

GREATER SAINT JOHN

Beautification Funds set aside for expansion of Harbour Passage in south end C3

Fundraiser Hundreds turn out for annual Hospice Sunflower Luncheon C10

SECTION C / THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2014

TELEGRAPHJOURNAL.COM

Cop overtime budgets consistently blown

Police Chief not alarmed by overruns, others question why investigations, patrols can't stay on budget

APRIL CUNNINGHAM
TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

SAINT JOHN • Overtime costs for police officers in Saint John continue to creep up, with actual costs blowing overtime budgets for the past three years by more than double.

It means that last year, when overtime cost taxpayers close to \$680,000, a typical constable could add an average of \$4,600

to a \$77,880 salary.

While the cost challenges are not unique to this city – Fredericton has seen similar overruns – one expert says it points to the need to find efficiencies or change the culture of police overtime entirely.

“Management is reticent to pare back on overtime,” said Christian Leuprecht, a political science professor at Queen’s University who studies policing costs.

“It’s essentially treated as a quasi-entitlement by many folks in police uniform.”

Leuprecht, who calls overtime an “explosive, complex issue,” said moving schedules away from typical 12-hour shifts – instead focusing resources on peak times – is just one example of how overtime budgets could be better managed by Canadian police forces.

The latest Saint John overtime costs, revealed at the police board meeting

this week, came in \$420,000 over the \$255,800 budget. Those numbers have increased since 2011 – the same year the large-scale Richard Oland homicide began – when overtime was close to \$400,000 over the same \$255,800 budget.

In addition to overtime, court costs that cover when officers are called to testify were over budget by \$154,000 in 2013.

PLEASE SEE → **POLICE, C2**

Tent attack suspect held for hearing next week

SHANE MAGEE
KINGS COUNTY RECORD

SUSSEX • A man accused of attacking campers in Cambridge-Narrows on Sunday is being held in custody pending a bail hearing next week.

Timothy Murray Bostwick, 44, of no fixed address was brought before a judge in Burton provincial court Wednesday, where Crown prosecutor Claude Haché objected to his release.

Judge Kenneth Oliver scheduled a bail hearing for the morning of June 9 and remanded Bostwick until then.

Charges were laid in Burton court Monday while Bostwick was still at large and being sought by the RCMP.

He’s charged with assaulting a male complainant with a weapon (a knife), uttering threats to that same complainant, possessing two weapons dangerous

PLEASE SEE → **CAMPERS, C2**

Things look brighter, when it comes to weather

ANNA CARROLL
TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

SAINT JOHN • After a long, cold winter, the Port City might finally be on the receiving end of some well-deserved sunshine.

The Weather Network’s summer outlook report, released Tuesday, highlights slightly above-normal temperatures in Saint John and slightly below-normal precipitation levels.

The Weather Network foresees June highs of 18 C and highs of 23 C in July and August.

“The weather is not going to be dramatically different,” said Weather Network meteorologist Doug Gillham from Oakville, Ont. “In being near, to slightly above normal, that doesn’t mean every day is going to be like that.”

Temperatures are around the same as last summer, which were also above seasonal averages by one or two degrees, Gillham said.

But pinning down exact numbers is made difficult by the fact that



Three-year-old Lily London enjoys the sun with her dad Vance London at Rockwood Park on Wednesday.

PHOTO: CINDY WILSON/TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

Saint John is on the cusp of where the Weather Network has drawn a line for above-normal temperatures and below-normal temperatures.

Cities in southwestern New Brunswick are expected to be above the normal highs, but southern Nova Scotia is expected to be below.

“The overall message is that we do have some good news,” said Gillham.

The possibility for less rain is in the forecast and Environment Canada meteorologist Claude Côté agrees.

“Typically, in June we (Saint John) receive 100 millimetres of rain, in July 88 (mm), in August 82 (mm),” said Côté.

Last summer, Saint John received 60 mm more than the average precipitation, which is around 80 to 100 mm each month.

Gillham said Saint John is expected to receive normal precipitation, but it’s expected to be on the drier side of that range.

The effects of El Niño, a warming of the sea surface temperature in the tropical Pacific, off South America, won’t be felt on the East Coast until into the

PLEASE SEE → **WEATHER, C2**

GREATER SAINT JOHN JOURNAL

Gun Kids, BB gun found in suspect’s car

SAINT JOHN • Police responded to a report of a kitchen window being shot out at a residence on Harrington Street north on Wednesday, Sgt. Jay Henderson said. While attending the scene, another call came in about a similar incident on nearby Newman Street. A moving vehicle matching witness reports was spotted and stopped by police at the intersection of Bryden and Adelaide streets. A 29-year-old male driver was arrested and a BB gun was found inside the vehicle. Henderson also noted that three young children were discovered in the vehicle. He said the Department of Social Development has been advised of this incident. The 29-year-old has since been released from custody on conditions and is facing charges of possession of a weapon dangerous to the public, as well as damage and mischief. The man was issued a future provincial court date to answer to the approved charges.

Water City fire crews respond to flood

SAINT JOHN • On Tuesday, at approximately 7:30 p.m. fire crews responded to Harvey’s Restaurant at 37 Hubert St. where a broken water faucet was causing the establishment to flood, acting platoon chief Roy Byers said. Crews assisted with shutting off and evacuating the water. The business was closed until repairs to the domestic water system could be made, Byers added.

University to keep renowned sci-fi, fantasy collection

MIKE LANDRY
TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

SAINT JOHN • Make it so – the University of New Brunswick Saint John has decided to not only keep its renowned sci-fi/fantasy collection but make it a more prominent.

The collection contains approximately 15,000 items and has been described as one of the top sci-fi/fantasy collections in North America. It is the

university’s largest single collection.

The Hans W. Klohn Commons has made almost 300 feet of shelf space available on its second floor to house “the 1,000 sci-fi books you want to read before you die” from the collection. A summer display in the commons will also feature 80-some books from publisher NPR’s Top 100 Science-Fiction and Fantasy survey.

PLEASE SEE → **COLLECTION, C4**



Librarian Janet Fraser with a selection of the sci-fi/fantasy collection at UNB Saint John. PHOTO: CINDY WILSON/TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

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