



COMMUNITY

MURRAY HARBOUR & AREA NEWSLETTER

2026 Municipal Achievement Award Goes to Murray Harbour!

In April, the Municipality of Murray Harbour was awarded for its efforts to improve the quality of life of its residents by the Federation of PEI Municipalities.

The village was chosen for the honor based on accomplishments over the past three years: outdoor exercise equipment, fishermen's memorial, the creation of Heritage Park, upgrades to the Community Centre, creation of a community fridge, development of a community garden, a sidewalk extension, a bandstand gazebo, benches, improvements at Rail Head Park, and upgrades to recreation areas including a soccer field, basketball nets, dog parks, and outdoor rink.

These improvement projects require many hours of volunteer time to secure funding and to organize and oversee projects. Volunteer efforts also support and deliver many other community



Bruce MacDougall, from left, FPEIM president, presents the 2026 Municipal Achievement Award to CAO Anne Harnesk and Councillor Pam Oickle from the Rural Municipality of Murray Harbour. *Photo credit FPEIM.*

activities that help create a sense of belonging such as community school, numerous events, and a newsletter.

In the words of FPEIM President Bruce MacDougall, "Murray Harbour shows all of us how municipalities build strong communities in real and tangible ways. The municipal council has worked to create spaces and facilities that residents enjoy, invested in services that residents rely on, and supported activities that bring people together." □

Message from the Mayor

Terry White



Our community newsletter provides a snapshot of life in Murray Harbour - what's happened over the past few months and what is to come. The picture it paints of our little village is becoming more and more colorful and dynamic thanks to the many entrepreneurs, artisans, and volunteers who keep adding to our rich culture and history. Many of us have a growing pride in this special place we get to call home.

It's been an honor to be your mayor for the past few years. Municipal leadership is not without its challenges, but it is very rewarding and allows residents a chance to put a little of more themselves in that evolving picture of Murray Harbour.

Municipal elections will take place this fall. I encourage everyone who cares about this community to seriously consider putting their name forward to be a member of the next council. There is a great foundation for future leaders to build upon. For more information, feel free to contact any of our councillors or Anne at the office.

We look forward to hearing from you. □

SATURDAY JUNE 20 • MURRAY HARBOUR COMMUNITY CENTRE

SONGS & STRINGS



FEATURING
CYNTHIA MACLEOD
CARA LUFT
KARINE ET VINCENT



Tickets are

\$30

MURRAY HARBOUR
COMMUNITY CENTRE

CANADA DAY

CELEBRATE WITH US!

- OPENING AND RAISING OF THE FLAG
- NATIONAL ANTHEM
- WATER BOUNCY CASTLE*
- KIDS TRAIN RIDE
- CAKE AUCTION
- COTTON CANDY
- POPCORN
- FACE PAINTING
- CANADA DAY CUPCAKES
- 50/50 DRAW



July 1st,
2026

1 PM-4 PM



1 PM
CEREMONIES
BEGIN



2 PM
CAMPBELL'S
TRAIN RIDE



3 PM
CAKE
AUCTION



BARBEQUE
SAUSAGES
HOTDOGS
POP
WATER

SALE OF LOBSTER BURGERS

BARBEQUE

SAUSAGES • HOTDOGS • POP • WATER

*WATER BOUNCY CASTLE: KIDS SHOULD WEAR A SWIM SUIT AND BRING A TOWEL

Community Fridge Volunteers Needed

Our community fridge continues to thrive and support many people in our area thanks to the ongoing support of many individual donors and volunteers. We also received a major contribution from the PEI Department of Agriculture's Island Community Food Security Program. We are looking for additional volunteers. Please contact the village office to get involved in helping our fellow community members meet their basic needs.

Community Garden Beds Available

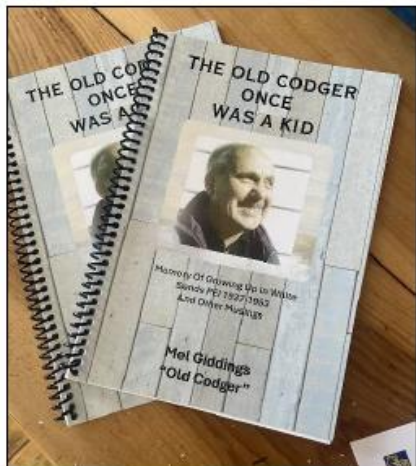
We have veg trugs available for use at the Community Centre for free. Contact Marlene at 902-213-0726 if you would like to try out your green thumb at the community garden this summer. Facilities are senior friendly and all are welcome!



In Memory of Bernice MacLeod

Our sincere condolences to the many family, friends, and community members who are grieving the recent loss of Bernice 'Beanie' MacLeod. Bernice is remembered as a 'fun, fiery force' who lit up a room and put a smile on many faces over her 82 years. She was an avid supporter of local events and made a point of getting out to trivia, live music, socials, and markets for as long as she could. She passed in her family home in Fish Alley on May 3rd surrounded by family.

God speed Bernice. We are fortunate to call you our own.



Mel Giddings Releases New Book

Local artist and elder Mel Giddings has written a memoir entitled *The Old Codger Once Was a Kid*, which was celebrated with a book launch at Murray Harbour Library on April 17th. Those in attendance enjoyed a few readings by the old codger himself and were able to purchase copies of the book.

Congratulations, Mel!

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Village Accepting Donations for the 70 Mile Yard Sale

The Village of Murray Harbour is participating in the 70 Mile Yard Sale again this September to raise funds for our community. If you have any items you would like to donate, drop them off at the Village Office or call Paul White at 902-969-7434 for pick-up. □



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Community School 2026

A successful 10-week school program ended with the year-end social on March 23. Approximately 90 registrants participated in courses from Monday to Saturday including painting, sewing, fiddle, stretch, floor curling, knitting, crokinole, hootenanny, cribbage, introduction to ham radio, and pickle ball. Many thanks to all the instructors for their dedication and time.



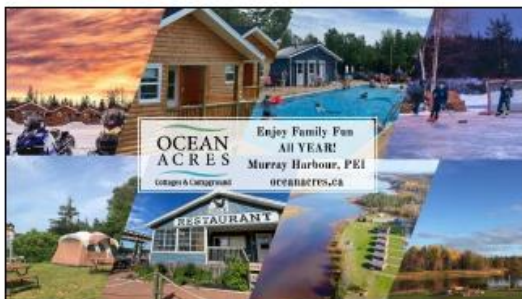
Sewing teacher Mellisa McCarthy poses with a few of her students in their finished aprons (above) and the gift they presented to her (r).



Members of the 2026 painting class, with teacher Rebeka Darylin, display their artwork at the library.

Ocean Acres and The Deck

Check out our new menu and new hours at The Deck! On June 19, the pool will open to the public (10 am – 8 pm). Kayak and paddle board rentals are also available.



Harbourview Restaurant

Same great menu with a few new items to try! Come out and enjoy live music on Friday nights from 5 – 7 pm.



- Food and drinks daily
- **Trivia Thursday** at 7 pm, starting June 18
- **Live Music** on Saturdays 7 - 10 pm:
 - June 20 Barry O'Brien
 - June 27 Norman Stewart
 - July 4 Lawrence Maxwell
 - July 11 Jonny Ray Arsenault
 - July 18 Gordon Belsher
 - July 25 Chris Burke Trio
 - August 1 Barry O'Brien
 - August 8 Trash Bling Sisters
 - August 15 Norman Stewart
 - August 22 Private Function
 - August 29 The Acoustic Brothers



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We wish everyone a great summer
and
look forward to welcoming
many new and returning guests this year.

Tanya & David

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Canada



At the Library

“Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries.” – Anne Hebert

Do you have a subscription to Audible or some other streaming book service that you pay for instead of using your local library? Stop that right now! PEI Library service has a **great selection of digital and audio books** that are accessible to you using your FREE library card. Your library card also gives you access to the contents of all the libraries across the province via our online catalogue; delivered to your local library for convenient pick up.

Our **library of things** keeps expanding: musical instruments, radon detectors, light therapy lamps, garden tools, bike repair kits, disc golf sets, book club kits, just to name a few.

The library also continues to support **community programs** such as the Salvation Army Heating program, battery recycling, and the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP), which just ended.

During the month of May we have art on display from the Murray Harbour Community School Painting class, in addition to a few paintings by Mel Giddings. We'd like to keep this trend going by implementing a **“Nominate an Artist”** challenge to highlight our local talent. So if you know of a local artist— young, old, professional or amateur— whose art you'd like to see displayed on our stacks, nominate them and they in turn will nominate the next person!

Monthly programs are ongoing so if you know someone, possibly yourself, who is willing to lead a craft, or teach a new skill, we would love to hear from you.

The **summer reading programs** are still in the works, but we are hoping to partner once again with Brilliant Labs and Creative PEI to host some fun sessions, so keep an eye out for our posters or visit the PEI Library Service Facebook Page.

Contact Sue Gardner at the library (902) 962-3875 or smgardner@gov.pe.ca, or in person if you have any questions, need help with getting set up with your library card or want to discuss any of the above.

Hope to see you in the stacks! ☐

*Rossignol
Winery*



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Is everyone enjoying the new look at Butler's Clover Farm? We sure are! Tiffany Clendinning of the Painted Lady Creative did a fantastic job.

Rural Municipality of Murray Harbour Committee Updates

Capital Expenditures

The Canadian Community Building Fund invests in recreational infrastructure, cultural infrastructure, and community energy systems. Several projects funded by this program are planned for completion this year: solar array at the sewage lagoons, Main Street Community Centre access upgrades, and recreational area upgrades (primarily dog park).

Thank you to everyone who took the time to send in suggestions for projects last year. While many did not meet the criteria for CCBF funding, eligible recreational infrastructure ideas received were incorporated into the applications. Please continue to share your ideas any time. For more information on these projects, you can contact Deputy Mayor Gary MacKay or the village office.

Sewage Utility

An investigation was commissioned by the utility to evaluate its system's performance to support continued safe and reliable operations. The Sewage Utility Committee meets regularly to integrate the upgrades and maintenance recommendations from the investigation into the operating budget and long-term

capital spending. Inevitably an increase in monthly service charge will be applied for through an application to IRAC to cover the projected costs to maintain the service.

Infrastructure Maintenance

Priority items for 2026 are playground upgrades (informed by annual inspection completed by the Canadian Playground Safety Institute), improve air circulation and humidity in the Community Centre kitchen and insulation in basement (informed by an energy audit completed October 2025), and exterior lighting at entrances and ramps of the Centre, in addition to the new series of street lights that have been installed on Faye Fraser Drive.

Budget 2026

Council reviewed and approved the 2026 operating budget by March 31, 2026. Total Income is \$385,994 versus Total Expense of \$383,379. This compares to \$323,684 and \$311,991 respectively in 2025. There was no increase in property tax mill rates for 2026. □

**9 out of 10 people don't litter.
Can we make it 10 out of 10?**

We ask that everyone do their part in keeping our community clean and enjoyable for all by picking up after yourself, your children and pets.

Murray Harbour and Area Historical Society

Jackie MacNeill Doiron

The Historical Society of Murray Harbour and Area meets on the **third Wednesday of each month at the Murray Harbour Community Centre at 7 pm.** Our door is always open so feel free to drop by, share in the conversation, and leave with a better sense of your ancestors, their legacy, and how you are an important part of their story.

We were BEYOND THRILLED to recently host *Funny You Should Say That: An Evening with Dutch Thompson* as a fundraiser for the Society. What a great show!

And now, a story...Midwives have walked side by side with PEI women since time began. Midwives were often neighbours, grandmothers, mothers, and sisters like Sarah Blue Glover, Jane Harris Fraser, Edith MacDonald, Julia Richards, Sarah MacLeod Blue, and Dorothy Herring who answered the call to provide assurance, assistance, and hope to area women as they delivered their children.



Sarah Blue Glover, local midwife, pictured at 103 years of age with her great granddaughter Lindsay. Photo submitted by Jackie MacNeill Doiron.

These amazing women assisted local doctors like Dr. Brehaut and Dr. MacIntosh, but more often than not, local midwives put their lives on hold when “word came” it was time and went on their own to bring new life into the community.

We at the Society are looking for your midwife stories or your parent’s midwife stories or your birth or your ancestor’s birth story - when, where, and by whom. We are looking for ANY information or documentation, including photos, for our files. We can’t wait to hear from you! ☐

“There’s no doubt in my mind that Heaven is full of midwives...”

- Dutch Thompson
Island historian and commentator

Community Celebrations



Seniors Christmas Dinner



Easter Eggstravaganza!





BOGSIDE

— BREWING —

LIVE MUSIC EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY!

- 🍷 22 Taps: Craft Beer, Vodka Sodas & Mocktails
- 🎲 Each week: Trivia Tues & Music Bingo Wednes.
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Friendly Circle Seniors Club

All seniors [50+] are invited to the Murray Harbour Friendly Circle Seniors Club at **noon on June 4 at the Community Centre**. Join us for BBQ hamburgers, hot dogs, and a variety of salads, veggies, and desserts. Following the meal, we'll have a short chit-chat and dismiss around 1 pm. Pass it on!

While the Friendly Circle takes July and August off, we'll meet again in September. For more information, call Larry at 741-2120. ☐



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Lot 64

Jackie MacNeill Doiron

Relying on the knowledge, research, and collections of our elders and the Historical Society of Murray Harbour, the idea of Lot 64 emerged to create tangible reminders, both physically and mentally, of our past, our present and indeed, our future.

To date Lot 64 has hosted, in partnership with owners Ted and Paula MacLean, “An Afternoon at Prowse House (150 years)”; the purchase and installation of name plaques for the memorial trees at the Community Centre that honour our fallen soldiers and the beautiful Memorial Buoy Tree at the Murray Harbour wharf. Should you want to place your loved ones’ memorial buoy on the tree, feel free to do so or contact us. And if you have any old buoys “floating” around, let us know...more buoys are always needed.

Each initiative has been made possible through the creativity, hope, and sacrifice of the people of Lot 64 and have been paid in full through fundraising and donations. More initiatives are yet to come - they anxiously await on our drawing table. To make them a reality, in 2026 two new fundraisers are in the planning stages: bingo and a triathlon to be held in August.

In closing, we would like to thank each of you for your support and for simply believing in Lot 64. To our committee members, thank you never seems enough...each of you are the best of the best! ☐



Memorial Buoy Tree. Photo submitted by Jackie MacNeill Doiron.

MURRAY HARBOUR
COMMUNITY CENTRE

END OF Summer BASH

MONDAY, SEPT. 7TH

50/50
DRAW

1 - 4PM



Gary's train ride



Face painting



Cotton candy



Lobster rolls



Bullseye game



Kid's games



Hotdogs



Sausages



Water



Pop

LIVE MUSIC BY
KILLICK
JUNCTION



KID'S CAKE
AUCTION
AT 3PM

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Let's end the summer together!

New Vintage Market in Murray Harbour

Local entrepreneur Andrea Hill is behind the creation East Village Vintage Market, a new market that showcases vintage style and sustainable shopping at 10 Mariner Lane. The market had its debut in late April and will be open the last Saturday of June, July, and August.

Shoppers can expect to find vintage clothing, home decor, collectibles, furniture, and one-of-a-kind treasures, while learning more about the value, care, and enjoyment of vintage pieces. Admission is free and guests are encouraged to bring a reusable shopping bag.

One of the market's merchants, Itchycoo Park Vintage + Preloved, owned and operated by Hill, will be open to shoppers every Saturday from May 16 to Labour Day from 10 am to 2 pm. □



East Village
Vintage Market
10 Mariners Lane, Murray Harbour

Summer Market Dates

Saturday, June 27th
Saturday, July 25th
Saturday, August 29th

10AM - 2PM

Summer Shopping
at Itchycoo Park
Fashion • Home Goods
Vintage

10 Mariners Lane,
Murray Harbour

Saturdays
10AM - 2PM



Photo Credit: Natalie Edgar

Vigil for Tumbler Ridge

Murray Harbour and area residents held a vigil to show their support and condolences for the community of Tumbler Ridge, British Columbia where a mass shooting took place on February 10th involving a high school. Local retired teachers and current students were involved as well as residents Carol White, Reverend Lonnie Atkinson, and Deputy Mayor Gary Mackay. Students lit candles to honour each of the victims and Anne Hawkins held a light in honour of the educator who was killed. Approximately 100 people attended the gathering which took place on February 20th.



Photo credit: Andrea Donaldson-Snook

The Night Before Setting Day...

Written by Andrea Donaldson-Snook

On PEI, Setting Day isn't just a date on the calendar... it's sacred.

It's the sound of boats leaving before sunrise.

It's generations of hands that know the sea better than most know the land.

It's fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, and grandfathers carrying on traditions built with hard work, sacrifice, and saltwater in their veins.

While most of the world is still sleeping, islanders are already moving with purpose. Coffee poured, gear loaded, prayers whispered, engines running.

Because Setting Day is more than lobster season.

It's heritage.

It's resilience.

It's feeding families.

It's communities tied together by tides, weather, and hope.

No matter how much the world changes, some things still deserve respect. And on Prince Edward Island... Setting Day will always be one of them. □



Church Notices

Glad Tidings Pentecostal Church

Pastor Aaron Tardif, 902-962-2200

Sunday Worship: 10:30 am

Bible Study: Wednesdays at 7 pm until the end of June

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Murray River Baptist Church

Pastor Marie Kenny

Sunday Worship: 11 am

Sunday School: 9:45 am

Bible Study: Wednesdays at 2 pm

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WellSpring Presbyterian Church

Sunday Worship: 10:30 am

Bible Study: Thursday mornings at 9:30

Bake and Plant Sale: June 6 from 9 am until 12 pm.

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Memorial United Church

Sunday School: 10:30 am

Sunday Worship: 10:30 am

Murray Harbour Church of Christ

Minister Jason McVicar, 902-962-2714

Sunday School: 10 am

Church Service: 11 am

Pastor's Office Hours: Tuesdays, 4 – 6 pm

Bible Study: Tuesdays at 7 pm

Youth Group (Gr 7-12): Thursdays 6:30 – 8 pm

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Murray Harbour Baptist Church

Colby Stewart, 902-962-3347

Sunday Worship: 11 am

Sunday School: 9:45 am, all ages welcome

Adult Bible Study: Tuesdays, 7 pm (breaks for summer)

Vacation Bible School: July 6 - 10, 9-11:30 am free for children age 4 to grade

6. Youth too old to participate are invited to join in the fun as volunteer helpers.

This year is 'Rainforest Falls' themed and kids participate in games, music, stories, snacks, experiments and more. Pre-registration is not required, but helpful.

Contact Rebecca at 902-846-0475. ☐

At the Community Centre

(Drop-in fees may apply)

Card Play Rook: Every Tuesday and Friday at 1:30pm

Friendly Circle Senior's Club: First Thursday of every month at noon

Hootenanny: Thursday nights 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Library Programs: Check their Facebook page for details

Murray Harbour and Area Historical Society: Third Wednesday of every month at 7 pm

Murray Harbour Farmers Market: Saturdays 9 am to noon starting in July

Pickleball: Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9-11 am

South Shore Step & Tradition Group (AA): Tuesdays at 8 pm



Murray Harbour Community Council

Terry White

Mayor

Marlene Chapman

Councillor, Newsletter Committee

Gary MacKay

*Deputy Mayor, Planning & Finance;
Maintenance & Infrastructure*

Kelly Matheson

Councillor, Parks & Rec Committee

Pam Fielding Oickle

Councillor, EMO Committee

John Robertson

Councillor

Paul White

Councillor, Fundraising & Events

Anne Harnesk

Chief Administrative Officer

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Village Administration Office

PO Box 72, 27 Faye Fraser Drive
Murray Harbour, PE COA 1V0

ph: 902-962-3835

email: office@murrayharbour.ca

web: www.murrayharbour.ca

Office Hours: Tues - Thurs: 9 am - 4:30 pm; Fri: 9 am to Noon

Sewage Utility: Tues and Fri: 9 am to Noon