



Spotlight on the East River Valley

October/November 2020 ISSUE 84



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

Members of our newsletter committee are hoping that we have cleared up a problem in the distribution of this paper. It had come to our attention that quite a few households along the East side of the East Branch of the River were not receiving their copy. The source of the difficulty has now been found and corrected. So that the situation doesn't develop again I hope that anyone not getting their copy will contact the newsletter committee. Or, and this is more likely since those not receiving it probably don't realize they should be, you hear of someone in our valley not receiving the newsletter please, let us know!

Unfazed by Covid 19 restrictions Kara has jumped into the coordinator's position with enthusiasm as evidenced by the success of the turkey supper and more recently the scavenger hunt. Work is now underway to plan a Hallowe'en event and to modify the popular Christmas market. Congratulations on your great work Kara!

As restrictions imposed by the pandemic are easing the Riverton Hall is back in use with restrictions of course. However, it is there for everyone in the East River Valley and the committee will gladly work with groups that wish to use it.

Don't forget to check out Real Canadian Recreation and see what's going on near Nancy's Cellar!

Important Newsletter Information

We have had some troubles having our last few issues delivered as mentioned in Dave's message above. If you missed any previous editions, but received this one, please let us know so we know that the delivery issues have been resolved.

If you know someone in your neighbourhood who is still not receiving them, please have them contact us.

Please note: We may have to change our newsletter to cover three months, for a couple of issues.

So we will be having our next newsletter cover December-February.

Please plan your submissions accordingly!

Email spotlight.1@hotmail.com or call Kara at (902) 301-0339



Thank you to
District 12 Councillor Chester Dewar for all that he
does in the East River Valley.
He is always the first one to step up to offer advice
and any assistance that he can give.
ERVCDCA appreciates all that he has done for our
community group over the years.

ERVCDCA Monthly Meetings *new day!

Meetings take place on the first Tuesday of
the month at the Riverton Hall 5678
Stellarton-Trafalgar Rd. Riverton.
7pm.



Remembrance Day Service

Glencoe Community Hall November 11th at 2:30pm

Cenotaph across from hall.

There will be no inside services due to Covid-19



Like our Facebook page for updates
between Spotlight Newsletters!

Don't miss out on Community
News and Happenings!

www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley

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

**To rent the Riverton Hall, please contact
Jody Holley at 902-754-1322.**



New Business in the East River Valley

Hi I'm the owner of
Ruby's Basic's.

I'm located in Hopewell, but
can meet in Pictou County area as well.
I also ship anywhere at buyers expense.
I always have lots of new items coming out, so
like our Facebook page to stay up-to-date.
We have labels, pet supplies, portraits of
people or pets and lots more!

You can customize almost anything!
Send us a message with any questions.

<https://www.facebook.com/Rubys-Basics>

See ad on page 7



Special thanks to Kenny MacKay, our neighbour in
Riverton, who has been kind enough to take care
of the lawn mowing at the Riverton Hall this year.
We appreciate your kindness.

ERVCD Cold Turkey Take Out



Thank you to everyone who purchased our sold-out cold turkey take-out on August 9th.

The East River Valley Community Development Association appreciates everyone who made this fundraiser a success.

Special thanks to:

Eureka & Area Volunteer Fire Department for assisting with traffic.

Summer Street Industries and Chef Peter for preparing our turkey.

All those who donated towards the event (including Noah Chisholm who donated without getting a meal!).

Without you, our community organization would be facing tougher times, especially during this unprecedented time.

East River Valley Volunteer Fire Department News



The East River Valley Fire Department applied to the Solar For Community Buildings Program, for the opportunity to Generate and sell solar power back to Nova Scotia Power at a preferred rate for the next 20 years.

We successfully won our bid, and had a 48 panel solar array installed on the Fire Hall in Bridgeville in July. Grants to support this project were provided by the Municipality of Pictou County, and Watts Wind Energy, for a total of \$10,371.00, which covered approximately 1/3 of the cost of the project.

We expect to reach a payback for the cost of the system within 10 years, which will mean that for the remaining 10 years of the Power Purchase Agreement, the money generated will be pure profit for the department. The income generated will offset the cost of operating the hall, training for our members and support the purchase of required fire fighting equipment.

It's a real win-win for the department and the environment, and we are very proud to have been selected to participate in this program. We would like to thank Councillor Andy Thompson for championing this initiative, his advice, encouragement and his assistance with preparing the application for this program, which will provide a financial benefit to our Fire Department for years to come.



EAST RIVER VALLEY SCAVENGER HUNT

We had a very successful 1st ever
ERV Scavenger Hunt.
Thanks to the generous businesses in
the East River Valley who donated
prizes.

**Pictured are 5 teams who won
prizes:**

Family Time: *Team Ain't Too
Chabby*

Most Creative: *The East River Valley
Undercover Detectives*

1st to Finish: *Kelly, Zach, Layla &
Benny*

Family Fun: *Milltown Farm Family*

Most Photogenic: *Team Jordan*

If you would like to see the clues, they
can be found on our Facebook page or
contact Kara.



266 Foord St., P.O. Box 1360
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denise.white@ns.sympatico.ca

Happy 11th Birthday to Jude Allen of Plymouth on October 30th!



Churches in the East River Valley

The United Churches of the Hopewell Eureka East River Pastoral Charge

Minister— Pastor Mavis Peddie (902) 923-2578
October 4th— Bridgeville United 10am (Communion)
October 11th— St. Columba United 10am
(Thanksgiving Service)
October 18— Bridgeville United 10am
Join Us~ Everyone Welcome!
There will be designated seating and masks will be
required.

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.

Throughout COVID-19 many of you have reached out with questions, suggestions and solutions to support fellow Nova Scotians in need during uncertain times. Each time, in each interaction, your thoughtfulness and kindness shone through. You make me proud to be part of our wonderful community. In addition to being a voice for your individual concerns and questions, your feedback helped form the ideas we advanced, including plans for a safe restart of our economy, early suggestions on how schools might look and, most recently, a plan to care for our ageing family, friends and neighbours in long-term care.

The pandemic made it very clear that the way we care for our seniors needs reform. Seniors deserve dignity and options to suit their needs in their golden years. I am focused on plans that help take away the fear of ageing and invest in those who have invested in us. That's why I have pledged reform, including adding 2,000 staff positions to support those that support seniors, 2,500 single rooms, and introducing a new level of care that gives seniors flexibility. We learned lessons from COVID-19, now we must make the right choices so we don't repeat mistakes, and I'm proud to bring about modern solutions for our parents and grandparents.

Stay safe. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Yours truly,
Tim

**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

Halloween at the Riverton Hall

Saturday October 31st 5-7pm

(or until treats are gone)

Drive-thru Trick or Treating due to Covid-19.

**If you would like to donate treats, please call Kara
at (902) 301-0339.**

Riverton Hall Rentals

The ERVCDA are now renting out the Riverton Hall once again. With Covid-19 restrictions in place, our maximum capacity is 22 people.

If you would like to book the hall please phone Jody Holley at (902) 754-1322

Some Good Old Time Music-The East River Ramblers

By: Annie (Smith) Corbin

Back in the 50's and 60's before there were computers, the internet and 100's of TV networks, folks in the country had to find their own forms of entertainment. Most often it was music either played on the radio or played live at local country concerts and dances. For people living in the East River Valley, often it was country dances at one of the local halls featuring music of the East River Ramblers. As early as I can remember as a child growing up during this time, there was music in our household, as well as many other households in the area. I have many fond memories of my Dad, Donald Smith, practicing with this group of musicians at our old (and rather crowded) farm house in Springville.

The Ramblers had a somewhat limited repertoire of old time and traditional songs but played with great enthusiasm and obvious joy. According to Rocky Hecimovich, it was not unusual for Donald to change up the words of a song to suit the occasion. On a typical Saturday night people drove from many miles to attend the sometimes noisy and rambunctious but always enjoyable dances held throughout the area. A number of local musicians played with the group but the core band included: Donald Smith- guitar and fiddle, Walter Johnson- guitar and drums, Jimmy Crossan- guitar, Herby MacRae- mandolin and guitar, Munro Fraser- fiddle and his wife Stella on piano. Francis Hecimovich also played the piano for a number of years and Donald's son Fielding Smith joined when he was older.

Local person Bob MacLean provided security and did the square dance calling to the various Scottish reels and country music. No alcohol was permitted inside the local halls, but rumors existed that plenty could be had outside.

The East River Ramblers played prior to 1952 and were still playing in the early 70's. Common venues included the Springville School, the IOOF Lodge, Glencoe Hall, Abercrombie Hall, and the Pictou Legion, as well, as a number of other venues.

Sometimes the band taped (on an old reel to reel recorder!) their musical practice sessions. Reels of music by the East River Ramblers are still stored at Arlene Smith, my sister's home in New Glasgow. Some of the Rambler's musical instruments can still be found in the attics and closets of various homes in the East River. I'm sure many of your "older readers" will have fond memories of this bit of East River Valley history when people often made their own entertainment and was content with simple music, laughter and dancing.

Special thank you to Rocky Hecimovich and Judy MacLean, who did some reminiscing with me as I fondly remembered this important part of my and my Dad's life.

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

December-February Newsletter Deadline for submissions is Wednesday November 18th

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!

Junior Reporter: Bridget MacGregor

This summer, my great-grand aunt Etta Hirtle, from Hopewell, turned 90. For her 90th birthday she went skydiving - that's right skydiving!! She said it was thrilling and something she wanted to do for a long time. She also said she would do it again in 10 years, if she could. She was able to go skydiving because she had been selected in a draw with the "We Are Young Association". She found out about this group on the news and saw other people's wishes get granted. Now it was her turn to be on the news taking the 10,000 foot leap. The We Are Young Association said Etta's wish was the most adventurous wish they ever granted.

I'm so proud of my great-grand aunt Etta for having the courage to do it. It goes to show you that no matter what - you should try to make your dreams come true.

If you missed the CTV News segment visit

<https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=2007733&jwsourc=cl>



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Stop by the Churchville Community Hall
located at 1054 Irish Mountain Rd.

Inside the front foyer you will find used
books.

Take a book, leave a book!



The beautiful ERV Gardens in Eureka. Thanks Bruce for all the hard work you have put in this summer, to make this spot so welcoming!



RURAL FALL MARKET

Saturday October 17th 10am-3pm at the Churchville Community Hall 1054 Irish Mountain Rd. Churchville, or let us know that you will be setting up at your driveway.

Turkey soup & chili take-out, crafters and local farm products!

The perfect time to get your Christmas shopping done!

This will be an outside event due to Covid-19. Please adhere to the Public Health Protocols by wearing a mask and physical distancing when possible!

To sign up as a vendor contact Kara at (902) 301-0339.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more details!

Meals on Wheels

This program will be starting very soon!

Meal prepared by Valley View Villa and delivered every Tuesday & Thursday at supper. \$7 each includes soup, entrée, bread and dessert.

For more information about the meal program contact: Etta Hirtle at (902) 923-2244

If you would like more information about volunteering to deliver

contact: Arlene MacGregor at (902) 923-2410



Springville Bridge Update:

Our crew has been busy removing the formwork and backfilling the bridge abutments with gravel over the last few weeks. Rock has been spread on the side slopes around the bridge to ensure the ground remains stable. The next step is to cast the concrete barrier walls down each side. The concrete will extend to the top of the rebar that is sticking up. Also at each end of the bridge we need to pour concrete approach slabs. The concrete bridge deck will eventually get a layer of waterproofing and then a coat of asphalt. There will be a few days with traffic control at the intersection of River road, this will allow us to install new culverts in this area before repaving around the bridge is complete. We are still on schedule to have the bridge open by the end of October. We have thoroughly enjoyed working on this project and want to thank everyone for being patient with us. As anyone who watched the steps along the way can see, building a bridge is a marathon not a sprint.

Sincerely,
Brandon Balodis

Picture of the Springville Bridge on
September 16th 2020