siskin and dark-eyed junco - with smaller numbers of mourning dove, song and white-throated sparrow and the blackbirds cleaning up the ground beneath. Raptors noted include American bald eagle, osprey, American kestrel and red-tailed and sharp-shinned hawk.

My thanks to Joan Chiasson for her report of an olive-sided flycatcher using one of her feeders as its perch! I can be reached at 295-1749 with birding news.



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