

May 2019 News Release

What's Happening in Oxford?

We'll be keeping a close eye on a certain down town building this summer. Cumberland Performing Arts and Ruth Collins Music Studio have taken the initiative to install a Musical and Performing Arts Mural on the building (housing Ewe-nique Boutique) adjacent to Wild Blueberry Corner at Water Street and Main. To obtain the design, they are holding a contest and inviting Cumberland youth ages 8 to 18 to enter a drawing which commemorates the rich variety and history of music and performing arts in the Oxford area. Details and entry forms are on Cumberland Performing Arts face book page and the Town of Oxford website. Entry forms are also available at the Town Hall, with June 3 the deadline to enter.

At the Oxford Riverside Gallery, "Sequence 2019", an exhibition of sequential art, including comic books, graphic novels, animation and other forms of visual storytelling, will open May 27 and run into June 21. Please note the new opening date. It is followed by the OREC Summer Exhibition, beginning June 26 with an Opening Night event at 7:30 p.m. Be sure to put this on your calendar and come out and support our youth.

Oxford Floor Shuffleboard Club for those 55 and older will be back in action this month. If you think you're too old, think again. The Club includes men and women in their 80's and 90's who attend regularly and report having a great time. You are welcome to join at any point during the season and your first shuffle day is free! Shuffling time slots are offered three times a week in the old curling club on Waverly Street. This is a fun and inexpensive opportunity to keep active and socialize so be sure to check it out. Contact David Rushton for more information: 902 447-3294.

In conjunction with the Cumberland Pride Committee, the Town of Oxford will raise the Pride Flag at a ceremony on Wednesday, June 12 at 6:00 p.m. followed by refreshments.

There's never a dull moment in Oxford with a Hunting and Fishing Expo coming up at the Oxford Arena, May 25 & 26, concerts at the Capitol Theatre, yard sales, auctions, clean up days and much more. Check out the Oxford Community Calendar (paper and Oxford website) for more details. There are already some listings in August for Wild Blueberry Harvest Festival Events. Oxford businesses, organizations and individuals are being encouraged to let the Town know by the end of May if they are organizing an event for the Festival, celebrated in Oxford the week of August 18. Did you know that the gazebo in Heritage Square, down town Oxford, can be rented for small events? Call the Oxford Town Hall for more information.

Now for an update on some Town Hall activities.

With funding secured for the testing program on the sinkhole, resistivity and seismic testing is taking place between May 8-17, with a report to be completed sometime in June.

Recently, Oxford residents were notified that the Public Works Department will no longer be fixing plumbing issues (both for water and wastewater) within customers homes. If residents experience any problems with water and wastewater within their homes, they should check with the Town to ensure the public lines are operational. Once that is confirmed, residents are responsible for contacting their plumber to have the issue fixed.

Due to high policing costs, Oxford Town Council has undertaken a review of the Town's policing services. A review committee will be formed to evaluate two service delivery proposals (from the RCMP and Amherst Police Department) and a public consultation process will take place to provide information and obtain feedback from Oxford residents prior to any formal decision by Council.

The NS Department of Justice is seeking an Oxford resident to volunteer for the Oxford Police Advisory Board which is made up of RCMP, two Council members, two community volunteer members, and one appointed from the Department of Justice. This Board provides advice to council in relation to the enforcement of law, the maintenance of law and order and the prevention of crime in the municipality of Oxford. More information can be found on the Town of Oxford website.

The Town's Recreation Department has received funding to hire students for the summer again this year. Closing date to apply is May 24 and the job description is posted on the Town of Oxford website.

Keep an eye out for the new "wayfinding" signs directing tourists to our restaurants, downtown, arena, art gallery, trails, etc.

Speaking of signs, our crossing guard reports that some drivers are not stopping at the three-way stop downtown and children and adults have had close calls. For everyone's sake, please drive safely.

Ruthie Patriquin,

Community Economic Development Officer, Town of Oxford.