



Spotlight on the East River Valley

Sponsored this month by:

Seniors Outreach

NS Community Links

Seniors Safety Program



June/July 2020 EDITION ISSUE 82

East River Valley Community Development Association

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

Notes from the Chair

It's fiddlehead time again! In spite of the surreal atmosphere caused by the pandemic with all the distress and trauma of the last couple of months Mother Nature keeps the important events coming; and you can gather them while maintaining social distance!

Since our last newsletter Covid 19 has thrown a monkey wrench into the works in a lot of ways. We were just getting the Riverton Hall back in operation when suddenly we couldn't use the building any more. Indeed, we are spending money hand over fist keeping the building serviceable without any way to raise funds to sustain the building: no "Hunters' Breakfast", no Hopewell Ceilidh, the list goes on. However, your intrepid ERVCA committee is developing plans for a take out turkey supper even better than the one supplied for the Ceilidh. With luck we'll be able to combine that with an event, but in the worst case at least you'll be able to take a tasty day off from kitchen duties.

Although it was always ERVCA's intention to produce this newsletter in paper format, we were getting quite concerned on our ability to keep "the Spotlight" going. In order to cut costs we were considering reducing the number of paper copies to merely sufficient for those who don't have the means to receive it electronically. Luckily, Mary MacLellan made us aware of help in the form of grants from Seniors outreach, NS Community Links and Pictou County Seniors Safety program and we can continue as normal, at least for now.

We keep hearing whispers of plans for revitalizing outdoor recreational facilities in Eureka, perhaps using the old school house grounds as part of the project. ERVCA would be pleased and eager to work with any group that can use that facility for playgrounds, park, or what have you.

Let's all hope that by the time the next issue of "the Spotlight" comes out life becomes more normal again. Check out Kara's work on the website and Facebook, stay safe and don't let your guard down for a minute!

The East River Valley Newsletter future issues may have to go digital due to the COVID-19 pandemic hindering our fundraising. If you would still require a printed copy of the newsletter please phone (902) 301-0339 and leave a detailed message. If you would like to learn about sponsoring an upcoming issue, please email Kara at spotlight.1@hotmail.com

East River Valley Turkey Cold Plate Take-Out

ERVCA is hosting a Turkey Cold Plate & Dessert Dinner on **Sunday August 9th**. \$15 each

Take-out only with pre-purchased tickets ordered by August 1st. To order get in touch with Kara 902-301-0339.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more details.

East River Valley Community Development Association

6341 East River West Side Rd, Module 1, Box 2, Eureka, NS B0K 1B0

Tennis in the East River Valley in 1921



Around the year 1921 young people in the East River Valley became interested in Tennis. According to the History of Eureka and Ferrona by Edwin Bliss, there were courts near the old coffin house. This old photo was found on the East River Valley website and it looks as though some folks are getting ready to enjoy a game of tennis. If you know more about this photo, or have a story about early tennis games in the East River Valley please let us know!

Email Kara at spotlight.1@hotmail.com and we will share on our Facebook page.



Cancellations due to COVID-19

June 6th~Bargain Hunters Breakfast

June 6th~50-Mile Yard Sale

August 9th~ Hopewell Ceilidh

ERVCDCA Monthly Online Meetings

If you are interested in joining the ERVCDCA monthly online Zoom meeting please email

spotlight.1@hotmail.com

They take place every second Tuesday.



June 21st

Happy Father's Day



Hopewell Post Office Hours of Operation

Monday – Thursday 8:30am - 2:00pm

Friday 8:30am - 1:30pm

ERVCDCA Executive 2020

Chair: Dave Wilson, 902-923-2990

tanker623@yahoo.ca

Vice Chair: Jackie McMahon 902-272-2016

Secretary: Marion Dimock 902-272-2016

Treasurer: Penny Wilson 902-923-2990

Coordinator: Kara Allen ervcda@live.ca

Find us on Facebook:

facebook.com/eastrivervalley/

Visit the ERVCDCA Website at

www.eastrivervalley.ca

Support for Seniors in Pictou County during Covid-19 (and beyond!)



Community Links is a province-wide organization that supports the establishment of age-friendly, inclusive communities by linking with others to promote needed changes.

Community links has **emergency funding to help community groups** provide services to seniors during the pandemic.

Dian Day, Regional Coordinator for Pictou, Antigonish and Richmond Counties

(902) 485-6888

dian.day@nscommunitylinks.ca



The **Pictou County Seniors' Safety Program** addresses the safety concerns of seniors by promoting education and awareness about senior abuse prevention, crime prevention, and safety and health issues.

The Seniors' Safety program has **emergency funding to help individuals** with Covid-related needs.

Barbara Smith

(902) 755 -2886

crimeprevention@bellaliant.net



Pictou County Seniors Outreach provides community outreach programs for seniors who live in their own home and require assistance.

Seniors Outreach has **United Way funding to help individuals** with Covid-related needs.

Mary MacLellan

(902) 755-1123

marymaclellan100@hotmail.com



Stay healthy while staying safe! Try "**Seniors Chair Exercise with Sharon**" on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xcHQ8jaq29g>

Made right here in Pictou County!

REACH OUT—perhaps we can help!

NEWS RELEASE

PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR CANADIAN SENIORS

To help seniors cover increased costs caused by COVID-19, the federal government is providing a one-time tax-free payment of \$300 for seniors eligible for the Old Age Security (OAS) pension, with an additional \$200 for seniors eligible for the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).

They are expanding the New Horizons for Seniors Program to support organizations that offer community-based projects that reduce isolation, improve the quality of life of seniors, and help them maintain a social support network.

Also, they are temporarily extending GIS and Allowance payments if seniors'

2019 income information has not been assessed. This will ensure that the most vulnerable seniors continue to receive their benefits when they need them the most. To avoid an interruption in benefits, seniors are encouraged to submit their 2019 income information as soon as possible and no later than by October 1, 2020.

Junior Reporter: Bridget MacGregor

Scavenger Hunt:

These days we are all spending time at our homes because of Covid-19 but with the weather getting warmer it's a chance to be spending more time outside. Here is a scavenger hunt I made for you to enjoy. Bring a container for your collection and a camera for things you see but cannot collect.

Maple leaf	Oak leaf	Ash leaf	Birch leaf	Apple leaf	Gravel
Field rock	River rock	Dandelion	Rose	Tulip	Daisy
Buttercup	Worm	Beetle	Butterfly	Ladybug	Frog
Robin	Starling	Goose	Crow	Nest	Twig
Acorn	Pinecone	Moss	Bridge	Stop sign	Your choice


When you get home look at your items and compare them. Make sure you look at the scenery while you are on your scavenger hunt and enjoy your adventure.



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denise.white@ns.sympatico.ca

Churches in the East River Valley

During the Covid-19 Pandemic church services times have been subject to change.
Please contact the church directly for details.

**The United Churches of the
Hopewell Eureka East River Pastoral Charge
Arlene (902) 923-2410**

**First Presbyterian Church, Hopewell
(902) 923-2526**

**The Presbyterian Churches of the
East River Pastoral Charge
Sharon MacDonald (902) 923-2336**



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

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.



NS Health Authority

Your Way to Wellness

Your way to wellness is a free chronic disease self management online program.

For more details phone 1-888-672-3444 or email

yw2w@nshealth.ca

Assistance during the COVID-19 Pandemic

VON FROZEN MEALS

The VON in Pictou County are offering frozen meals during this difficult time. They are available for older individuals, caregivers, those recovering from hospitalization or anyone needing support with their meals.

A minimum of 5 meals must be ordered at \$7 each. Phone Monday-Friday 9am-4pm at 902-301-9538.

Neighbourhood Assistance

During the COVID-19 Pandemic if you need groceries picked up, one of our helpful volunteers would be happy to pick up and drop off at your door (with zero contact)

Email

spotlight.1@hotmail.com

Homeowner Assistance Programs

The Provincial Homeowner Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Programs are designed to help properties that either lack basic facilities, or are in need of structural, electrical, plumbing, heating or fire safety repairs.

You can find out more information by visiting <https://housing.novascotia.ca/programs/financial-assistance-and-grant-programs-homeowners/homeowner-residential-rehabilitation>.

Those who qualify might receive up to \$18,000 in funding for property repairs. With everything going on with the pandemic there are not as many applications, so this would be an ideal time to apply.

If you have any questions about this program or need help applying contact Jennifer Dewolfe with NS Housing at 902-755-7027.

Please keep this program in mind and think also of those who may not have access to internet or may not receive our newsletter.



Municipality of Pictou County Local Producers Site

The Municipality of Pictou County has put together a link on their website that will have contact information about local food producers.

If you are a local food producer not yet on this site and would like more information contact

sueann.musick@munpict.ca

To view the site visit

<https://pictou-county-farms-pictoucounty.hub.arcgis.com/>

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amy_dewtie@hotmail.com

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**WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.
STAY SAFE. #Covid19**




Tim Houston
MLA, Pictou East
2042 Queen Street,
Westville
902-695-3582
tim.houston@mail.com

Hello East River Valley,

Our hearts remain heavy. I would like to pass along my deepest condolences to the families, friends and neighbours of these victims who lost their life to a senseless act of violence. Nova Scotians are thinking of these families.

Thank you to the RCMP and first responders; those were actively involved during the events of April 18 and 19 but also those who are now investigating the crime scenes. My heart goes out to each of them as they process the evil that they will have witnessed.

The pandemic has made it difficult for us to physically support each other; to mourn and to grieve. But in true Nova Scotian fashion, we continue to find unique, safe ways to commemorate each of the twenty-two Nova Scotians.

It's okay not to be okay, but please reach out for help. The NS Mental Health Crisis line at 1-888-429-8167 and Kids Help Phone at 1-800-668-6868 are both available for all of us.

As we continue to struggle with the risks of COVID-19, I hope you will join me in supporting the government and public health measures.

I too look forward to going fishing, burning brush and generally being with each of you in your beautiful valley.

Stay safe.
Yours truly,
Tim Houston

Spotlight on the East River Valley

ERVCDCA wants to help you get your business started by offering 2 FREE ads in consecutive newsletters.

Extra Newsletters are available in Stellarton at: Poulain's PharmaChoice, Medical Hall, Pharmasave, and Pharmacy First

August/September Newsletter Deadline for submissions is Wednesday July 15th

If you would like to receive the newsletter and notices by email, please let us know:

spotlight.1@hotmail.com

If you are a business in the East River Valley interested in advertising with us, please reach out.

We can even produce advertising for you!



Springville Bridge Replacement Update

We received an email from Brandon Balodis of Balodis Inc. about the Springville Bridge replacement. We are sharing this summary with you, so you are all aware of this huge undertaking.

"Balodis Incorporated was awarded the work to remove and replace the Springville bridge by NSTIR. The new bridge will be a 2-lane concrete structure resting on steel piles driven into bedrock. As of the first week of May we have completed; tree clearing, bridge removal, old bridge foundation removal and excavation. Pile driving was also completed on the West side, some folks in the valley may have heard the banging. The rest of May will be used to finish pile driving and pour the initial concrete foundations which the bridge girders rest on.



In June, four Bridge Girders will be trucked and installed over the river. The girders are being manufactured in Bedford NS. The girders weigh about 125,000 lbs each. The girders are about 110' feet long and with the truck and trailers we will be close to 160' feet long overall, please make room if you see us coming.

For the remainder of the summer we will concentrate on pouring concrete and hauling in gravel. Asphalt paving and clean-up will be in the fall with scheduled opening at the end of October. It will take about 45 truckloads of concrete to complete this project, about 7000 tons of gravel will be used to build up the road to meet each side of the bridge.

We are very pleased to be working on a project so close to home and happy to help reconnect a community that we are a part of."