

Of Feathers and Fur

By Chris Callaghan

Several months ago in Passages we told the story of an injured hawk that Jason Dykens of Freeport had rescued from the side of the road. Jason, his wife Tanya and son Nathaniel transported it to the Valley, and a volunteer from Hope



for Wildlife took it the rest of the way to the rehab facility. At the time, I told readers that when possible, birds of prey (raptors) are released near where they were found, so they are familiar with the hunting territory. Well, it turns out the hawk was an unusual species at Hope for Wildlife. It was a Rough Legged Hawk and quickly became a favourite with staff and volunteers, demanding food whenever one of them approached. Once it had improved enough to be placed in the huge flight cage, though, it became fully wild again. Hope contacted me to recommend that it be released closer to the facility, since it is a migratory bird and would have been just passing through when Jason found it here on Long Island. We both agreed that the less stress on the bird the better, and it was successfully released about a month ago near Hope for Wildlife.

Every cat deserves a good home. Smokey and Miss Autumn were born outdoors, socialized, neutered and spayed by Friends of Ferals, and lucked out big time when they were adopted by Sis and Dale Elliott of Westport.

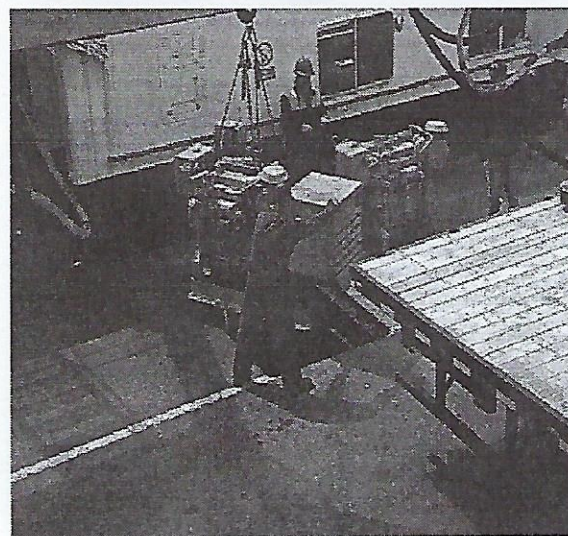
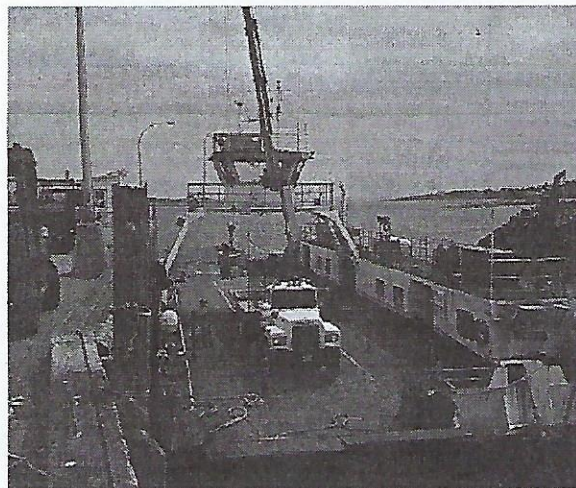
Kitten season is here, and there are only so many good homes out there. If you have a litter, please don't just hand a kitten over to anyone who will take one because they are "so cute". (We were all cute when we were little!!) There is a rescue group in Halifax that will find excellent homes for any kittens, and we can arrange transport. The kittens will be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and the adopter will pay to cover the costs. Please call me and I'll arrange getting them on their way. Chris. (Friends of Ferals). (902) 839-2337. Tell your friends and neighbours!

Three of the cats that were left behind on Camp Road late last summer have been trapped, spayed, and re-homed in a lovely barn near Digby. All three were females; if they hadn't been fixed, there could easily have been twenty or more cats there by this fall. A huge thank you to Shelley Lonergan for feeding them all through the winter, and to Jeanette Denton and Carl Haycock for their help in trapping them. "It takes a village"!

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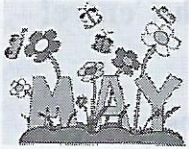
Summer Job Posting

Islands Historical Society is seeking a Museum Interpreter for 10 weeks at Islands Museum, Freeport. The job is for 35 hours a week at \$11 per hour. **Applicants MUST be a Grade 12; College or University student who is returning to school in the fall.** Requirements include good computer skills with experience in digital photography and data base entry as well as excellent spoken and written communication skills. Resumes may be sent to islandshistorical@gmail.com by May 5th. Further information about the job's requirements or responsibilities can be obtained by emailing the same address or calling Wanda Christensen at 902 839-2015 or Dorothy Outhouse at 902 839-2068.



The Joe Casey Ferry is semi-retired but still needs to be ready for service. The Nova Scotia Department of Transportation was on Brier Island changing out her generator.

Courtesy of Amy Tudor



PASSAGES



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2017 Digby & Area Volunteers



A Recognition Dinner was held at the Digby Fire Hall on April 25, 2017 for Digby & Area volunteers. Some of the volunteers who received awards were: JoAnne Addington, Jamie Baxter, Wayne Bucknan, Christine Callaghan, Monica Crocker, Jodi Cossaboom, Mary Dixon, Katherine

Feiel, Jenny Gillis, Torre Hansson, Melissa Merritt, Barb Ossinger, Bryson Stanton, Judy Teed, Jessica Thimot, Letitia Thimot, Carter Thurber, Rick Wallace, Gwen Wilson, Diane Young.

Congratulations to all the volunteers!

Inside Passages *****



Big Meadow Bog



Me to We



Memorial Pool Tournament