



**Spotlight on the East River Valley**  
**September, October, November 2021**  
**Issue 88**



**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**

We were saddened recently with the loss of one of ERVCA's most stalwart members: Jackie McMahon passed away in June. Jackie was a guiding influence on our group, ready to lend a hand at a moment's notice and a source of wisdom and sage advice at our meetings. We shall miss her.

I saw in the paper today that things are heating up in the county's fire departments. The equitable distribution of scarce funds in a critical service is a difficult problem for all concerned. The problem is exacerbated by the rapidly escalating cost of equipment which needs constant upgrading even if the usage is low. And when times are favourable and usage is low other demands tend to move to the forefront.

I trust that the county counsellors and leaders of the various fire departments will remember that every individual living in our jurisdiction is of equal importance and deserving of fast, efficient and effective response in a time of emergency. Furthermore, every firefighter regardless of community size or wealth deserves the same high standard of equipment and training in performing his or her potentially dangerous duties.

During a recent discussion with the hornet community established inside the left-hand door of the ERVCA shed at the gardens in Eureka I noticed that the PRDC apple tree has a good crop of apples on it this year. In fact this seems to be a banner year for apples, blueberries, raspberries and the blasted ticks!



The ERVCA was deeply saddened at the passing of our Vice President Jackie McMahon on June 11th.

Jackie was an important part of the ERVCA for many years and she will be missed by all who were lucky enough to know her.

All of our thoughts continue to be with her loved ones as they grieve her loss.

Born in Lunenburg, NS on February 19, 1948 to the late Rev. James and Margot (Spanner) McMahon, Jackie and family lived on Prince Edward Island until she was 8. They moved to Annapolis Royal and later to Halifax. She earned a BSc from the University of Kings College. Jackie married Ian and joined the Austen clan. After they separated, she and Ian co-parented their daughters Maggie and Jennifer. Jackie taught them to march for their rights and later showed them her love through hard work and punishing shifts at Canada Post to keep food on the table. Her children and grandchildren knew her unconditional love through big hugs and maybe a little too much ice cream. Retirement gave her the opportunity to move to Hopewell with Marion to be closer to the grandchildren. She watched them grow with joy. She was a founding member of the Halifax Women's Housing Co-op, a member of the women's OWL's group of Halifax, the Birthday Club of Pictou County and served as Vice President of the East River Valley Community Development Association. Jackie loved reading science fiction, woodworking, and gardening. Friends have said she could grow a garden from concrete. She shed a ray of light on everyone she met and will be missed by her many friends. She is survived by her life partner Marion Dimock, daughters Maggie (Steve Cool) Austen, San Jose, California, Jennifer (Corey Tucker) Austen, Trenton, NS, grandchildren Matthew and Jamie (Cool), Emma and Lexi (Austen), brothers Jim McMahon, Toronto, John (Colleen) McMahon, St. Catharines, sisters Judy (Tony) Maxwell, Ottawa, Julia Grace, Salt Spring Island, BC, former husband Ian Austen and mother-in-law Molly Austen, Halifax.



### **Riverton Hall Rentals**

Rentals have returned at the Riverton Hall.  
We look forward to helping you with your bookings.  
Covid-19 restrictions apply.

A great place to host any celebrations you may not be able to host at home due to Covid.

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

To book the hall please phone Jody Holley at (902) 754-1322.



### **ERVCDCA Monthly Meetings**

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



Like our Facebook page for updates between Spotlight Newsletters!

Don't miss out on Community News and Happenings

[www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley](https://www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley)

### **ERVCDCA Turkey Cold Plate Take-Out**

Another successful fundraising meal took place on Sunday, August 8th at the Riverton hall.

We would like to thank everyone who purchased a plate, we appreciate your support.

Thank you to the Eureka Volunteer Fire Department for directing traffic for our drive-thru.  
Thanks for keeping everyone safe.

Thank you to our volunteers who prepared food and assisted on the big day.

Without everyone's support this event would not be possible. With funds assisting us in our operating the Riverton hall, this newsletter and other important projects that we work on throughout the year.



### **Request for Quote for the Provision of: Snow Removal and Ice Control Services**

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**902-923-2710**

**\*Must have Business Liability Insurance\***

**Closing date and time**  
**October 1, 2021 at 1:30pm**



Instagram

Follow us out on Instagram!

<https://www.instagram.ca/ervcda2021>

### **Moving Sale hosted by the Young Family**

**September 4th, 10am-2pm**

**Riverton Hall 5678 Stellarton-Trafalgar Rd.**

**This is a fundraiser for Scott Young's move to the UK, for his PHD.**



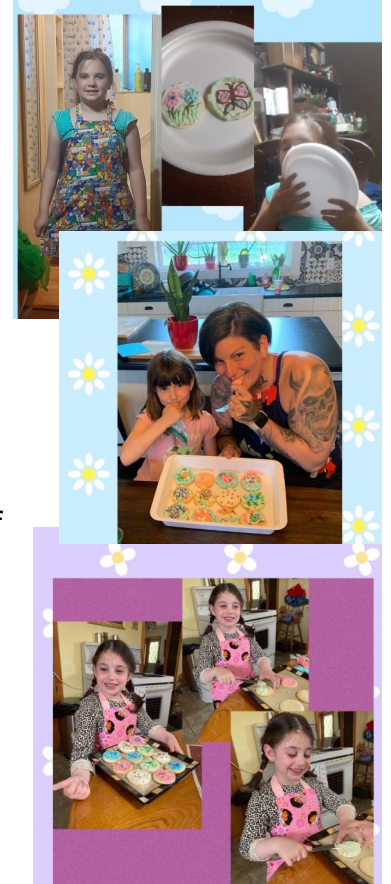
## Cookie Decorating Box

Our cookie decorating box fundraiser was a delicious success.

With the homemade cookies and icing by Arlene MacGregor, paired with the homemade aprons she lovingly made, this was the perfect May long weekend activity. As seen in the photos not a single cookie or icing package was wasted!

We would like to extend a big thank you to our neighbours at Gennoe's Public Baking and Supplies for their generous donation of flour and icing sugar.

A big thanks to Arlene for all the care and attention she had for this box. And finally, a big thank you to all of our supporters who purchased these boxes and sent along some wonderful photos for us to share.



## Early Warning Entertainment

There is a new business in the East River Valley!

Early Warning Entertainment offers a game development studio specializing in combat realism, military tactics and strategy, military communications, weapons consultation, use of military vehicles and other equipment, uniform dress and authenticity and consultation on specific conflicts and battlegrounds.

We would like to welcome Lori and Mark to Hopewell. They have also been looking after the grounds near the Hopewell Footbridge and Ceilidh grounds, keeping the grass mowed and looking nice.

We want to thank them for taking pride in our community as newcomers.



Early Warning Entertainment is a game development studio and military advisory for the Entertainment and Defence Industries.

Members of Early Warning include both currently serving and retired Canadian Armed Forces & US Military.

### **Contact**

**Early Warning Entertainment:**

**<https://ewoperations.com>**

**<https://www.facebook.com/earlywarningent>**

**Email:**

**[commandpost@ewoperations.com](mailto:commandpost@ewoperations.com)**





## Fire Fighters 50-50

Nova Scotia's Volunteer Fire Departments have gotten together to form Canada's largest weekly Cash Draw through Rafflebox. This 50-50 draw has been running for 62 weeks, with prizes in excess of \$100,000 per week, and as big as over \$200,000 for last Christmas and New Years draws.

Tickets are 1 for \$5, 3 for \$10, 20 for \$20, or 100 for \$50, and can be purchase through Rafflebox at

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/nsfd>

There is a drop down list to Select a Member, where you can select which fire department you want to support, and 35 cents from each dollar you spend on tickets goes to that department. If you win the jackpot, an additional \$1000 goes to the fire department you are supporting.

There have been 2 winners from the Pictou County area in the past couple of months. You could be next to win a life changing pot of money, while helping to support your local Volunteer Fire Department.

The odds are much better than the lotteries, and the weekly prize is substantial!

Good luck to everyone, and thanks so much for supporting your local Fire Department!

## Pictou County Volunteer Fire Department Equalization Funding

There are 17 Volunteer Fire Departments in Pictou County, each receiving funding through our Municipal Tax and Fire Tax Levy rates. The total income of each department depends on the number and value of properties and businesses in each district. While some areas are populated with many high value properties and businesses, others have a low population and no industry making up their tax base. As a result, some departments are well funded, and of the 17, five are severely under funded. Three of the 5 underfunded departments are within District 11, which includes the East River Valley FD, Blue Mountain FD and East River St. Mary's FD.

An Audit was conducted in 2019/2020, and the findings indicated that the minimum income a Volunteer Fire Department could reasonably operate with is \$90,000 per year, to cover the cost of equipment, training, gear and to save for major purchases such as trucks.

A committee that included both Fire Chiefs and Council members proposed a solution to redistribute funds to ensure that the 5 underfunded departments would be brought up to the minimum funding level as indicated by the audit. This "Abercrombie proposal" was approved by Council at the June 7 meeting, and will bring the 5 underfunded departments up to the required level through 2 measures. First, each of the 5 underfunded departments will have their Fire Tax Levy increased to 20 cents on the dollar, and second the 12 well funded departments will have 5% of their Fire Tax Levy redistributed to the 5 underfunded departments, to bring each up to the \$90,000.

While the 5 departments who require increased funding are hoping for an equitable solution, this decision has not been well received by all. Currently, there are departments who are seeking legal advice regarding the redistribution of their Fire Tax Levy dollars to other departments.



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**Denise White,**  
Associate Broker

**902-759-1132**  
[www.viewpoint.ca](http://www.viewpoint.ca)

[denisewhitesales@gmail.com](mailto:denisewhitesales@gmail.com)

## 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**  
Sharon MacDonald (902) 923-2336

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



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### **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.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

September 4th~ Fundraising Yard Sale at Riverton Hall in support of Cheryl Young's son Scott Young.

September 6th~ Labour Day

September 7th~ First day of school

September 12th~ ERVCD A Fundraising Variety Concert St. Columba Church 2-4pm

September 25th~ Rural Fall Market Churchville Hall 10am-1pm. Many local vendors!

October 11th~ Thanksgiving

October 31st~ Halloween

November 8th~ ERVCD A Newsletter Deadline

November 11th~ Remembrance Day

Eureka Service 11am at the Eureka War Monument next to fire station.

Glencoe Remembrance Day Service: Please join us on Thursday November 11, at 2:30 pm for our annual Remembrance Day Service at the Glencoe Hall Cenotaph. We will plan to hold the whole service outdoors, but will move indoors if Covid protocols at the time allow for gatherings of that size.

### **ERVCD A Executive 2021**

**Chair:** Dave Wilson 902-923-2990

[tanker623@yahoo.ca](mailto:tanker623@yahoo.ca)

**Secretary:** Marion Dimock 902-272-2016

**Treasurer:** Penny Wilson 902-923-2990

**Coordinator:** Kara Allen [ervcda@live.ca](mailto:ervcda@live.ca)

**Newsletter Submissions:** [spotlight.1@hotmail.com](mailto:spotlight.1@hotmail.com)

Find us on Facebook:

[facebook.com/eastrivervalley/](https://facebook.com/eastrivervalley/)

**Visit the ERVCD A Website at**

[www.eastrivervalley.ca](http://www.eastrivervalley.ca)

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

**Happy 12th Birthday Jude Allen  
of Plymouth on October 30th**



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### **Rural Fall Market**

#### **September 25th 10am-1pm**

Our 2nd annual Rural Fall Market will take place outside at the Churchville Community Hall located at 1054 Irish Mountain Rd. Churchville from 10am-1pm.

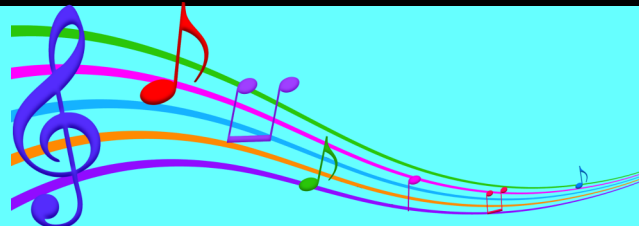
If you would like to be a vendor contact Kara at 902-301-0339 or [spotlight.1@hotmail.com](mailto:spotlight.1@hotmail.com). \$10 per vendor, must bring own table for set up.

Churchville community hall members will be holding a chili takeout with proceeds going to hall upkeep, the meal will include chili, a roll and a dessert for \$10.

Lots of upgrades have taken place over the last few years to the hall. Last fall the hardwood floors were done by Nick and Raymond Lucas, they look amazing.

Looking for a rental, the Churchville hall is fully wheelchair accessible, message on Facebook Churchville, Nova Scotia for or call 902-755-1257

Follow the East River Valley Facebook page for updates on vendors.



### **ERVCD Fundraising Variety Concert at St. Columba Church, Hopewell**

**Sunday September 12th 2-4pm**

Music by: Joyce & John Willems, Shirley Teasdale, Al & Joanne MacDonald.

Admission \$5 and a 50/50 draw

Light refreshments

Join us for an afternoon of entertainment.

Masks mandatory when social distancing not possible.

Limited seating as per Covid restrictions.



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

### **December-February Newsletter Deadline for submissions is Monday, November 8th.**

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!

Email her at [spotlight.1@hotmail.com](mailto:spotlight.1@hotmail.com) for details.

On August 2nd Mary MacLean formerly of Hopewell turned 99 years young!  
She was surrounded by her family who treated her to lunch at the Pictou Lodge. Mary is very well known throughout the East River Valley and beyond. Mary became a resident of Hopewell back in the year 1947, the young bride of Dave MacLean. They raised their three children Lloyd, Barb and Elizabeth as Hopewellites. Many of us had the good fortune to have Mary as a school teacher. She's now retired from that remarkable career that spanned 33 years. She also made impressive contributions to the community over the years, with her active involvement in the Church and various organizations. Mary's poems and the many skits she acted in, were always a delight! Mary now resides and leads an active life in Stellarton. Always ready for some fun, she regularly is a league bowler, and has been known to win more than a few cribbage matches. Mary remains vibrant and engaged in life, and provides us all with an exemplary model of healthy aging. Not only is she wished the best in the celebration of her milestone birthday, but also our gratitude for her years of commitment to her community and to our learning.

—Submitted by Marlene Chisholm



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Tupperware Consultant

902-923-1960

[amy\\_dewtie@hotmail.com](mailto:amy_dewtie@hotmail.com)

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### **Good news stories...**

Summer Recreation was able to take place this summer! This program is run by the Plymouth Community and Recreation Centre. This year they were based out of the East River Valley Recreation in Springville. Staff also used the Churchville Community Hall for planning.

What a great example of community coming together when faced with adversity!

Thanks to students Haillie Green and Emma Lorge for their direction this summer.

A portrait of a man with short grey hair, wearing a light pink button-down shirt, sitting outdoors with a body of water in the background.

**Tim Houston**  
MLA Pictou East

Pictou East Constituency Office  
2042 Queen Street  
Westville NS B0K 2A0  
902-695-3582  
[tim.houston@mail.com](mailto:tim.houston@mail.com)

# Junior Reporter: Bridget MacGregor

I hope everyone had a great summer!  
As I've said before I love a good joke so here  
are a few to get you laughing...

Did you hear about the man who sued the  
airport for misplacing his luggage?  
-He lost his case.

How did the hot dog ask out his crush?  
-He mustered up the courage.

What did the bald man say when he got a  
comb for a present?  
-Thank you, I will never part with it.

A son asked his dad if he could explain a  
solar eclipse.  
-The man replied, no son.

Congratulations to Karley Shaw of  
Hollow Creek Stables in Elgin, who recently  
was part of the Calgary Stampede.  
She was the 2021 Clydesdale Horse  
Association of Canada Queen.  
She was chosen in 2020, but due to the Covid  
it was postponed. She handed out trophies  
and buckles, a job she will continue to do this  
year during the Maritime shows.  
Her Dad, Justin was also part of the stampede  
as a judge.

Wonderful to see part of the East River Valley  
being represented at such a prestigious  
event.



## East River Valley Recreation Bottle Depot

The ERVR would like to thank everyone for their  
support over the past year. It has been great  
seeing people of all ages use the park.

Bottles are always welcome to be dropped off at  
our Bottle Barn located at Mike Hecimovich's at  
2612 East River East Side Rd. Springville.

Thanks to all who have been donating their  
bottles, your donations will go towards new  
sports equipment and field maintenance.



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Consider joining the Pictou County  
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Some of the roles are Searcher, Team  
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Logistics Chief, Radio Operator, Search  
Manager, Project Life Saver Technician,  
and Hug-A-Tree Presenter. We also have  
an elected executive and several  
committees that provide essential  
leadership to the Team. Training is  
provided by qualified team members and  
member associations.

If becoming a member is of interest to  
you, more information can be found at [https://  
pcvgsar.wixsite.com/pictou](https://pcvgsar.wixsite.com/pictou), the Pictou County Volunteer  
Ground Search And Rescue Facebook page, or by  
contacting us at [pcvgsar@gmail.com](mailto:pcvgsar@gmail.com). If you'd like to make  
a donation, tax receipts are available for donations of \$20  
or more made by e-transfer to the Gmail address above.

## 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.



Meals on Wheels returns in  
September!