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Highly Sensitive People... what does that mean?

By Carol M. Shirley, Registered Psychologist, with ENIGMA

ighly Sensitive is actually a personality trait that is present in about 20 percent of the population. These are all of the people who have been told by the other 80 percent that they are too sensitive or they should grow a thicker skin.

Highly sensitive people (of all ages) tend to have the following characteristics:

D - We are deep processors - deep thinkers. We consider others and ponder the many outcomes of our choices.

O - We are easily over stimulated by visual (sight), auditory (sounds), touch and movement around us and

around us and need time alone.

E - We are Empathic - very sensitive to energy in motion or the emotions of others. We tend to feel or sense others emotions and can "take on" feelings that

are not ours.

S – We are very sensitive – often even become anxious or sad when we listen to the news or other negativity and can be confused or over whelmed.

Highly sensitive children are often thought of as "shy" or overreactive and can be easily misunderstood.

A parenting tip for parents of highly sensitive children is to learn how to say "No" in a Yes" way.

For example, if your child asks for a cookie before dinner; say, "Yes you can have a cookie right after dinner".

Or

If they ask to do an activity

that cannot fit into that days schedule; say for example "Yes, we can do that on Saturday, it will be so much fun".

Highly sensitive people are particularly sensitive to the tone of voice used. Unfortunately, we are often really good at self judgement and internalizing what feels like others judgement in tone (both verbal and actions).

Honor your sensitivity, be who you are.

For more information go to www.carolshirley.ca or phone 902-495-3181, and we are located at 255 Lacewood Drive, Suite 301, Halifax



Carol M. Shirley

Principle / Registered Psychologist info@carolshirley.ca www.carolshirley.ca

301-255 Lacewood Drive Halifax NS B3M 4G2 p: (902) 495-3181 f: (902) 495-3182

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Parent-Child GUIDE

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parentchild@ns.sympatico.ca

NEXT PARENT-CHILD GUIDE

Will Be Our BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION, with our FALL REGISTRATION SECTION

also including Fun Places to Go, Health and Wellness, Seniors' Living Care, and More!

Printing on August 17, 2018, running to October 18, 2018 Advertising Deadline August 3, 2018

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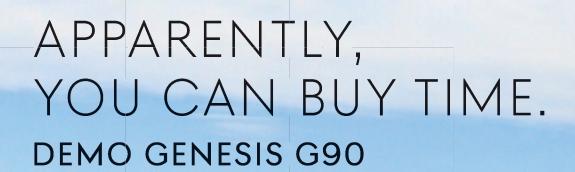
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Join MLA DiCostanzo at Annual Community BBQ



id you know that there is an annual community barbecue every summer for families in Clayton Park West? I'm already looking forward to this year's!

Although the date and location have yet to be announced, you can expect diverse music for all tastes and a bouncy castle, a firetruck and a Metro transit bus for children to enjoy to their heart's delight. Halal hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers and soft drinks will be served free of charge.

Each year, the barbecue provides the perfect opportunity for community members to catch up with old friends or get to know newcomers to the area. It is also a great opportunity to get involved in community initiatives by connecting with the Friends of Clayton Park Society and other local organizations working to make Clayton Park West a better place to live, work and play.

Please 'Like' my Facebook page or subscribe to the newsletter on my website to receive the event details once they are made available. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 902-443-8318 or rafah@rafahdicostanzo.com.

I hope to see you there! Sincerely, Rafah MLA, Clayton Park West





HRM MLAs and MPs Working Hard for YOU!

An Update from Darrell Samson,

the Member of Parliament for Sackville-Preston-Chezzetcook

Dear friends,

June is an exciting and busy month as students and adults alike look forward to the upcoming summer fun. If you or your organization is hosting a special event this summer please contact my office so that we can attend and be a part of your celebration or event.

In May I was happy to be out and about in the riding. I was honored to be a judge at the Eastern Passage Buffalo Club's 15th Annual Auto Show. I had a blast chatting with the community and viewing over 100 vintage automobiles. I also stopped

in at the Waverly Memorial Elementary School and shared the role of an MP, and how bills become law in Canada. I was very impressed by the questions from students and I always enjoy being back in the classroom. Finally, I went to visit the berm in East Chezzetcook. I greatly appreciated the tour from local residents. It was helpful to hear their concerns in person and learn how the flooding this winter has impacted the area. I look forward to exploring possibilities with various federal departments in Ottawa.

An early congratulations to all of our 2018 high school graduates as well! This year I will be attending the Sackville, Lockview and Cole Harbour High graduation ceremonies. Best of luck as you embark on new opportunities this fall. In addition, good luck to the 219 students in Sackville-Preston-Chezzetcook working Canada Summer Jobs next month! I look forward to visiting you all this summer.

Sincerely, Darrell J. Samson, M.P.

Visit me online at: Website: dsamson.liberal.ca,



Facebook: www.facebook.com/ darrellsamsonliberal Twitter: @darrellsamson Email: darrell.samson@parl.gc.ca





Education Updates

By Hon. Lena Metlege Diab, MLA Halifax Armdale

As we enjoy our summer, the province is moving forward with a number of exciting initiatives that will support our students and their learning environment in the fall.

For the first time, Nova Scotia now has a multi-year school capital plan. New school builds and renovations will go forward this year and over the next several years, focused on communities with critical facility needs. This includes Spryfield's new J. L. Ilsley High School and a new CSAP school on the Halifax peninsula.

September will also see Pre-Primary classes expand to more school communities. This is the second phase of a province-wide rollout, and I'm happy to see both Springvale Elementary and École Chebucto Heights in Armdale included this year. For a full list of pre-primary locations and more information about registration, please visit www.ednet.ns.ca/pre-primary.

Grade 9 students across the province will also benefit

from a new course, Citizenship Education 9, which will expand to all schools in the fall. The course will cover the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, as well as how youth can actively participate in their communities. It also includes a financial literacy component, to better prepare our students for life after school.

As part of the province's

work to act on the Commission for Inclusive Education's recommendations, \$15 million will be spent to enable changes to our model of inclusive education for the upcoming school year. This September, the province will hire more than 190 people, including child and youth care practitioners, parent navigators, education assistants, psychologists, and

speech language pathologists to address student needs, starting with a focus on behaviour and autism supports. This will help support both our students and teachers.

Wishing you a restful summer, and all the best in the coming school year!

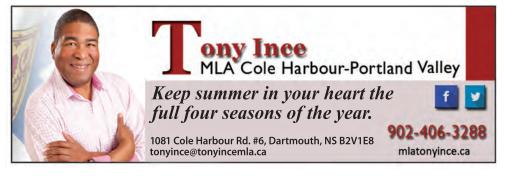














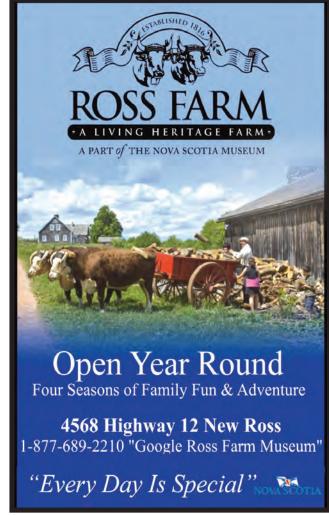
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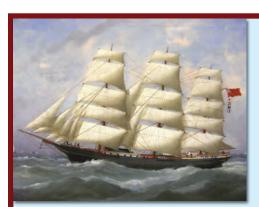
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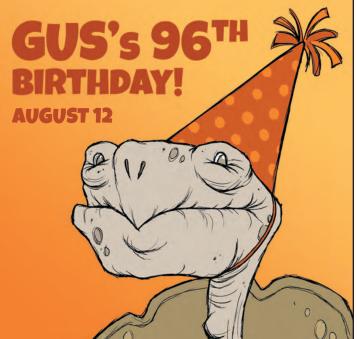
Amusement Park open from June 18 to September 2, 2018 (weather permitting). Aerial Adventure Park open June - September (weather permitting). Reservations recommended. Rustic Campground open June - September. Unserviced sites suitable for tents, RVs and trailers.







JULY 7 - JULY 8









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MUSEUM SATURAL HISTORY

ronmental factors. Often a

person with a missing tooth



one.

Are you Missing Something?

By Dr. Sarah Davidson DDS, MSc (Ortho) FRCD (C), Halifax Orthodontic Specialist Group

will know of someone in their family with the same experience. Missing teeth can occur in both the primary and permanent dentit's a big day when your tions. When a tooth is misschild first notices a wiggly tooth. That they can ing in the primary dentition, there is a high probability finally free that little stub of that it will also be missing in a baby tooth from the the permanent dentition. mouth, place it carefully More surprisingly, when all under their pillow and await of the primary teeth are the ever-exciting arrival of present, it can be shocking the tooth fairy is a bit of a for parents to learn that rite of passage. But it doesn't there is no permanent tooth happen that way for everyto replace it's predecessor.

So what happens if you sus-The primary dentition (or pect a missing tooth? Often baby teeth) is made up of parents may not even realize twenty teeth that are very that there has been a disrupimportant in guiding the future permanent (or adult) tion in the eruption pattern of the permanent teeth. Just teeth into the right spot. like everyone gets their teeth Those primary teeth are placeholders. All twenty at a different infant stage, so do young children lose their teeth are expected to loosen teeth at a range of ages. That and exfoliate to make way said, there are still some genfor the permanent teeth. eral patterns for tooth loss However sometimes a priand although the various mary tooth will not become loose as expected. In 5-6% of teeth may be lost at different ages among peers, the patthe population, one or more tern is quite consistent. Your permanent teeth may be family dentist will monitor congenitally missing (or not your child's tooth loss patpresent from birth.) This tern but often the first sign condition is called hypodontia. Hypodontia is associated of a missing tooth is in a screening radiograph (xray) with both genetic and envithat may be taken at your early orthodontic screening appointment. One of the reasons for an early orthodontic screening at age 7-8 is that by that age, all of the permanent teeth should be visible and accounted for on the radiograph. With this early diagnosis, there are more options with how to deal with a potential missing tooth or teeth.

Unfortunately at this time there is no way to regenerate a missing tooth. The closest thing we have is a dental implant, which can replace a single missing tooth without impacting the teeth on either

Health & Wellness

side. Other options include bridges which "suspend" a tooth in the empty spot, or dentures. partial Orthodontics is an important part of treatment for missing teeth. An orthodontist can assess a primary tooth to evaluate the root to help

determine how long a retained primary tooth may last. Some primary teeth can be maintained for many, many years without replacement. Another option with orthodontics is closing space for a congenitally missing ... cont. on page 14



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falls. Most of our devices are available in Cordless models.

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We are committed to helping caregivers prevent falls and wandering in their facilities in order to keep their residents safe. We have several fall risk assessment tools in order to do so. Call Harding Medical at 1-800-565-1680 if you would like additional guidance.



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Submitted by CBI Home Health

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pathologists, dieticians, social workers, health care aides, personal support workers and more, so you can feel good knowing we can connect you to the care you need.

As a leading Canadian healthcare service provider, with a network of 10,000+ clinical and support professionals, CBI has a large integrated network which means better patient access and improved health outcomes. Our multidisciplinary team of clinical and support professionals work collaboratively across our network to foster best practices and provide you with the highest standards of care. We work hard to make it easier for you and your family to access the quality care and tailored solutions you need.

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To learn more about CBI Home Health visit www.cbi.ca

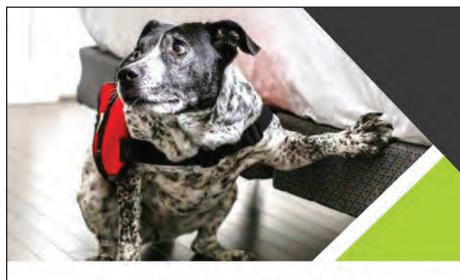
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tooth. This can be made easier with early diagnosis as careful planning is important in these cases.

Although hypodontia is rare, it does exist in our population and can be a stressful finding for unsuspecting parents. Early diagnosis is the key to having the greatest treatment options available.

Dr. Sarah Davidson is a Board-Certified Orthodontic *Specialist with the Halifax* Orthodontic Specialist Group. She is a co-owner of The Brace Space in Bedford (Larry Uteck) and Stuart & Davidson Orthodontics in Dartmouth,

offering conventional braces and Invisalign for children, teens and adults. For more information, contact 902-455-7222.



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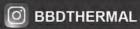


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Senior Living Care

For an Increasing Number of Seniors

Submitted by GEM Health Care Group

or an increasing number of seniors, retirement living means convenience: no more worries about shovelling snow, mowing the lawn or maintaining a home (and with 24-hour security, safety isn't a concern either). But retirement living can be plenty of fun also, says Samantha Smith, marketing assistant with GEM Health Care Group.

"Whether you like dance or fitness classes, or sporting events, or if bingo and art classes are more your style, our senior living communities have something for everyone," says Smith. "Some of our residences include amenities like hair salons, movie theatres, libraries, even a licensed pub and a private dining area for special events with family and friends."

GEM's Residential Care facilities are located in Halifax, Amherst and Yarmouth, N.S. Each provides comfort and security to clients, lots of activity programs and nutritious home-cooked meals prepared by professional chefs under the direction of a nutritionist.

Anyone considering a move to a seniors' residence has several options depending on individual needs - options that include independent senior living communities, residential care facilities and long-term care facilities.

Independent (or retirement) senior living communities are designed for those 55 and older. Residents are seniors who don't need assistance with daily activities, but want to take advantage of convenient services, seniorfriendly surroundings and the social opportunities that these communities offer.

For those with less ability to function in their own home, but don't require long-term care, a residential care facility may be the answer. Also called assisted living facilities, these provide



personal care, supervision and accommodation in a safe and supportive environment.

Long-term care facilities provide services for people who need ongoing care, either on a longterm basis or short-term respite For more than 30 years, GEM Health Care has provided highquality level 2 nursing care to those who require assistance or supervision performing their activities of daily living. Through a combination of model-of-care and facility design, GEM strives to ensure

that each individual client is able to live a comfortable and stress-free lifestyle - one that promotes independence and enjoyment.

"Our focus is on making retirement living worry-free and fun," says Smith.

To learn more about GEM Health Care Group and their facilities, visit www.gemhealth.com Or 902-429-6227

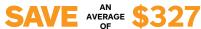
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Summer Road Safety

Submitted by Matt Conrad, Allstate Insurance, Dartmouth Crossing

ummer is just around the corner, and if you're like me, it can't come soon enough! The warm weather and sunny skies are ideal for hitting the highway for road trips or leisurely Sunday drives, but even while you're enjoying the heydays of summer it's important to remember that roadways can often be unpredictable. Collisions can happen at any time of the year, not just in bad weather conditions. In fact, while a greater number of collisions occur during the winter, Allstate Insurance Company of Canada data reveals that the most severe collisions often take place during the summer. It's imperative that drivers be as attentive, sensible, and patient during the summer months as they would in winter to help keep our roads safer for drivers, passengers, pedestrians and cyclists.

Here are a few friendly reminders to help ensure a collision or breakdown don't ruin your summer fun.

Keep your eyes on the road. It's estimated that distracted driving is the behind eight out of 10 collisions. Changing your music, fiddling with your GPS, tending to a child in the back seat, or using your cell phone could result in a very different type of trip. Limit distractions by setting yourself up before you put your car into drive. Adjust your seat, mirrors, music and GPS in advance; keep children occupied with activities; and put your phone away until you reach a rest stop or your destination.

Be prepared. Plan out when and where you will stop before you embarking on a long trip. Never continue driving if you feel tired or unable to concentrate. Keep an emergency kit in your car that includes water, food, a blanket, flashlight and first aid kit.

Maintain your vehicle. Keeping your vehicle in good condition is imperative year round but giving your car a thorough once over before heading out on an excursion is a good way to minimize unnecessary surprises. Check your tire pressure as underinflated tires can increase the risk of poor road performance or a blowout.

It's also a good idea to keep a spare tire handy. Check to make sure all your lights are working, including turn and hazard signals. Lastly, cars tend to overheat in the summer, it's important to always check your car's fluids before hitting the road.

Don't drive while under the influence - summer often means parties, family reunions, weddings and patios however according to MADD Canada, every day, on average, four Canadians are killed and 174 are injured in impaired driving crashes. A recent Canadian study also shows that driving while under the influence of drugs is becoming more common than drinking and driving in some areas of the country. Have fun at events this summer but always plan ahead: designate a sober driver, take a taxi, walk with a friend or make arrangements to stay over or take local transit.

To learn more about staying safe on the roads this summer, visit Allstate's GOOD HANDS® blog at goodhandsadvice.ca, or contact me at 902-701-7605.







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ParklandRetirementLiving.com











Senior Living Care

Retirement Living - Seeing is Believing

Submitted by The Berkeley

iving in a retirement residence is a bit of a misunderstood concept and, though not the same at all, it is often compared to living in a nursing home. Moving to a retirement residence is a choice you make to improve and truly enjoy your life. It allows for peace of mind, safety, security, convenience and a multitude of opportunities to socialize. It is a fantastic solution for anyone who is lonely, tired of grocery shopping, cooking, cleaning and worrying about indoor and outdoor household maintenance.

Here's how it works at The Berkeley - you rent an apartment, decorate and furnish it with your own belongings in a building with people of a similar generation and interests. With four buildings to choose from, you pick the location that suits you best. You have well-balanced, delicious meals in the dining room allowing for daily chats with friends and neighbours. Housekeeping cleans your apartment and washes and changes your bed linens and towels once a week. To keep everyone active and engaged, you have a variety of activities in which to participate throughout the day, week and month. The bonus is



that there are health care professionals on duty 24rest-assured that if you need assistance, you will get it. There are also a variety of services that you can obtain as required. The bottom line is that you are free to enjoy your life, in any way you choose, while someone else takes care of the chores. It is a win-win situation.

Many people find it difficult to leave a family house. It can be a daunting task to down-size, not to mention, leaving behind the cherished memories of

a family home. However, believe it or not, a retirehours a day, so you can ment residence quickly becomes home; a place you will feel comfortable, welcome and safe. Belonging to a community is exceptionally important and it allows for a wellrounded lifestyle with options and convenience. Sometimes, you must see it to believe it, so please come for a tour and see all the benefits of retirement living for yourself!

> For more information or to book a tour, visit theberkeley.com or call Gloria at (902) 802-0346.

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Many things to do at our property:

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- Kids Play Room,
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Thank you once again for reading about our beautiful property. If you have any questions or require further details, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time. I can be reached direct at (902) 245-5841 or better yet, via email at

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BACK TO SCHOOL GUIDE

with Education and Fall Registration



Also includes Fun Places To Go, Health & Wellness, Senior Living Care and More!

Contact: Robert Rockwell 902-209-4461 parentchild@ns.sympatico.ca

Summer Camp Guide



Minecraft, Game Design Film & VR- for kids, teens - all ages!

Submitted by Artech Camps



Amelia showing us her awesome boss character!

Summer time and the livin is easy... fresh air, sunshine, corn-on-the-cob and playing video games?

What if instead of playing games online Jessy and Chris learned how to create their own computer games and apps? Instead of watching youtube videos, they produced and filmed their own animations and films?

These are just some of the many creative ways to stretch imaginations at Artech Camps this summer. Kids and youth from five through teen years can attend week-long specialty camps in film, game design, computer programing, Minecraft and Virtual Reality!



Dawson with a carefully crafted animated portal.

Creating video games is not only fun, it is fast becoming the newest, most dynamic form of expression. The planning and design that goes into game development inspires creative problem solving. It is a process that engages and empowers young people to take on challenges and succeed!

Likewise with film making scripting, filming, acting and editing all provide avenues for personal growth, expression, acquiring valuable technology skills and collaborating with others.

Find out more about Artech's summer camps online at www.artechcamps.com. For youth and families that face medical, financial or other barriers we have a generous scholarship program available to assist.

Camp location: NSCC Institute of Technology on Leeds Street in Halifax. Camp phone line:

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Summer Camp Guide

Royal City Soccer Club Summer day camps

bring our very popular summer soccer day camps to the Halifax and Dartmouth area this summer. For the past 26 years, we've hosted over 300,000 boys & girls in over 100 locations across Canada. We're the #1 grassroots soccer day camps in Canada. Our program is designed to promote personal development, team building and of course, FUN!

The camp program is uniquely designed to offer a soccer focus in the morning and a leisure swim with other organized camp activities in the afternoons. We encourage

he Royal City Soccer Club is excited to all boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 13 to register. We offer full day, morning and afternoon sessions where each camper receives a camp soccer ball, tshirt, personalized certificate, great supervision ratios and much more. We also offer early drop off and pickup times fully supervised at no extra charge. The camps operate during the months of July and August. We look forward to a great summer of camp.

Check out our website at

www.royalsoccer.com for more information or call 1-800-427-0536.

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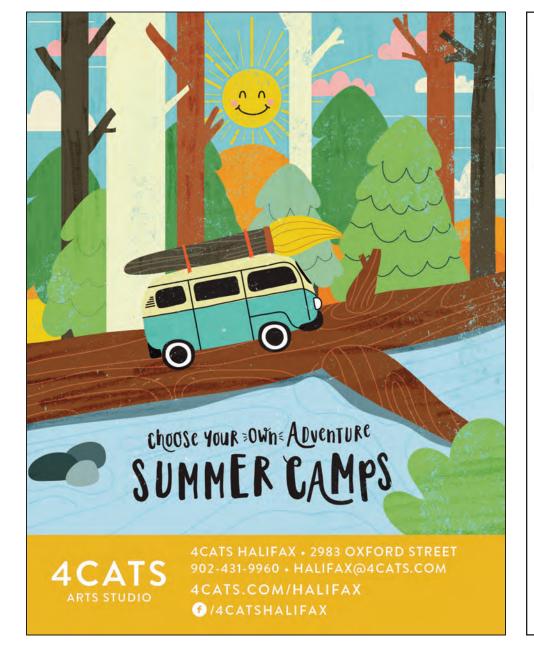
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Register Online at: www.bricks4kidz.com/halifax myorke@bricks4kidz.com 902-240-2457

Birthday Parties Workshops Lunchtime Programs Bricks4Biz for Adults!









Franchise Opportunities Available!

Summer Camp Guide

Un été en français à Halifax!

ffrez la chance à vos enfants de s'amuser en français au Camp de jour et au Camp en action du Conseil communautaire du Grand-Havre! Les camps auront lieu à l'école du Carrefour à Dartmouth et à l'école du Sommet à Bedford. Ceux-ci se dérouleront du 3 juillet au 24 août 2018. Le programme du Camp de jour est destiné aux enfants de 4 à 9 ans et celui du Camp en action s'adresse aux jeunes de 10 à 13 ans.

Chaque semaine, une thématique différente initiera votre enfant à des activités plus stimulantes les unes que les autres. Des thèmes tels que le cirque, la science, les activités aquatiques seront au menu. Les jeunes inscrits au Camp en action participeront à des activités plus avancées et adaptées à leur groupe d'âge, incluant le go-kart, du trampoline acrobatique et du parcours d'arbre en arbre.

Inscrivez votre enfant dès maintenant à: https://www.ccgh.ca/camp-de-jour

Pour plus d'informations contactez : Courtlyn Arsenault, Coordonnatrice du Camp de jour camp@ccgh.ca T: (902) 435-3244 #206.

A French Summer in Halifax!

ffer your child an opportunity to have fun at the Camp de jour and the Camp en action, a French summer camp organized by the Conseil communautaire du Grand-Havre! The camps will take place at École du Carrefour in Dartmouth and École du Sommet in Bedford. The camps will be offered starting July 3rd to August 24th 2018. The Camp de jour is intended for children between the ages of 4 and 9 and the Camp en action for young pre-teenagers between the ages of 10 to 13 years old.

Each week, a different theme will initiate your child to various stimulating activities.

Themes such as the circus, the science week, and water activities will be on the menu. Youth enrolled in the Camp en action will participate in activities adapted for their age group, such as go-karting, acrobatic trampolines and Ontree Adventure Park.

Register your child now at: https://www.ccgh.ca/camp-de-jour

For more information, contact: Courtlyn Arsenault, Coordonnatrice du Camp de jour camp@ccgh.ca T: (902) 435-3244 #206.





Summer School of the Arts at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Te are serving up inspiration & hands on art making during the Summer School of the Arts at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. During our art camps you can experiment with a wide range of materials, discover new creative techniques and explore Atlantic Canada's largest art collection. Sign up for "Splash, Drip and Sponge" to explore abstract painting, or combine your creative talents in "Theatre and Art". We offer half and full day classes for ages 5-12. Each class is led by a local practicing artist, who brings a wealth of talent and experience to their class. Whether you're trying your hand at "Photo Fun", "Pottery Play" or "Stitching and Quilting" you're sure to learn something new.

Registration is easy, you can purchase camps online or in person at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia's Information Desk, or by phone with credit card payment (Visa, MasterCard, Amex) at (902) 424-5280 during regular Gallery hours. Organized lunch time supervision and extended hours are available to students attending full-day classes. You can find a full list of classes and dates on the Gallery's website artgalleryofnovascotia.ca.

Cost: \$130/week for a morning or afternoon class. Are you a Gallery Member? Don't forget Members are eligible for a 10% discount on Summer School of the Arts. Classes fill up quickly so register early to avoid disappointment.

Get ready for some hands-on fun with the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia!

Summer Camp Guide

Summer Fun "en Français"

Submitted Canadian Parents for French, Nova Scotia

Tith summer just around the corner, many parents are looking for activities to maintain or enhance their child's language levels. Extracurricular activities, such as summer camps, regardless of a student's age, are a great way to achieve this. There are a wide range of activities you can do to enrich your child's French over the summer. Many aren't expensive or time consuming.

Encourage your child to use French outside of the classroom! Watch French TV and DVDs together, borrow French books

from the library, and look learn how to lead others. out for activities in French such as performers, plays, workshops and sport activities. Borrow French cookbooks from the library and make recipes, or work on your family tree in French. Play board games in French. Many activities can be done in French as a family. Let your child take the lead and show you their language skills!

Over the summer, your child will learn new skills from extracurricular activities, and integrate these skills at school in the fall. They will develop life-long relationships with their friends and These skills will be beneficial in later life and in the workplace. No matter what extracurricular activities a student becomes involved in, the earlier the better.

Remember learning any language is a life-long experience! Just as your child's first-language skills expand with age and new experiences, the same factors affect the development of their second language. A longterm commitment will produce the best language results! Be supportive and enthusiastic. Make French a part of your child's life!



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Îles-de-la-Madeleine/Magdalen Islands, Québec Ages 15-17

CAMP FRANTASTIQUE*

Barton, Digby County Ages 10-14

CAMP DE LA BAIE*

Sambro Head, HRM

Ages 10-14

DAY CAMPS

Halifax and Cole Harbour

Ages 6- 10

CHAPTER CAMPS

For more info on local camps, contact your local CPF chapter.

*All levels of French welcome.



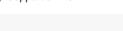
French Camp is...

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Myths About Summer & Learning

Myth: kids need the summer off to recharge.

Submitted by Oxford Learning

hile the school year can be tiring and mentally demanding, kids actually thrive within the structured framework that the school year provides. A break from the school-year routine can be invigorating for a short period of time, but a too-long break rarely helps students feel recharged; rather, it leads to boredom and academic

Without replacing the school day structure with summer camps or other regular day programs, children can become disengaged from not only their routines, but also from learning. Video games, texting, movies, and lounging by the pool are fun, but eventually relaxation and downtime become boring too. And boredom is rarely a pre-cursor to a willingness to jump back into learning.

Providing mentally stimulating summer activities that are reliable and routine is the best way to avoid summer boredom and keep kids charged up and ready to take on a new school year.

Myth: if summer was not intended to be a break, school wouldn't shut down.

The most common school year as we know it-from September to June-exists because of two main historic reasons: At the turn of the last century, agricultural societies required children to help out with farming chores during busy growing seasons and, in cities, schools were unbearably hot during summer and made

teaching and learning in poorly-ventilated buildings a health hazard. The current 180-day school calendar is still in place, even if the reasons for it are no longer valid.

In fact, many school boards have made the move to yearround schooling, offering several shorter break periods throughout the year, rather than one long one in the sum-

School boards don't intend summer to be a "break" for students-policy makers are simply continuing to follow a system that has been in place for many years, and, coincidentally, one that has come to be beneficial to cash-strapped school boards.

Myth: summer isn't part of the school year.

Summer is just as important to a student's overall learning experience as what is learned from September to June. In terms of the brain, learning runs 24-7, all year round.

The time away from school is a very important opportunity for many students to fill in learning gaps, make sense of material learning during the school year, and improve/develop important learning skills such as reading comprehension and organization. It's the time to get extra help that there may not be chance to get while school is in session. It's the chance to experience in-class lessons first hand. And, it's the only chance that students have to adequately prepare for the year ahead.

It's time to stop thinking about the school year as September to Iune: there is no final bell on a student's education.

Myth: Summer will make students refreshed and ready to learn in the fall.

This is the scariest myth about summer learning. After a summer spent relaxing, students may feel refreshed, but they are far from ready to learn. Research into summer learning has shown that after taking a two-month break, students have lost approximately 20-30% of their academic learning momentum: they've gone backward in terms of learning. These studies also show that teachers typically spend up to six weeks re-teaching last year's material. Students aren't ready to learn after a summer off: they've lost their learning momentum after two months of video games and relaxing at the beach.

The summer slide, the brain drain, or summer learning losses-whatever you call it, it can be easily prevented. A few hours a week of active academic learning keeps the brain sharp, so that when falls rolls around, students are ready to learn and take on the challenges of a new school year.

For more information on summer learning, or to find out which Oxford Learning summer program is best suited for your child, contact Oxford Learning Halifax at 902-701-9254 or halifax@oxfordlearning.com or Bedford at 902-700-6489 or bedford@oxfordlearning.com

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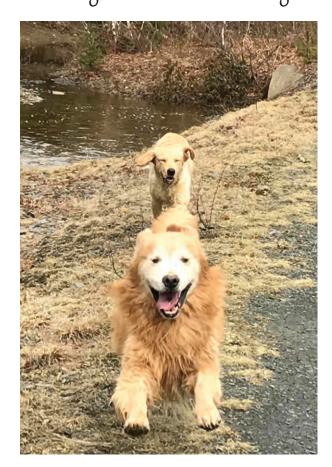
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oaming Rovers is beds crates and dog runs. So if your dog is not crated at home they have the same experience here.

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The Benefits Of Messy Play

By Angie White, Head toddler teacher, The Growing Place

e've all heard children through learn their play. While there are many types of play, my favorite is Messy Play.

Early childhood educators understand the importance of letting a child discover their own abilities. which is why messy play is incorporated in their daily planning. It could be as simple as sand and water play, to goop, slime, flubber and mud. The list is endless.

Messy play can open up many learning opportunities for children. My favorite messy play activity is Goop. It encompasses learning through domains from measuring and mixing for math, how it is a solid and liquid for science, using your hand to manipulate it for fine motor skills, describing your play, the goop and your feelings for literacy and social skills; these are just a few to name. Children of all abilities are able to participate in messy play as it is an unstructured exploratory type of play. There is no right or wrong way to do messy play.

Here are a few of the recipes I use regularly with my class and they

always enjoy it. Explore these and other messy play activities with your children. Remember, you are never too old to have

Goop

Mix equal parts of corn startch and water. You may add food coloring to the water.

You can hold it, roll it and then let it melt through your fingers.

Kinetic Sand

Fine Sand, corn startch, shaving cream (not gel) and food coloring. Portions can vary, mix until mouldable.

Clean Mud

Tear up a roll of toilet paper into small pieces, grate a bar of soap

Mix soap and toilet paper with warm water (a little at a time) until mouldable.

Angie is currently the head toddler teacher at The Growing Place (Pleasant Street location). She is our Arts and Crafts expert as well as an endless resource for new ideas to try in the classroom. For more information please visit our website at

www.thegrowingplace.ca

The Growing Place **Early Education Centre** thegrowingplace.ca 902-433-0727

Living & Loving Life: The Special Needs Way Upcoming Fall Conference

Care Developmental Centre will be hosting an annual conference on September28th & 29th, 2018 at Mount Saint Vincent University. The conference will be launched on Friday evening with tours and hands on experiences at Wee Care Dev Centre located at 5217 Young Street in the North End of Halifax.

Saturday is a full day for Parents & Early Childhood Professionals who are working/living in child care environments promoting an inclusive environment. Dr. Kevin Kelloway from Dalhousie University will be covering the topic of "Psychological Fitness for ECE's". Dr. Lindsay Uman, Clinical Psychologist will be covering "Understanding and Managing Anxiety in Young

children". Dr. Tamar Sorenson Duncan, IWK Health Centre will be covering "Supporting Language in Immigrant and Refugee Children". Debbie Thompson, ECE, will be covering "Partnering for Play". Wanda Jackson, Adult Educator & Deb Malbeuf, ECE will be covering Putting a Spotlight on Development and Play". Sarah Brown, ECE will be covering "Terrible or

Testing Toddlers?"

The cost to attend both days is \$190.00 for professionals, Parents are \$50.00, and Students are \$75.00.

To register or for more information please check our Facebook page "Wee Care Developmental Centre", email Flo@weecareforkids.ca, dawn@weecareforkids.ca, or call 902-455-1081.

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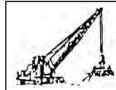
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CRAFT CORNER

Living Wreath

By Jenny Joan Larisey, Craft Consultant for Maritime Hobbies Crafts

aking a wreath lining out of growing plants is a DIY project I have been wanting to try for many years. I like to think of the wreath as a symbol of life, eternity, welcome to my home.

A wire wreath frame, potting soil, water-retaining crystals, moss and 20 or 22gauge copper wire are the basic supplies needed for a living wreath. Choosing the plant varieties was the challenging part for me, to restrain myself around that many beautiful plants. I decided to hang the wreath on my front door so I needed plants that could tolerate shade in the morning and strong bright sun in the afternoon, finally deciding on a variety of small bego-

I read that sheet and sphagnum moss are the best types of moss to use for a living wreath but I couldn't find either. What I did find was Cocomoss, a planter

material made coconut fiber. It's a good idea to have a surplus for patching thin areas for and tucking

around the plants.

When planning out the design of your living wreath consider using plants that work well in containers, also the plants you choose will determine the soil mix you need. Succulents and cacti require a soil made specifically for these low water varieties. Other plants will benefit from having an added fertilizer and you can mix polymer water-retaining crystals into the soil for moisture loving plants. The polymer crystals should be mixed into moist soil awhile before planting to allow full



absorption as the crystals swell and increase the bulk of the soil.

When you finish putting your wreath together leave it to sit flat for a week so the roots of the plants have time to anchor in. Rest assured that it's difficult to make an incorrect wreath! Enjoy your personalized interpretation and embrace the wildness of your cre-

Drop in to Maritime Hobbies & Crafts to see our craft corner and for many holiday craft ideas. 1521 Grafton Street, Halifax, 902-423-8870



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re're more than a "neighborhood thrift store." Value Village is a purpose driven retail company focused on supporting local communities. We started as a family owned business more than 60 years ago and have now grown to over 300 locations in the U.S., Canada, and Australia.

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In Dartmouth and Halifax, we accept these items on behalf of **Diabetes Canada** and **Big** Brothers Big Sisters and pay them 375 Pleasant Street, Dartmouth for every item that comes in, provid- 165 Chain Lake Drive, Halifax ing them with reliable revenue to valuevillage.com

help fund their missions.

Value Village also offers a FUNDrive program as our way to assist nonprofit groups in the communities where we work and live. Over the past 2 years the FUNDrive program has provided many organizations throughout Canada with a great way to earn money, promote reuse, and save the planet. Our team members then offer local shoppers the best quality items for sale in our store, at a great value. We also ensure each item we receive is given an opportunity for reuse or recycling instead of ending up in a landfill. Our company model led to more than \$160 million in payments to charities in 2016 and more than 700 million pounds of items being kept out of landfills. We're proud to be part of the community and look forward furthering our local impact.









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