



MEDIA RELEASE

**For immediate release
June 26, 2009**

CORNWALLIS PARK WELCOMES NEW TENANTS AS LOCAL FAMILY BUSINESS EXPANDS

ANNAPOLIS CO. –The Municipality of the County of Annapolis is very pleased to welcome the Graves family to Cornwallis Park. Their new grocery store, Cornwallis Valufoods, is an addition to the family's Grave Valufoods located in the Town of Bridgetown.

“Having a grocery outlet in an area such as Cornwallis Park is critical to the sustainability of the community,” said Annapolis County Warden Peter Newton. “Council is very pleased that the Graves family will be expanding their business to this location.”

On June 1st, the contract was signed confirming that the Graves would be setting up shop in the Lifplex Centre Mall. Warden Newton stressed his confidence in this agreement pointing out that this well-known, respected family has been in the grocery industry, serving residents in Bridgetown and the County of Annapolis, for 56 years. The family has been in the food industry for over 100 years.

Cathy explained that the retail industry is truly a family affair for the Graves. The Valufoods they have in Bridgetown, as well as one they will be opening in Cornwallis Park, are owned by herself and her husband Gordon; however, their son, Chad, partners with his mother to operate the businesses. She added that their daughters, Sarah and Morgan, also play a role in the grocery stores. This close family unit can be seen in how they operate an establishment, and the importance they place on making their stores a community business.

“It was very important to us that this store represents the community,” said Cathy, “that is why we named it Cornwallis Valufoods; and agreed the people employed at this location would be from the area. It is essential that the patrons of this grocery store feel it is their store; like it is truly a part of their community.”

Warden Newton also pointed out that Cathy and Chad were recently in Toronto to receive the 2008 Award of Merit from the Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers. This well-deserved honour recognized the family's dedication and success on a national level. They are nominated again this year.

“It's always encouraging to see a new business open up in Annapolis County,” remarked Warden Newton. “But, to see a local business expand, especially during these rough economic times, is an aspiring event. It goes to show our County is a viable, secure location for business. We would like to express our heartfelt congratulations to the Graves family.”

The grocery store will also be an agency of the Nova Scotia Liquor Commission, allowing the sale of beer, wine and spirits.

An opening date of July 13th has been confirmed.

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For Broadcast Use:

The Municipality of the County of Annapolis is pleased to welcome a new tenant to the Lifeplex Centre Mall. The Graves family, owners of Graves Valufoods in Bridgetown, is expanding their business to Cornwallis Park. They signed the contract on June 1st confirming their commitment to the new location.

The grocery store will be called Cornwallis Valufoods, and will also be an agency of the Nova Scotia Liquor Commission, allowing the sale of beer, wine and spirits.

Annapolis County Warden Peter Newton said Council is very pleased to have Graves family located at Cornwallis Park; stressing a grocery outlet in an area such as the Lifeplex Centre Mall is critical to the sustainability of the community.

He also noted that it's always encouraging to see a new business open up in Annapolis County; but, to see a local business expand, especially during these rough economic times, is an aspiring event. It goes to show our County is a viable, secure location for business.

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