

greater Saint John

Philanthropist roasting on an open fire



The audience roared with laughter at the Hatheway Pavilion at Lily Lake Thursday night as roaster Bob McVicar joked about the night's roastee, Tom Gribbons, during the Man of the Community fundraiser. For 25 years, individuals and businesses in New Brunswick have benefited from Gribbons' expertise in investments and wealth. He currently chairs the Business Community Anti-Poverty Initiative and is a member of the board for the University of New Brunswick. McVicar, from Exit Realty, and fellow roasters Diana Alexander of Sculpture Saint John, Wade Gregory of RBC P.E.I., and Blair Moffatt of Moffatt Marine, poked fun at the philanthropist in front of a packed room of 180 guests. Money raised from the event will go toward the pavilion, a non-profit charity that runs programs such as Movies In The Park, Recreation Your Way In The Park and PALS In The Park, to name a few.

PHOTO: REBECCA WATSON/TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

Former MLA's lonely death a far cry from driven life

COLIN MCPHAIL
TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

SAINT JOHN • A Saint John home sits untouched and snow covered, seemingly forgotten. A solid foot and a half of unshovelled snow covers the driveway and the front deck, which offers a magnificent view of the bay and the rest of city.

The solemn sight is part of the legacy left by Carole Juanita Keddy after she exited this world in her own quiet manner.

The former MLA of the now redrawn riding of Saint John Champlain died in her home at 361 Anthony's Cove Rd. this January, unbeknown to all. She was 78.

There have been no obituaries, no funeral notices. Former colleagues and friends were surprised to learn of her death. Her neighbours thought she went south for the winter.

Her unceremonious passing is a stark contrast to her working career. The educator, politician and impassioned Saint Johner leaves behind a resumé that illustrates an ambitious, resourceful and benevolent woman.



Former MLA Carole Keddy
PHOTO: TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL ARCHIVE

Keddy was elected to the provincial legislature as the representative for what is now Saint John East as part of the Bernard Lord Progressive Conservative government from 1999 to 2003. She declined re-nomination in the

following election.

She told the Telegraph-Journal in March 2003 that she didn't have the energy required to be an MLA because

PLEASE SEE → **KEDDY, B2**

190-year-old trust says city forever 'seized, possessed of' old courthouse

MIKE LANDRY
TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

SAINT JOHN • Two senior lawyers in Saint John have uncovered an almost 200-year-old document they say makes the city morally, if not possibly legally, obligated to reconsider its role in the future of the old Saint John County courthouse on Sydney Street.

The handwriting may be tiny enough to require a magnifying glass and several pairs of eyes to decipher, but lawyers John Barry and Franklin Leger say the intent of the 1826 declaration of trust

is clear.

"The said mayor, aldermen and commonalty and their successors for ever shall and will stand seized and possessed of and interested in the said Court House and building," reads the declaration, written as construction was beginning on the courthouse.

Barry and Leger, both previously presidents of the Saint John Law Society, have sent an open letter to common council bringing its attention to the trust. That letter is now on the agenda for the next council meeting, on Monday.

The lawyers are asking the city to readdress the situation of the courthouse, in light of the trust, and work with the province.

On Feb. 8, council voted to reject a proposal from the province to purchase the surplus building.

"They wiped their hands clean, they thought, at the meeting – a slam dunk," says Leger. "As far as we're concerned, (disavowing the trust) can't be done in that fashion. There are obligations."

The lawyers don't suggest the city

PLEASE SEE → **BUILDING, B2**

FIVE PROGRAMS NEED TO BE REVIEWED, SAYS UNBSJ PANEL

BRUCE BARTLETT
TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

SAINT JOHN • A University of New Brunswick Saint John faculty committee says programs such as electronic commerce, engineering, history, politics and tourism require re-evaluation.

The recommendation comes out of a report by the Local Campus Committee which looked at what is being offered at UNB Saint John and divided the programs into three categories: those having high potential, those managing well but in some cases needing more resources and those requiring re-evaluation.

"When we say we've got programs that need re-evaluation, we are not saying they are programs that need to go, necessarily, we are saying these are programs that are struggling and we need a little bit of focus to find out why that is, and what we can do to fix that," said Shelley Rinehart of the business faculty, who is a co-chair of the committee.

The process was put in place in the

fall of 2014 by UNB president Eddy Campbell. He asked the senates on both campuses to set up local committees to develop academic plans. The terms were to identify activities that should be given additional resources when available, those that should be maintained at current levels and those activities that are in need of change.

"The point of the exercise is to see what can be done to make UNB a stronger institution," she said.

The hope is to more clearly define the roles of each campus so that centres of excellence can be developed, she said.

The Local Campus Committee is seeking feedback on its report until Feb. 26. After that, the results will be forwarded to the UNB Saint John senate.

Rinehart said the committee she was on performed a SWOT analysis looking at strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Robert MacKinnon, vice-president of UNB Saint John, said the report is

PLEASE SEE → **EVALUATION, B2**



Oland Hall on the UNBSJ campus. PHOTO: TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL ARCHIVE

Property owners ask city to take a closer look at proposed retail development

SARAH PETZ
TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

SAINT JOHN • Companies that own the city's major retail centres are asking council to take a closer look at a proposed multimillion-dollar shopping development envisioned by East Point developer Troy Northrup, arguing it goes against several city policies and could hurt the city's existing retail.

Horizon Management Ltd., the new company Northrup has formed to oversee the project called The Crossing, has applied for a municipal plan amendment and rezoning for two areas of land, one located along Ashburn Road and a second located north east of the One Mile Interchange. The application is set to go to the planning advisory committee for review, and will undergo a full public hearing before it can be approved.

Three letters of opposition to the requested zoning amendment are included in a report to council for Monday night's meeting. The letters come on behalf of companies owning Saint John's largest retail centres, including SmartREIT, which owns the Walmart-anchored shopping centre at 450

Westmorland Rd.; Primaris, which owns McAllister Place; and OneREIT, which owns Lancaster Mall and properties on the west side of Saint John.

Joel Levesque, a spokesperson for Horizon Management, said all of the concerns outlined to council will be addressed, adding that the project "has been extremely well thought out."

"The company is determined to make this a one-of-a-kind project that hasn't been seen in this part of the country," he said.

In his letter, Aaron Clodd, senior land development manager for SmartREIT, outlines several concerns, including that the amendment would undermine the intent of existing regional retail centres outlined within the municipal plan, and potentially create further retail vacancies "due to the competing nature of the new development."

Clodd pointed out that the city's municipal plan identifies McAllister Regional Retail Centre as the major regional retail centre in Saint John, and argued that the new development could undermine what council

PLEASE SEE → **SHOPPING, B2**