



the Aurora

Vol. 46 No. 18

SEPTEMBER 22, 2025 NO CHARGE

auroranewspaper.com



With air firefighting flight and ground crew responders, operating from 14 Wing Greenwood in support of the West Dalhousie wildfire since August 15, September 5 are 14 Wing Colonel Luc Vachon, second from right, and Wing Chief Warrant Officer Justin Harper, right; support coordinator Lieutenant Jeremy Zinck, left, and Kings West MLA Chris Palmer, third from left, and Annapolis MLA David Bowlby, third from right.

Aviator C. Wilcox, 14 Wing Imaging

'Everyone has their arms wrapped around this' 14 Wing, community leaders extend special thanks to visiting firefighting crew

**Sara White,
Managing editor**

With a wildfire affecting a wide swath of Western Nova Scotia from August 13 – still burning September 18, at its peak displacing several hundred households, destroying several structures, damaging others and burning approximately 8,500 hectares; the people providing much of the air firefighting power were thanked September 5.

14 Wing Greenwood has been hosting a varying set of fixed and rotary wing aircraft since August 15, when Operation Lentus 25-07 stood up as a support to the Province of Nova Scotia's request for federal assistance. 14 Wing has been providing airfield parking, including refueling and wash bay services, Annapolis Café meals and boxed lunches,

Annapolis Mess recreation areas, the base gym, accommodations, transport and more.; with personnel from across many units and squadrons involved in the work.

Colonel Luc Vachon and Wing Chief Warrant Officer Justin Harper, with Kings West MLA Chris Palmer and Annapolis MLA David Bowlby – himself one of the fire zone's evacuees for a time, visited firefighting air and ground crew based out of the Air Movements Unit building and airfield access. 14 Wing personnel tasked to directly support the crews were also on hand. They all headed to the Annapolis Mess to meet a number of the wider 14 Wing command team, personnel and community dignitaries for a thank-you BBQ.

"The fire's been in my neck of the woods," Bowlby said,

as he represents much of the area burning and under threat. "You're here to help people who need you, and your heart shows. We're so fortunate to have you folks here. After three weeks of pounding, getting up in the morning, crew changes – the incident commander says he's never seen morale so high. That's the community; everyone has their arms wrapped around this.

"Thank you so much." Bowlby said he's "spent a significant amount of time" meeting with the people involved in the fire: at incident command and fire briefings, working and volunteering in community support centres, and evacuees.

"To no end, people couldn't say enough about the support of the base, and all the resources."

Just the day before, Bowlby was able to return to his home for the first time since August 24, as fire efforts appeared to have lessened the danger of spread.

"And I slept like a baby." His neighbor MLA, Palmer, ministerial assistant to the Minister of Military Relations and a member of the provincial Veterans Affairs Committee; said he is always proud to visit 14 Wing and recognize the military footprint in his Kings West riding.

"This is a fine example of the province, the military and you all working together," he said. To the military, "thank you for the service you do – it's truly an honour to represent you.

"To our visitors, thank you for what you're doing to fight the fires. And, thanks to the volunteers in communities



September 5, Annapolis MLA David Bowlby, right, represents much of the geography affected by the fire, the evacuation zone – he himself returned to his own home the day before. He had nothing but thanks from residents, fire crews on the ground, and emergency responders for the combined work of the firefighting aircrew, and 14 Wing's hospitality. Pilot Mike Labine, with Buffalo Airways, from Hay River, Northwest Territories; shows him around the AT-802 FireBoss.

Aviator C. Wilcox, 14 Wing Imaging

who are stepping up to help the enablers," and added to our neighbours." the thanks given the visiting

Vachon said the wing and its people, really, are "just Continued on page 2...



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Administrative Response Centre answers your CMP policy questions

Do you have questions about Chief of Military Personnel (CMP) policies on topics like benefits, health and careers that unit subject matter experts are unable to answer? The Administrative Response Centre (ARC) is available to help.

The ARC answers questions about CMP policies that affect Canadian Armed Forces members by collaborating with policyholders to provide clear, timely and comprehensive information on compensation and benefits, careers, health, training, dress, honours and awards, and other related policies under CMP's authority. CAF members, veterans, and family members are welcome to reach out to the ARC directly, but should first seek

assistance through their unit and local offices of primary interest (OPIs) and/ or chains of command.

The ARC works in close collaboration with CMP policyholders to:

- support CAF members and their families, including chains of command, unit chief petty officers first class/ chief warrant officers, human resources administrators, financial services administrators, chaplains and personnel selection officers among other local OPIs
- identify issues related to misinterpretation, misapplication, gaps, and divergence in existing CMP personnel policies through the triage and tracking of

queries;

- identify key personnel policy issues affecting CAF members for policy OPIs
- use observations to assist policy working groups
- use data captured from the queries to provide analytics and insight on current CMP policies

ARC staff are experienced, engaged and dedicated, answering an average of more than 2,800 queries per year and recently answering the 15,000th query since initial operational capability was reached in 2019!

The ARC's mandate is to provide clarifications on established CMP military personnel policies; however, ARC services:

- do not replace local subject

FOR CLARIFICATION ON Chief of Military Personnel POLICIES:

1-833-445-1182 or
CMPARC.CRACPM@forces.gc.ca

cmp arc
ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSE CENTRE

matter experts, such as orderly rooms, claims offices, health services unit, chaplains, or personnel selection officers

- do not replace or invalidate a CAF member's requirement to engage their chain of command and/ or unit and local OPIs
- cannot adjudicate on policies or on grievances or

other requests requiring formal adjudication, or with policies where CMP is not the functional authority

- cannot provide procedural guidance or assistance (e.g Regular Force CCPS/ Reserve Force RPSR pay systems, ClaimsX, Guardian HRMS)
- cannot provide information relating to other active pro-

cesses (e.g. administrative reviews, harassment investigations or legal proceedings, class action lawsuits)

To quickly resolve issues, the ARC encourages all personnel to familiarize themselves with the CMP policies in question and use their unit OPIs and chain of command prior to requesting clarification. ➔

Everyone has...

...cover

firefighting crews.

"You guys are fighting the fight," he said. "We see you, we hear you" on the base, "but we don't notice you here: you're not generating any extra work. We 'Operate as One' (the wing's motto) on the wing, and you're right here with that. It's been very positive having you here."

Vachon also thanked the military units and personnel who have provided seamless care for the visitors, and said their contributions are being reported several times a day to higher headquarters and the Canadian Joint Operations Centre through calls, emails and briefings.

"Everyone is extremely happy with the work that's being done." ➔



14 Wing Greenwood Colonel Luc Vachon, left, with Wing Chief Warrant Officer Justin Harper, right, presented Lieutenant Jeremy Zinck with a commander's coin during a September 5 appreciation BBQ to thank visiting civilian firefighting air crew responding to the West Dalhousie wildfire. Zinck is coordinating many of the support services the wing is providing in its Op Lentus role, and providing the detail and daily briefings that keep it coming.

Aviator C. Wilcox,
14 Wing Imaging

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Circulation | Circulation: **4,500 bi-weekly Mondays** | Lundis bihebdomadaires
Agreement No. | Numéro de contrat : **462268**

Fax: 902-765-1717

Website | Site Web : **www.auroranewspaper.com**
The Aurora, PO Box 99, Greenwood NS B0P 1N0
L'Aurora, C.P. 99, Greenwood (N.-É.) B0P 1N0

Location | Emplacement : **61 School Road, Morfee Annex**
61 School Road, Annexe Morfee

Mail subscriptions: annual \$65 plus tax, biweekly \$2.71 plus tax.
Abonnements par correspondance: 65 \$ par année plus taxes , aux deux semaines 2,71 \$ plus taxes.

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Next print Aurora Newspaper:
October 6. Deadline for editorial and advertising content: **October 1**
Prochaine impression du journal d'Aurora :
6 octobre. Date limite pour le contenu éditorial et publicitaire : **1 octobre**



CE team tackles cross-border project, partnership

Lieutenant Ognjen Marceta, 144 Construction Engineering Flight, Pictou, 14 Construction Engineering Squadron

Members of 14 Construction Engineering Squadron



(CES), supported by 14 Mission Support Squadron, 14 Wing Greenwood; participated in the Construction Engineer Project Exchange Program (CEPEP) July 14 to 26 at Fort Indiantown Gap in Annville, Pennsylvania.

The Canadian team con-

tributed to several key infrastructure projects, including the construction of a concrete Rapid Airfield Damage Repair (RADR) pad to be used for runway repair training, and a range tower for rifle training oversight. RADR highlights include cutting, levelling, grading and compacting 20,250 square feet; laying 1,540 feet - and removing 1,040 feet - of metal forms, plus staking 616 pins for the forms; and pouring 685 cubic yards of concrete. The range tower was a 16 foot by 16 foot by 19 foot structure, with 722 square feet each of roof decking, waterproofing and metal roofing, 142 square feet of wood forms, 10 yards of poured concrete for footers, mudding and taping 72



linear feet of drywall; communications wiring and a triad lighting protection system.

Working seamlessly alongside their American counterparts, the 201st Red Horse Squadron, the team fostered strong camaraderie and created valuable cross-training opportunities across a variety of trades. The deployment underscored the importance of teamwork and leadership, especially under challenging conditions. Early mornings, high temperatures and demanding tasks, such as concrete pours, tested the team's resilience and adaptability. Despite many participants not coming from a construction background, everyone embraced the learning experience and contributed

meaningfully to the mission.

The collaboration was well-received by U.S. forces, who appreciated the dedication and effort shown by the Canadian contingent. While the work was physically demanding, particularly in the summer heat, it proved to

be both rewarding and enjoyable, thanks to the spirit of cooperation and shared purpose. Overall, the exercise was a resounding success, strengthening international ties and providing hands-on experience in large-scale engineering operations. ➔

Museum celebrates 30 years showcasing Greenwood aviation story

Malcolm Uhlman,
Greenwood Military
Aviation Museum

The Greenwood Military Aviation Museum (GMAM) proudly celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2025, marking three decades of preserving and showcasing the rich aviation history of Base Greenwood and its units.

Officially opened May 27, 1995, the museum began as a modest operation in a former civilian grocery store, outdoor furniture store and, lastly, the base's library, located "on top of the hill" from today's air park, offering just 1,100 square feet of exhibit space. The original air park was on the wing's parade ground on the old flight line and totaled only three aircraft: a Lancaster, a Neptune and an Argus.

The vision for a museum was first championed by then-14 Wing Commander Colonel Ken Allen, brought to life by a dedicated team of volunteers, led by Major-General (retired) Ian Patrick. That inaugural year welcomed 587 visitors, a number that grew to 2,000 by 1997 and to over 23,000 in 2014.

As the collection expanded, a larger venue was required and, in 2000, the museum moved into its current 11,000-square-foot location, formerly the food store at the CANEX; following extensive renovations, done mainly by volunteers.

The grand opening was officiated by then-14 Wing Commander Colonel Brian Handley, who now serves as the mu-



seum society's president. That same year, the GMAM was recognized as Nova Scotia's Best New Tourist Attraction with a budget under \$40,000.

In the years that followed, the museum grew, not just in size, but in scope and community involvement: 2001 – the Greenwood Art Association was established 2002 – the Flight Education Program launched (conceived, developed/ designed, implemented and managed by the late Lloyd Graham) to augment the Theory of Flight portion of local school's Grade 6 curriculum; to date, more than 10,000 students have gone through

the program!

2003 – the Argus Tactical Procedures Trainer (TCPT), donated by the Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum, was refurbished and installed in the newly-built Ray Parsons Annex (the museum's first restoration project)

2004 to 2012 – major restoration projects included a 1940s Willys Jeep, Anson, Dakota, Sperwer UAV and Bolingbroke aircraft, culminating in the completion of a museum extension in 2012, adding another 6,000 square feet of display space.

Today, the museum features an impressive air park,

displaying 10 historic aircraft types that once flew from Base Greenwood and with its squadrons overseas during the Second World War, with two additional aircraft housed inside the museum extension. Currently, there is another aircraft being restored in the workshop, which will be added to the air park in the near future. A Sperwer UAV and thousands of artifacts representing the base's role from the Second World War to the present day are on display inside the museum.

One of the museum's most cherished features is its Commemorative Garden, donated

to the GMAM by the local chamber of commerce in the aftermath of the Labrador 305 tragedy in 1998, which has grown to include numerous memorial stones honoring crews lost in service. Over 400 individual stones have since been donated by those who served at Greenwood or elsewhere in any allied forces, offering a deeply personal connection to the base's legacy.

"The Greenwood Military Aviation Museum stands today as a testimony the dedication of our volunteers and the enduring legacy of those who served at this base," says Colonel (retired) Brian Hand-

ley, museum society president.

We invite everyone to join us in celebrating this milestone and to experience the remarkable history preserved within these walls. Visit the Greenwood Military Aviation Museum, the air park, Commemorative Garden and gift shop in person (free admission), visit gmam.ca for photos and articles about restoration efforts, the collection and history; and the museum society, and how to get involved as a volunteer. Follow on Facebook @ Greenwood Military Aviation Museum for day-to-day news, events and interesting happenings. ➔

Museum launches monthly Aviator's Challenge

Ready to test your aviation knowledge with a high-flying challenge, guaranteed to get your engines revving? The Greenwood Military Aviation Museum has launched an all-new, all-ages, monthly challenge token series.

Each month, a new, unique token is up for grabs as you visit the museum and complete the challenge quiz. There are quizzes for every age group, so this challenge is open to everyone. Collect 12 tokens over 12 months for a special prize.

September's challenge token honours one of the most

iconic aircraft in history: the mighty Avro Lancaster.

The Avro Lancaster is a true legend. Originally flying as the Manchester III, this powerhouse went on to become the primary heavy bomber for RAF Bomber Command through the Second World War, known for its incredible durability and ability to fly home even after sustaining heavy damage. This wasn't just a British icon; Canadian-built Lancasters played a crucial role in maritime patrol for years, right here at home.

And, guess what? The Greenwood museum has its

own piece of history right here: "Gutless Gert." This Second World War-flown Lancaster has been meticulously restored by countless volunteers, on display in the museum's outdoor air park as a testament to the dedication of those who kept these incredible machines in the air.

So, what are you waiting for? Head over to the Greenwood Aviation Museum - admission is always free - and take on the monthly challenge series. Will you earn your wings and bring home September's first Lancaster challenge coin? ➔



The September launch token of the new Greenwood Military Aviation Museum's monthly challenge series features the Lancaster. Test your knowledge in multi-age quizzes and start your aviation collection!

Submitted

404 Squadron preparing for RCAF CP8A Poseidon synthetic trainers

Bill Brown,
Chief simulation officer,
404 (Long Range Patrol
and Training) Squadron

The Buffalo "Herd" at 404 (Long Range Patrol and Training) Squadron, 14 Wing Greenwood; hosted visitors from the United States Naval Air Warfare Training Services Division (NAWCTSD), the Canadian Multi-Mission Aircraft (CMM) Project Management Office team, amongst other Infrastructure visitors; August 22 to 24.

For 404 Squadron, there were two focus areas: first, a survey on the installation of the new virtual maintenance trainers (VMT) and the technician electronic classrooms (EC) was completed. These high-technology devices will give the Poseidon technicians excellent maintainer training before they graduate from 404 Squadron's Operational Training Unit (OTU) and report to their new duties keeping the Poseidon fleet mission ready. The VMTs and ECs will be in the Hornell Centre until the OUT's new building infrastructure is ready.

Secondly, two days of discussion focussed on the detailed aircrew synthetic training capabilities to be brought in with the arrival of the new weapon system trainers (WST). The WST is composed of a pilot trainer – the operation flight trainer and the airborne electronic sensor operator and air combat systems officer tactical crew trainer – the weapons tactics trainer. The combined trainers forming the WST together provide aircrew with leading-edge basic and advanced synthetic training. The WST will prepare crews to conduct long endurance surveillance missions and protect Canada's three maritime approaches from aggressive nations. Planning is maturing to network the CP8A WST with other Canadian Armed Forces' synthetic trainers and Five Eye allies.

The Department of National Defence's Public Service Simulation Flight is unique in Canada and has provided - and will continue to provide - the best training for the best people at 404 Squadron's OTU. Our mission is to ensure our RCAF crews are "Ready to Fight!" ➔



Visitors to 404 (Long Range Patrol) Squadron August 22 included Canadian and American partners in the planning for new CP8A Poseidon maintainer training spaces

Corporal W. Pnelt



14 Wing Greenwood's 404 (Long Range Patrol) Squadron is preparing to make full use of a P8 Poseidon virtual maintenance trainer, as the aircraft's imminent introduction to the Royal Canadian Air Force draws closer.

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September 30 Truth and Reconciliation Day events in Greenwood

September 30, join the 14 Wing Greenwood Defence Indigenous Advisory Group and mark National Truth and Reconciliation Day. Everyone is welcome. Attendees are encouraged to wear an orange T-shirt.

From 8 a.m., gather at 26 Canadian Forces Health Services, across from the Annapolis Mess. The CFHS parking lot will be closed unless accessible parking is required.

At 8:30 a.m., there will be a flag-raising. Welcome remarks will be followed by a community walk, starting from the CFHS parking lot, along Swordfish Drive, through the Residential Housing Units' gate from Kingwood Road, and along Church Street, turning right on Ward Road to pass through the 14 Wing main gate and end at the Birchall Training Centre. At 9:15 a.m., on the Birchall lawn, join in a smudge and welcome speeches (bring a folding chair or blanket if you like). The event will close at 10:30 a.m.

In case of inclement weather, the 8:30 a.m. flag-raising will be followed at 8:45 a.m. by a gathering, speeches and the smudge in the Annapolis Mess.

Show of orange sign of solidarity

It will be hard to miss seeing orange around 14 Wing Greenwood through September, as Personnel Support Program and Military Family Services civilian staff wear coloured T-shirts to work, a partnership with the 14 Wing Defence Indigenous Advisory Group (DIAG) as the September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation approaches.

"Throughout the month of September, staff at PSP and MFS will be proudly wearing orange shirts," says Philippa Arbiter, PSP deputy manager.

"This initiative is a visible and meaningful gesture to honour the survivors of residential schools, their families and the children who never returned home."

Orange Shirt Day origi-

nated from the story of Phyllis Webstad, whose brand-new orange shirt was taken away on her first day at a residential school. It has since become a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations. The shirts PSP and MFS staff will wear through September were designed by artist Brooklyn Rudolph-Nicholas, from the Pimicikamak Cree Nation; purchased through Walmart, with 100 per cent of its profit shared between the Orange Shirt Society and Indian Residential School Survivors Society.

By wearing orange through their shift schedules at several facilities on base where military personnel, civilian peers and community members come and go; PSP and MFS staff are not only showing solidarity with Indigenous communities, but also reinforcing the importance of visibility for underrepresented people. Visibility fosters awareness, understanding, and, ultimately, change.



14 Wing Greenwood Personnel Support Program staff Tanya Brooks, left and Tommy Daniels are among PSP and Military Family Services civilian staff wearing orange on the job, a partnership with the 14 Wing Defence Indigenous Advisory Group as the September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation approaches. Submitted

"This is more than just a shirt - it's a statement," Arbiter says. "It's about acknowledging the past, educating ourselves and committing to a more inclusive future."

PSP and MFS staff are encouraged to engage in learning opportunities, conversations and community

events that deepen their understanding of Indigenous history and the ongoing impacts of colonialism. Many will attend - and bring their families - to a DIAG-hosted, public September 30 flag-raising and shared walk on the wing, beginning at 8:30 a.m. →



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Positive Space Ambassador training for everyone

October 20 and 21, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days, there will be a Positive Space Ambassador training in Classroom 2 of the Birchall Training Centre.

This training is available to all military and Defence



Team members who wish to broaden their understand of the 2SLGBTQI+ com-

munity and how best to support both members and non-members of the community. You do not need to be recognized or take on the responsibility of an ambassador; you may simply take this training for educational

purposes.

Register online from the 14 Wing internal Splashpage. Contact Captain Michelle Backhouse, michelle.backhouse@forces.gc.ca, with any questions or assistance registering. →

Air Cadets looking for ground school instructors

Regional Cadet Support Unit (Atlantic)/ Cadets is looking for enthusiastic

volunteers to help deliver ground school programs to

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RMC alumni invited for October 7 luncheon

The Atlantic Branch of the Royal Military Colleges of Canada Alumni Association invites all alumni to an informal luncheon at the VP In-

ternational Centre, 14 Wing Greenwood, noon to 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 7.

Guided tours of the Greenwood Military Aviation

Museum on completion of the luncheon. Please RSVP

to colleges@rmcalumniatlantic.ca →



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October 3 marks annual VP International memorial service

Friday, October 3, at 11 a.m.; 14 Wing Greenwood will host the annual international VPI memorial service at the VPI monument, just inside the base main gates. A reception will follow at the VPI Centre. Command teams will wear Ceremonial 1A with medals; the remainder of attendees will wear dress of the day

In case of inclement weather, the service will be



held October 7. In case of inclement weather October 7, the service will move to the Annapolis Mess. A weather call will be made at 8 a.m., both dates, as needed.



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July 29, Sergeant Laura Hanna, second from right, with Wing Comptroller, was promoted to current rank by Major Christina King, left, and Deputy Wing Commander Branch Chief Warrant Officer Jamie Vallis.



August 12, 14 Operations Support Squadron Master Corporal Geoffrey Keighley, centre, was appointed to current rank by Lieutenant-Colonel Garrett Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



September 11, Sergeant Cory Lefort, centre, acting as the chairperson of the CP8A Poseidon Service and Elementary Training Plan Writing Board; was presented a letter of appreciation from PMO Canadian Multi-Mission Aircraft to recognize the significant contributions Lefort made to the important CP8A fleet development efforts; presented by 415 (Long Range Patrol Force Development) Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel PL Lafontaine, left, with Master Warrant Officer Ian Macneil.



August 22, Captain Quinlan MacNeil, centre, was promoted to current rank by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garrett Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



August 8, Transportation Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Flight Transportation Officer Captain Captain Jeff Mclean, second from left, was promoted to current rank by 14 Mission Support Sqsdron Lieutenant-Colonel Shawn McGeown, left; with Master Warrant Officer Barry Brownell, TEME Flight flight warrant, second from right, and Master Warrant Officer Kristi Arseneau.



July 3, Lieutenant-Colonel Kendra Bencun, centre, was promoted to current rank by 14 Wing Greenwood Colonel Luc Vachon, left, and 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garrett Milne.



September 11, Sergeant Shane Taylor, centre, acting as the secretary of the CP8A Poseidon Service and Elementary Training Plan Writing Board; was presented a letter of appreciation from PMO Canadian Multi-Mission Aircraft to recognize the significant contributions Taylor made to the important CP8A fleet development efforts; presented by 415 (Long Range Patrol Force Development) Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel PL Lafontaine, left, with Master Warrant Officer Ian Macneil.



August 6, Captain Danielle Beland, centre, was presented the King Charles Coronation Medal by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garratt Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



July 28, Aviator Travis Taylor, centre, was promoted to current rank of aviator (trained) by 14 Fire Emergency Services Fire Chief Captain Ilya Mosiychuk, left, with Construction Engineering Prod Officer Warrant Officer Danny Coulombe.



August 6, Sergeant Jeff Beaton, centre, was presented the Canadian Forces Decoration by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garratt Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



August 6, Captain John Cowley, centre, was presented the Canadian Forces Decoration First Clasp by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garratt Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



July 29, Captain Ramy Nader, centre, with Wing Comptroller; was promoted to current rank by Major Christina King, left, and Deputy Wing Commander Branch Chief Warrant Officer Jamie Vallis.



July 11, Aviator Ben Martin, centre, was promoted to current rank of aviator (trained) by 14 Fire Emergency Services Fire Chief Captain Ilya Mosiychuk, left, with Deputy Fire Chief Master Warrant Officer Eric Beauclair.



July 18, Corporal Nirmalachandran, centre, was recognized as Air Traffic Control Flight Shepherd of the Quarter at 14 Wing Greenwood, presented by ATC Flight Commander Major Andrew Basley, left, and ATC Flight Master Warrant Officer Paul Messier.



August 6, Aviator (Basic) Faulkner, centre, was promoted to aviator (trained) by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garratt Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



August 22, Corporal Keith Smart, centre, was presented the Canadian Forces Decoration by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garret Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



August 22, Corporal Jennifer Winter, centre, was patched as a Sentinel, and the awarded the Awesome Opossum of the Quarter Award; by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garret Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



September 2, Warrant Officer Chris Cashen, centre, was promoted to current rank by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garrett Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



September 11, 14 Mission Support Squadron Construction Engineering Flight Aviator Tyler MacDonald, centre, was promoted to corporal while on Op HORIZON in Indonesia.



August 22, Aviator (Trained) Janid Smysniuk, centre, was promoted to current rank by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garret Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



August 6, Captain Clay Feltham, centre, was presented the Canadian Forces Decoration by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garratt Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



September 5, Lieutenant Mathieu Cinq-Mars, centre, was promoted by 14 Air Maintenance Squadron Captain Mollie Davidson, left; with Chief Warrant Officer Randy Halvorsen.



August 6, Second Lieutenant Russell Chun, centre, was promoted to lieutenant by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garratt Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



August 22, Master Corporal Samuel Josey, centre, was appointed to current rank by 14 Operations Support Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel Garret Milne, left, with Chief Warrant Officer Greg Huizinga.



Kendra Alain, left, with Wing Comptroller; July 29 was awarded the 14 Wing Greenwood Command Team Coin by 14 Wing Chief Warrant Officer Justin Harper.



September 11, Major Jeremy Tibbetts, centre, was presented the Canadian Forces Decoration 1st Clasp (CD1) by 415 (Long Range Patrol Force Development) Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel PL Lafontaine, left, with Master Warrant Officer Ian Macneil.



September 11, Master Warrant Officer Tyler Klassen, centre, was presented the Canadian Forces Decoration 1st Clasp (CD1) by 415 (Long Range Patrol Force Development) Squadron Lieutenant-Colonel PL Lafontaine, left, with Master Warrant Officer Ian Macneil.



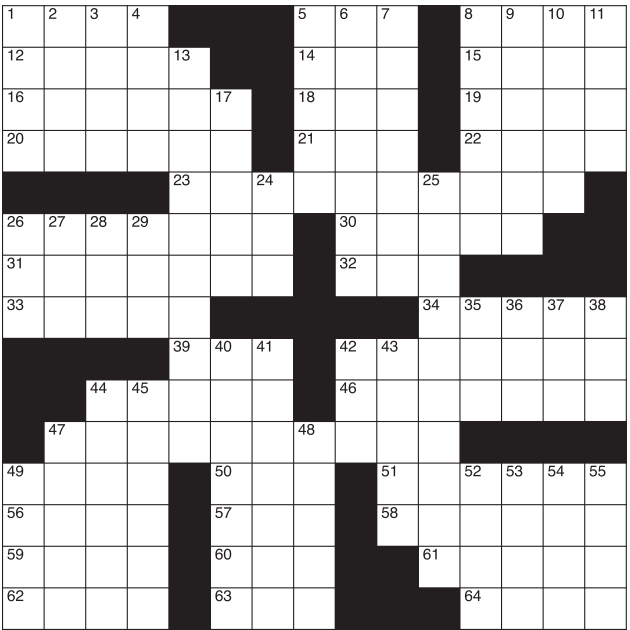
The Aurora publishes items of interest to the community submitted by not-for-profit organizations. Submissions are limited to approximately 25 words. Items may be submitted to our office, 61 School Road (Morfee Annex), 14 Wing Greenwood; by fax, 902-765-1717; or email auroraeditor@ns.aliantzinc.ca. Dated announcements are published on a first-come, first-served basis, and on-going notices will be included as space allows. To guarantee your announcement, you may choose to place a paid advertisement. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., previous to publication unless otherwise notified.

Le commandant publie des avis

d'intérêt public soumis par des organisations à but non lucratif. Ces avis doivent se limiter à environ 25 mots. Les avis peuvent être soumis à nos bureaux, au 61, School Road, (annexe Morfee), 14e Escadre Greenwood, par fax au 902-765-1717 ou par courriel à l'adresse auroraeditor@ns.aliantzinc.ca. Les annonces avec date sont publiées selon le principe du premier arrivé, premier servi, et les avis continus seront inclus si l'espace le permet. Si vous voulez être certain que votre avis soit publié, vous voudrez peut-être acheter de la publicité. La date de tombée des soumissions est à 9 h 30 du matin le mercredi précédant la publication, à moins d'avis contraire.

crossword

solution page 11



- ACROSS**
- Remark
 - Upper body part
 - Expression of dismissiveness
 - Alternate name
 - Popular beverage
 - Swiss river
 - Step-shaped recess
 - Rocker Stewart
 - Bright shade of color
 - Popular 'street'
 - Wrath
 - Heat units
 - Nocturnal omnivorous mammals
 - Fall back into
 - Remove from the record
 - Sound a splash made
 - Popular Dodge pickup model
 - Jamaican river
 - Notable event in Texas history
 - Cool!
 - Subset of Judaism
 - Newly entered cadet
 - Duct in urinary system
 - Extremator
 - Snatch quickly
 - Have already done
 - Less healthy
 - Therefore
 - What couples say on the altar
 - Mysteriously
 - Look angry or sullen
 - Bird's beak
 - Taco ingredient
 - Square measures
 - Google certification (abbr.)
 - Singer Hansard
 1. Pubs
 - Wings
 - Popular BBQ dish
 - Small sponge cake
 - Open-roofed entrance halls
 - Organize anew
 - Type of wine
 - Forums
 - North Atlantic islands (alt. sp.)
 - Pond dwellers
 - Large integers
 - Signaled
 17. Brief
 - Type of student
 - Tibetan monasteries
 - Revolutions per minute
 - NY Giants great
 - Manning
 - Local area network
 - Residue from burning
 - Illuminated
 - Vasopressin
 - Notable space station
 - Wood sorrel
 - Adhering to laws
 - Chose
 - Hovel
 - Stood up
 - European city
 - Works ceaselessly
 - Mistake
 - Sun-dried brick
 - Sicilian city
 - A steep rugged rock or cliff
 - Murder
 - Other
 - 'Deadpool' actor Reynolds

crossword brought to you compliments of



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902-765-6381



Life drawing classes

September 22, 29, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; 7Arts in Greenwood invites you to immerse yourself in some friendly round-table critiques, share your pieces and explore a drawing mediums. For ages 18+. \$25 per person per class or all four classes for just \$80. Register at info@7Arts.ca

How to Start a Non-Profit in Five Easy Steps – webinar

September 24, 7 p.m., the Kings Volunteer Resource Centre and Volunteer Nova Scotia host a webinar to guide you through the steps to launch your organization - from defining your mission and understanding legal requirements to securing funding and building your team. Sign up under Events at volunteerns.ca

Supper

September 25, 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. (or till the food runs out!), the Aylesford Lions, 2160 Hwy 1, Auburn; host a dinner in support of the Lake Paul & Lake George Community Centre. Turkey burger, dressing, turnip, coleslaw and cranberry sauce, apple crisp and ice cream. Cost: \$12 per person, eat in or take-out, children under five free for eat-in only.

Veterans' coffee break

September 26; 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; 7Arts in Greenwood hosts the Veteran's Lodge Buddy Check

coffee, free, and open to all Annapolis Valley veterans and serving members. Register at theveteranslodge@gmail.com

Makers Space

September 27, 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., 7Arts in Greenwood invites you to bring a project, start something new or purchase a kit. Starts at \$10. Caregivers free.

Food drive

September 27, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Berwick Girl Guides Stuff-A-Tent event will be held on the Berwick town hall lawn. Youth are collecting non-perishable food for the Berwick Food Bank. Organization/ team/ corporate challenge: most items dropped off – win a box EACH of mint and classic sandwich cookies! Info: Facebook @Berwick Girl Guides.

Sound bath event

September 27, 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., the Kingston Lions Hall, 1482 Veterans Lane, hosts a sound bath with Inner Echo Sound Healing. Tickets are \$25 - call 902-389-3867.

Youth art lessons

October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., 7Arts in Greenwood hosts youth art lessons (ages 10 to 14). Explore sketching, texture art, painting and clay. Supplies included \$25 per class or \$80 for four classes. Register at info@7Arts.ca

Theatre – Rocky Horror on stage

October 2 to 18, Rocky Horror takes over the Al Whittle Theatre, Wolfville. Bold music, outrageous characters, local talent, live band. The musical follows straight-laced couple Brad and Janet, whose car troubles land them on the doorstep of Dr. Frank 'N' Furter and a night of strange experiments and wild encounters. Also - low-sensory and late-night shows. Tickets: \$0 - \$39 in advance, \$44 at the door or at valleyevents.ca

Veterans' coffee

October 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 7Arts in Greenwood hosts the free Veteran's Lodge Coffee. Open to all Annapolis Valley veterans and serving members. Register at theveteranslodge@gmail.com

Cakes for the Cause

October 3, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., and October 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., pick up your Cakes for the Cause, as the Aylesford & District Lions help the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides. Its new training facility is over 50 per cent complete; however, with the rise in building costs and tariffs, the foundation needs additional funds to complete the project. Help Lions help others by purchasing cakes for the cause! Homemade carrot cake with cream cheese icing or Black Forest cake with cherries and whipped cream. Whole cake (9 x 13") \$45, half cake (9 x 6 ½") \$25, or by the slice \$5. Pre-order at secretaryaylesfordlions@gmail.com or call 902-765-3323.

Girl Guide cookies

October 4, 10 a.m. to noon, Berwick Girl Guides will be selling their Fall chocolate mint cookies. Find us at Bargain Harley's, Berwick Home Hardware and at



solution page 11

5				6	2	1	
	2	6	1	4	7	3	
7					5	2	
		7		1	6	4	8
3					8		9
	6				3	5	7
4	3			1	7		
1	7		6				
6		5		7		3	4

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Veteran, family, continue search for kidney donor

Officer Cadet
Laura Lascelle

"It's just something people don't think about - until you have a person in your family in need of an organ," says Toni Dinn.

According to Nova Scotia Health, one individual's organ donation could better or save up to eight lives, but there is a much higher chance someone will acquire an illness that will require a transplant than there is they would become a donor.

For Dinn and her husband, Chris MacDonald, that realization came in July 2024, when MacDonald's kidney functions plummeted from 25 per cent to just five per cent, and he was placed on the transplant list. Now, a year later, and with no news from the Multi Organ Transplant Program (MOTP), he has agreed to start searching for a live donor.

"I got tested, but I wasn't able to donate because of my own health issues," says Dinn. "A few other people who volunteered were in the same boat."

But the couple isn't giving up the search.

"It only takes one person, right? You need to find that one right person that is healthy enough, and wants to, and is a match."

With over a quarter of the 80 to 100 kidney transplants

the MOTP's kidney transplant program performs every year coming from living donors, Dinn is hopeful that "right person" for MacDonald is out there.

McDonald first discovered he had polycystic kidney disease in 2012, when his father was diagnosed with the hereditary condition.

"It wasn't that bad at the time," says Dinn. "They monitored him for quite a few years and kept checking his kidney functions."

At the time of his diagnosis, MacDonald and his family were still new to the Valley, posted to 14 Wing Greenwood only two years prior. Over the next few years, however, working as a construction technician on the wing and helping with community projects such as the McMaster Mills boardwalk, MacDonald and his family grew to love the Valley, eventually deciding to retire in Greenwood when MacDonald medically released from the military in 2019. A year later, he channeled his love of building and comic books into helping Dinn open a comic bookstore in Greenwood, Keystone Comics. More than somewhere to pass the time, the store became a way for MacDonald to reconnect with the military community, making friends with serving members who shared his love of comics. Unfortunately, when

MacDonald's condition took a turn for the worse in March, Dinn was left with no choice but to close the little shop.

A few short months later, the couple was making the trip to Halifax's Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre to learn how to operate an at-home dialysis machine. Although the nurses were very helpful, seeing the pallets of medical supplies delivered to their door as they returned home was overwhelming.

"We're very lucky the Canadian government covers the cost of all this for dialysis patients, because I don't know how anybody would be able to afford to pay for all this," says Dinn.

Since only 7.6 per cent of

Veteran, family, continue search for kidney donor

In 2024, 58 per cent of the 3,212 organ transplants performed in Canada were for kidneys but, as of December 31, there were still 4,044 Canadians on the waitlist to receive a transplant. As the first jurisdiction in North America to adopt presumed consent organ and tissue donation, Nova Scotia now has the highest rate of organ and tissue donor registration in the country, but there are still almost 60,000 Nova Scotians who have opted out of deemed

consent, a number that represents approximately five per cent of the eligible donor population. Unlike other organs, liver and kidney transplants can come from living donors but, for both legal and ethical reasons, donating an organ in Canada must be a gift.

Anyone interested in being assessed as a potential living donor may contact the Multi Organ Transplant Program live kidney donor coordinator at 902-473-5501.

Canada's population is B positive, doctors say MacDonald could wait a year to find a compatible kidney, but Dinn remains hopeful he will soon be treated.

"I was optimistic, I guess.

Too optimistic, because I had all these plans that we were going to have a kidney by

such and such a date," she says. "I figured, 'for sure,' and, by the time the summer came, he would be at least close to being healed and we could start doing things again - but that hasn't happened."

While Dinn and MacDonald hope the right match for them will be found soon, they are

also hoping that their story will inspire others to consider becoming a donor, and perhaps help other families also on the waitlist.

"I'd just like to get organ donation out there more. He's not the only one waiting. There's lots of people in need." ➔

classifieds

Classified advertisements, 35 words or less, are \$10 tax included. Additional words are 10 cents each, plus tax. Bold text \$11, tax included.

Classified advertising must be booked and prepaid by 9 a.m. Wednesday previous to publication. Payment methods include VISA, MasterCard, AMEX, debit or cash. The Aurora is not responsible for products and/or services advertised. To place a classified, contact 902-765-1494 local 568-5699, visit the office, 61 School Road, Morfee Annex, Greenwood; email auroraproduction@ns.aliantzinc.ca or fax 902-765-1717.

To place a boxed, display ad, contact 902-765-1494 local 568-5833; email auroramarketing@ns.aliantzinc.ca.

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Les annonces classées doivent être réservées et payées à l'avance avant 9 h, le mercredi précédant la publication. Les modes de paiement acceptés incluent VISA, MasterCard, AMEX, débit ou comptant. L'Aurora n'est pas responsable des produits et/ou services annoncés. Pour faire publier une annonce classée, vous pouvez nous appeler au 902-765-1494

poste 568-5699, visiter notre bureau au 61, School Road, annexe Morfee à Greenwood, nous envoyer un courriel à auroraproduction@ns.aliantzinc.ca ou nous transmettre un fax au 902-765-1717.

Pour faire paraître une publicité dans un encadré, appelez-nous au 902-765-1494 poste 568-5833, ou un courriel à auroramarketing@ns.aliantzinc.ca.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

FOR RENT – Margaretsville – Two bedroom upstairs apartment with front deck, 4 appliances included (w/d, f/s). Small pets preferred. Available now - \$2,000/ month, heat and lights included. Call/text 902-312-1233. (4618-11pb)

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rock hummingbird carvings, dream catchers, trees of life, toys, sport cards, filing cabinets and other interesting items. Be kind to each other. Tables available for rent call 902-847-0324. Thank you. (4617-4tpb)

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Full name _____ Phone number _____

Complete the following questions from ads in the current issue and win a **\$20 coupon to play Friday Night BINGO** from **Aylesford & District Lions Club**. Coupons valid for 1 year. Age 17+ on regular games.

1. What is Homeopathic Consultations' email address? _____
2. When is the application deadline where you can make a difference? _____
3. What is MLA David Bowlby's toll free phone number? _____
4. Does Sullivan Fuels accept Interac email money transfers? _____
5. Who can help you learn to skate? _____

Congratulations to this week's winner: JANICE DAKIN



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Ruck march weight, distance challenge first responders' burden

Invitation extended to join in September 27 Valley route, awareness

Sara White,
Managing editor

Sailor First Class (retired) Matthew Galloway is hoping September 27 isn't too hot, that his feet hold out, and that the end of his 40-kilometre rucksack march from Middleton to Greenwood and back isn't as quiet as his first Never Marching Alone challenge was.

Galloway, currently an electrical student at NSCC Middleton, set out August 23 on his inaugural Never Marching Alone adventure, leaving the cenotaph at Sullivan's Pond in Dartmouth to arrive at 12 Wing Shearwater and the Army Navy Air Force Association Unit 349. He's walking in solidarity with veterans, first responders and their families, with the 40-pound rucksack representing the mental health burdens many of them live with.

"The Dartmouth march was

meaningful for me personally but, I'll be honest, the finish line was quiet," Galloway says. "In a way, that silence reflected the very message behind the march: too many veterans and first responders carry their burdens alone."

His second outing, coming up September 27, comes with a clear invitation for the community to support his efforts to raise awareness, funds for the Never Marching Alone fundraising beneficiary, Wounded Warriors Canada; and even join him on part or all of the route. He'll start at 8 a.m. from the NSCC Middleton campus and trek Highway 201 to Greenwood; returning to Middleton in a loop just after 4 p.m.

"Anyone who has an interest in joining is welcome - whether by walking part of the route, cheering at the finish or simply being present. There is no requirement to carry weight - some may choose to,

while others may simply walk without it. Both are equally meaningful. And there is no expectation to walk the full distance - even joining for a short stretch helps create awareness and adds to the impact of the march."

Galloway has spoken to a number of people as he's developed the Never Marching Alone project, including on that first Dartmouth walk.

"I'll admit, at first I was hesitant to invite others to walk this event with me," he says. "Mental health has long been a difficult subject to raise, and I didn't want to put that burden on anyone else. But, I've learned that many people truly want to be part of this effort. Whether someone carries a rucksack or none at all, everyone is included. In the end, it's not about what's on your back - it's about the fact that we walk together."

Galloway's longer-term vision is to make Never




Sailor First Class (retired) Matthew Galloway, at the end of his first Never Marching Alone August 23 ruck march through Halifax to 12 Wing Shearwater, is now planning his September 27 route from Middleton to 14 Wing Greenwood. Submitted

Marching Alone an annual undertaking, growing each year as a reminder the invisible burdens carried by many in uniform should never be borne in silence, and how important it is to spark conversations between individuals who may feel alone, and the people, communities and organizations that support them.

For information on Never Marching Alone, the September 27 Middleton to Greenwood ruck march and a third

planned for October 25 in Port Hawkesbury; contact Galloway via email at never-

marchingalone@gmail.com or Facebook @ Never Marching Alone. ➔



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