



Spotlight on the East River Valley
December 2022, January & February 2023
Issue 93



East River Valley Community Development Association

6341 East River West Side Rd. Eureka, NS B0K 1B0

Mission Statement: To promote the sustainability of the East River Valley Communities

Notes from the Chair-David Wilson

Now that the pandemic is in recession, though certainly not defeated, our faithful coordinator, Kara, and the usual volunteers are busy getting ERVCDA going again. Progress on the Riverton Hall has been disappointing but we do now have two serviceable, accessible washrooms and the building is certainly useable.

With all the disruptions to normal life in the valley there has been a noticeable drop in the number of volunteers for the various events we have been able to stage. I know that attending meetings is not a favourite past time and I think we all accept that. However, in order to get full use out of your hall and committee we do need to refresh our list of those prepared to help out at the various events. With this in mind, please let Kara know what you are interested in helping with and your availability.

Time to go dig potatoes and plant garlic before fall gets serious!

Santa at the Riverton Hall

Santa will be joining us at the Riverton Hall on Sunday December 4th 2-4pm.

We will be giving out treats in this drive-thru visit.

This is a free event and Santa would be overjoyed to see you all and hear what you would like for Christmas.



THE ERVCDA would like to wish all of our supporters and readers a very Happy Holiday Season. We want to thank everyone for their continued support of our endeavours to fundraise throughout the year.

We look forward to bringing more exciting events to the East River Valley in 2023! Have something you'd like to see hosted in the East River Valley? Let us know!



Riverton Hall Rentals

Once our renovations are complete we will be offering an accessible location for all.

A great place to host any celebrations or meetings.

We also offer weekly rates for groups with daytime and evenings available.

To book the hall please phone Kara Allen 902-301-0339



ERVDCDA Monthly Meetings

If you are interested in attending an upcoming meeting of the ERVDCDA, please call Kara at 902-301-0339 for details.

Bridgeville Community Hall

Hall Rentals Available \$40
Contact Debbie at 902-923-2416 or email 2twins1979@gmail.com



Like our Facebook page for updates between Spotlight Newsletters!

Don't miss out on Community News and Happenings

www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley

Plymouth Community Centre

Rentals by phoning
Ruth at 902-752-2307

Churchville Community Hall

Rentals by phoning
Ellen at 902-755-1257

Lorne Community Centre

Rentals by phoning Neil at 902-923-2183

Springville-Island Women's Institute hold their monthly meetings on the second Thursday at 1:30pm. New members are welcome. For more information phone Debbie White at 902-923-2416.



Christmas Tea

Bridgeville Community Hall
21 Elgin Rd. Bridgeville
Saturday, December 3rd
2-4pm



Hopewell Post Office

Hours of Operation

Monday-Thursday 8:00am-2pm

Friday 8:00am-1:30pm

Closed from 11-11:30am for lunch all week.

902-923-2710

Christmas Services St. Columba and Bridgeville United Church

Advent 1-Nov. 27 St. Columba

Advent 2- Dec 4 Bridgeville White Gift, Lunch

Advent 3-Dec 11 St. Columba Communion

Advent 4- Dec 18 Bridgeville

Dec 21 St. Columba Lessons & Carols

Dec 24- Bridgeville Christmas Eve

Terry Fox Walk Bridgeville

The Terry Fox Walk in Bridgeville raised over \$750 on September 18th.

Photos include the Luddingtons of Bridgeville (Joanne and Tom) and Councillor Andy Thompson with committee members: Kathy Gourd, Sharon MacDonald, Eddie Green, and Inna Harrison

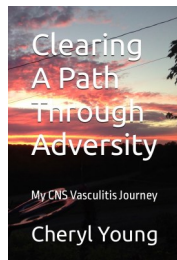


Congratulations is extended to Milton and Catherine Findlay of Lorne, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at the Lorne Community Hall on September 18th.

Thanks to Joanne McHardy for sharing this lovely photo of the couple.



East River Valley resident, Cheryl Young has written a book!
Congratulations, Cheryl!!



Clearing a Path Through Adversity is a personal story, written by local author, Cheryl Young. Her words describe the many emotions felt during a time of uncertainty, after suffering a stroke and being diagnosed with a rare disease. \$5 from each copy sold at Martha's Place, Aberdeen Hospital & Coles/Indigo/Chapters, Highland Square Mall is being donated to the Aberdeen Health Foundation, and it is also available on Amazon.

Kitchen Party at the Riverton Hall



We hosted a very successful Kitchen Party at the Riverton Hall on November 6th. Music by Joyce & John Willems, Ray Stewart and Pam LeBlanc kept everyone's toes tapping. It was a great afternoon spent in the community! We plan on hosting more in the future, keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates!

Eureka Bridge Update

Bridge construction has been progressing as expected, other than a week delay due to the hurricane. Girders were completed around the first week of October with the main deck concrete being poured on November 3rd. By the end of November the remaining concrete will be poured and guardrail installed. Gravel sitework and paving should be completed through the early part of December with the bridge opening mid December. We have had on average 8-12 workers onsite trying to complete this structure as quickly and safely as possible.

Thank you, Brandon Balodis for this update, we all appreciate the hard work put in by everyone on this vital project.



October 21-23 Canada's Snowbirds Air Display Squadron celebrated their Golden Anniversary at RCAF Station Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. Our Chairman, David Wilson was in attendance. Four of the Vimy Flight Team were former Snowbird pilots and attended the soir  e.



Vandalism in the East River Valley



It is with great disappointment that we hear of recent vandalism in the East River Valley. The Iona Park sign ripped right off the wooden posts and the wooden Halloween pumpkins at the East River Valley Community Gardens in Eureka broken, both done mid-September. It's truly disheartening, especially when both parks are run by volunteer committees and are there for everyone to enjoy. We hope that the culprits realize that each group will overcome these setbacks, with true East River Valley spirit!

Churches in the East River Valley

**The United Churches of the
Hopewell Eureka East River Pastoral Charge**
Rev. Mavis Peddie 902-616-1366 - St Columba &
Bridgeville United Churches

The Presbyterian Churches of the

East River Pastoral Charge
St Paul's and Springville
They will be doing alternating Sunday's starting on
December 04, at St Paul's
and time is 10:30. **More information phone**
Sharon MacDonald (902) 923-2336

First Presbyterian Church, Hopewell
(902) 923-2526

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS WANTED

East River Valley Fire Department
Is looking for new Firefighters
If you are interested, call Kevin
902-923-2893
Or attend our Tuesday Training Meetings
7:00pm at the firehall located at
2020 East River East Side Rd, Bridgeville.

Volunteers Firefighters Wanted

Plymouth Fire Department
Is looking for new Firefighters
If interested in becoming a volunteer
firefighter
Call Mike 902-759-0153 or
John 902-759-0631
Or attend our Monday Training Meetings
7:00pm
At the firehall located at
4667 East River East Side Road
Plymouth



Volunteer Fire Department Contacts

East River Valley Fire Department:

Kevin Stuart, Chief (H) 902-923-2893
kevinandleisa@hotmail.com
Jason MacIntyre, Deputy Chief
902-759-3588

Eureka and District Fire Department:

Bill Holley, Chief (H) 902-923-2069
(C) 902-754-9115
Lee Fraser, Deputy Chief (H) 902-923-2170
(C) 902-754-8686

Plymouth Fire Department:

Mike Conway, Chief 902-755-3229 or
902-759-0153
John Davison, Deputy Chief
(H) 902-752-4254 (C) 902-759-0631.

ERVCD Executive 2021

Chair: Dave Wilson 902-923-2990

lochmud06@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Arlene MacGregor 902-923-2410

Secretary: Kara Allen 902-301-0339

Treasurer: Penny Wilson 902-923-2990

Coordinator: Kara Allen ervcda@live.ca

Newsletter Submissions: spotlight.1@hotmail.com

Find us on Facebook:

facebook.com/eastrivervalley/

Visit the ERVCD Website at

www.eastrivervalley.ca

**To rent the Riverton Hall, please contact
Kara Allen at 902-301-0339**

Junior Reporter: Madeline Smallman "Where to learn about the East River Valley"

For this month's article I want to talk to you about the East River Valley and where to go if you want more information. In the East River Valley there are community kiosks. These kiosks have information about local history. In this article I will share what I learned and where you can go to learn more about our community.

Iona Park~ Iona Park is beside St. Columba United Church in Hopewell. At this Kiosk, I learned the park has been around since 1960. Members of the community cut trees, bulldozed stumps, leveled the ground and hauled away stones and debris. Iona park is good for fishing and it's a beautiful place.

Hopewell~ The Hopewell Kiosk is beside the parking lot at the First Presbyterian Church. There are three kiosks that talk about Hopewell over time. Some things I learned about Hopewell at this Kiosk are:

There is information about Dr. W. A. MacLeod, who my school is named after. He was also a politician.

Agriculture, milling and lumbering were the main source of employment for the people of Hopewell for over 150 years.

There were photos of the Hopewell School (mom told me my Grandma went there), a train station and the Foot Bridge.

Eureka~ The Eureka Kiosk is beside the Eureka Fire Hall. There are three kiosks there, too. What interested me here include:

There were 3 woolen mills including a custom wool carding mill.

Part of what we know as Eureka today used to be called Ferrona.

Our ancestors cleared a lot of land for farming. I think clearing land for agriculture would have been really hard for our ancestors compared to farmers now, because we have tractors and other equipment.

I hope you learned something new from this article. I also hope if you want to know more about our community you visit these kiosks. There are books about our communities, too. I found some about Sunny Brae, Springville and Hopewell. You can find them at the library.



MacLeod's Christmas Tree Farm

799 Millstream Rd.
Millstream

Celebrating 50 years
in 2022!

November 24-December 18th
Thursday - Sunday 9-5

All U- Cut trees 10 feet & under \$40
Cash only - Closest ATM in Plymouth &
Stellarton

Friendly Dogs on a leash are welcome
The Eureka bridge is closed for repairs.
Please do not take route 374 from Stellarton.
If you put our address in GSP it will route
you to a road that is not suitable for cars.

Congratulations on 50 years from ERVCDA!



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*Merry
Christmas
& Happy New Year*

Tim Houston
MLA, Pictou East

Town Hall Building Suite 201,
2042 Queen Street,
Westville, NS B0K 2A0

902-695-3582
pictoueastamanda@gmail.com



Advertising or sharing information in the Spotlight on the East River Valley

March, April & May Newsletter Deadline for submissions is Monday, February 6th 2023.

Contact Kara for advertising opportunities for new and existing businesses!
Our newsletter reaches over 1300 people via Canada Post every 3 months, online on our website and social media pages, and sent out to our community via email.

Kara can even produce an ad for you at no extra cost!

Pricing for ads are as follows:

Business card size (2x3) \$25, 1/4 page \$50, 1/2 page \$100. full page \$200

Classifieds (80 letters or less) \$5.

Email her at spotlight.1@hotmail.com for details.

Mental Health Lunch & Learns




There were two Mental Health Lunch & Learns hosted by ERVCDA in 2022. One in May at the Bridgeville Community Hall with David from Pharmacy First speaking about the Bloom Program, and one in October at the Riverton Hall with Beth from the Alzheimer Society of NS. Both were well attended, with delicious meals and social time. We would like to thank our guest speakers, volunteers who assisted in getting meals ready as well as Mental Health NS for the grant to allow us to provide these sessions.





266 Foord St., P.O. Box 1360
Stellarton, NS
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(902) 752-5192

SANTA'S COMING TO TOWN



Saturday December 17th

6:00-6:15 at Springville Church Hall
6:20-6:35 at Bridgeville Community Hall
6:45-7:00 at Rebecca Hall
7:10-7:25 at St. Paul's Church

Santa Claus will be joining the East River Valley Fire Department for a parade through the Valley to greet everyone and hand out candy to the children. Merry Christmas! from the members of the ERVFD

HAPPY
NEW
YEAR

Meals on Wheels



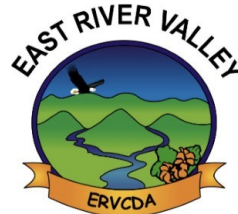
This program is offered throughout the East River Valley.

Meals are prepared at Valley View Villa kitchen and delivered every Tuesday and Thursday in time for supper. At a cost of \$7 the meal includes soup, bread, main meal and dessert.

Many clients tell us they have enough for two meals, keeping the soup and bread for the next day's lunch.

For more information about the program contact:

Etta Hirtle at 902-923-2244.



Important Dates

December 3rd~ Christmas Tea at the Bridgeville Hall 2-4pm

December 4th~ Santa at the Riverton Hall 2-4pm.

December 4th~ Village of Hopewell Christmas Light-Up 6:30pm

December 17th~ East River Valley Fire Department Santa Parade beginning at 6pm *see above poster for details.

February 6th~ March, April & May Newsletter Deadline

February 7th~ East River Valley Fire Department AGM-Springville Hall, 8pm.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook as to not miss out on event details www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley