



**Spotlight on the East River Valley**  
**September, October & November 2023**  
**Issue 96**



**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**

Who Cares? And Does It Really Matter?

The Community Kiosks located around the Valley are showing their age and need repair. The Annual Picnic and Ceilidh held in August yearly till Covid shut it down has not been reinstituted. The Woodpeckers care, at least about The Hopewell Footbridge, a heritage site, the structure of which must have been infested by some super bug that eats treated timber.

It has severe damage caused by the birds hacking away, presumably to get a meal.

Those are just three examples of projects that need attention, I am sure that there are plenty more depending on where one lives. They say that if you want anything done get a busy person to do it, we all say we're busier than ever, so how come nothing seems to be getting done? By the time this edition of the Spotlight is published we will be approaching the Fall season again, Meals on Wheels will be underway and of course children will be back in school: be sure to take in the Fall Market and other events that are in the planning stages.

This is still the best place in the world to live!



**Rural Fall Market outside the Churchville Community Hall**  
**1054 Irish Mountain Rd. Churchville**  
**Saturday, September 16 9am-12noon**  
**Local vendors and chicken burger \$5 each**  
**To sign up as a vendor contact Kara at**  
**902-301-0339**

### Riverton Hall Rentals



A great place to host any celebrations or meetings. \$50 per day.

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

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

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.

### Lorne Community Centre

Rentals by phoning Neil at 902-923-2183

### Plymouth Community Centre

Rentals by phoning Dorothy 902-752-3809

### Bridgeville Community Hall

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



### ERVDC Monthly Meetings

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



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

Like our Facebook page for updates between Spotlight Newsletters!

Don't miss out on Community News and Happenings

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



The Meals on Wheels Program in the East River Valley has been a great success, since beginning in October of 2015. Since it's inception there has been 7,481 meals prepared by Valley View Villa's kitchen. In 2022-2023 we have 16 volunteers who deliver meals each Tuesday & Thursday. Arlene MacGregor and Etta Hirtle have been volunteering their time looking after the logistics of this program since 2015.

Thank you to all of our volunteers and clients, for making this program such a great success. It's never too late to sign up, and you don't have to be on hard times to take advantage of it. These meals make life easier for busy working people as well! Details on how to sign up are on page 7.

*Have a safe and happy fall!*

Hon.  
**Tim Houston**  
MLA, Pictou East



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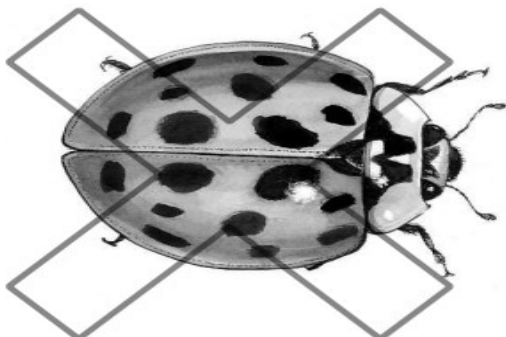
**“BLINK” and it could be SOLD!**



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## **East River Valley Community Kiosks**

We are lucky to have community kiosks depicting the rich history of the East River Valley in Churchville, Sunnybrae, Hopewell and Eureka. These kiosks have been part of the community for 15+ years.

With regular wear and tear and unfortunately some vandalism, these kiosks are in need of major repairs and replacements.

The ERVCDA are exploring the cost associated with replacing panels at the kiosks, though we know this will be an expensive project.

If anyone has any great ideas on ways to fundraise for this work, or other ways we could have these kiosks back to their former glory, we would welcome all suggestions.

## **Mentoring Opportunities in the East River Valley**

The ERVCDA is looking to gauge interest on mentoring opportunities in 2024.

We are hoping to present some life navigating/mentoring programs with the help of financial grants.

We need help from our reading audience.

What would you like to learn about? Would you benefit from cooking classes, a paint night, financial & budgeting workshops? Or something else?

We also are looking for residents in the East River Valley interested in volunteering their time to mentor. Do you have a specialty you would like to teach?

We want to hear from you! Otherwise we won't know what you would like to see happen in the East River Valley.

Contact Kara at 902-301-0339 or by emailing [spotlight.1@hotmail.com](mailto:spotlight.1@hotmail.com) to provide your input.

## **Hopewell Footbridge**

The historic Hopewell Footbridge was built in the 1800's and is one of the last surviving footbridges in North America.

In 1991 a large effort was made to restore the bridge. Unfortunately, over time the bridge has been a target of vandalism by both humans and woodpeckers, causing significant damage to the structure.

Engineers have looked at the bridge, and it is not going to be an easy or inexpensive fix.

Someone needs to step up to save this bridge, before it's too late and we lose this piece of history forever.



Bible Camp was held at the First Presbyterian Church in Hopewell at the end of July.

On average they had 12-18 children in attendance.

Thanks to Joanne MacHardy for sharing this photo with us of their last day.

### **Churches in the East River Valley**

**The United Churches of the  
Hopewell Eureka East River Pastoral Charge**  
St Columba & Bridgeville United Churches

902-923-2578

**The Presbyterian Churches of the**

**East River Pastoral Charge**

Springville

**More information phone**

Sharon MacDonald (902) 923-2336

**First Presbyterian Church, Hopewell**

Minister Rev. Bonnie Langille 902-396-6266

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

Sunday School 9am (in hall)

Sunday worship 9:45am

Coffee hour following worship every 1st Sunday



### **Volunteer Fire Department Contacts**

#### **East River Valley Fire Department:**

Kevin Stuart, Chief (H) 902-923-2893

[kevinandleisa@hotmail.com](mailto:kevinandleisa@hotmail.com)

Jason MacIntyre, Deputy Chief  
902-759-3588

#### **Eureka and District Fire Department:**

Hall 902-923-2751

Roger Caddall, Chief

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.

### **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

### **ERVCD Executive 2021**

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

[lochmud06@gmail.com](mailto: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](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 Website at**

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

**To rent the Riverton Hall, please contact**

Kara Allen at 902-301-0339

**Junior Reporter: Madeline Smallman**

**Pancakes for Breakfast!**

Pancakes are our favourite breakfast at home. Mom usually makes them Sunday mornings. I started making pancakes by myself this summer. I would like to share the recipe I use with you.

250 mL of flour (we use white, but you can try another)  
5 mL baking powder  
10mL of sugar  
A pinch of salt  
15mL of melted butter (I think mom uses more, but this is what she told me)  
250mL milk  
1 egg

Mix all the dry ingredients together then add the liquid ingredients and mix those in. Mom recommends adding the milk first, egg second and melted butter last.

Scoop the batter into a warm griddle or frying pan. Mom says medium-low heat and showed me that's three on our stove. To scoop, I use the cup I measure the milk with to save dirty dishes. I fill the cup halfway with batter then add it to the pan.

You flip the pancakes when you see bubbles on the top of the pancake.

Some things I learned:

You can double the recipe. Just multiply the amounts in the list by 2. Mom does that and I warm the leftover pancakes in the toaster for breakfast before the school bus comes.

There are different kinds of sugar! Mom uses brown sugar or maple sugar. I want to try using honey sometime.

Bon Appetit!

**Family Feud 2.0  
November 17th**

We are hosting another fun night of Family Feud at the Eureka Fire Department on Friday, November 17th

Our host once again will be Gene Mills.

\$10 admission for team members and audience.

We will be selling snacks and 50/50, so bring extra cash!

This is a 19+ event with cash bar in support of the fire department.

To sign up a team contact Kara at [spotlight.1@hotmail.com](mailto:spotlight.1@hotmail.com) or phone/text 902-301-0339.

**Historic Tour of the East River Valley & Luncheon October 5th**

We are hosting a historic bus tour of the East River Valley with historian John Ashton on Thursday, October 5th

We will also be hosting a luncheon after the tour at the Riverton Hall. This event will be offered free of charge, thanks to the Community Health Board Wellness Fund, we received in February.

Participants must sign up in advance by September 15th as spots are limited.

To sign up or for more information contact Kara at 902-301-0339 or [spotlight.1@hotmail.com](mailto:spotlight.1@hotmail.com)

\*Donations greatly accepted

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

### **December-February Newsletter Deadline for submissions is Monday, November 6 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) \$30, 1/4 page \$50, 1/2 page \$100. full page \$200  
Classifieds (80 letters or less) \$5.

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



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**Meals on  
Wheels**

MEALS ON WHEELS



**EAST RIVER VALLEY**  
ERV CDA

Meals on Wheels will return mid-September.

Now is the time to sign up! Home cooked meals are prepared at Valley View Villa and delivered every Tuesday & Thursday throughout the East River Valley. For just \$7 you receive soup, roll, main entrée and dessert, with most clients saying it is enough for two meals.

If you would like to sign up or sign up as a gift to someone, contact Etta Hirtle at 902-923-2244.

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Residents of the East River Valley will soon be able access to high-speed wireless internet through the Municipality of Pictou County's FirstHome internet project.

In response to demand from the community, the MOPC has been establishing a high-speed wireless network throughout the county. This network will help meet the immediate needs of people who live and work here, while the MOPC continues construction of its fibre network.

The wireless network includes 17 towers of which three are in the East River Valley – Sunnybrae, Bridgeville, and Churchville.

Customers are being tested on all these towers now and in the coming weeks, the service will be offered to all interested residents in those areas.

With wireless internet, a signal is sent from the tower to an antenna in your home or business. The MOPC uses both line-of-sight and non-line-of-sight wireless technologies, which gives the capability to push the signal through some wooded areas. Speeds start at 25 Mbps download and 5 Mbps upload. Your signal will be tested before the service is connected to ensure adequate signal strength.

The wireless internet is being offered directly through the MOPC and will be \$49.99 a month plus tax with no contract and no usage cap. To sign up for the wireless internet service you can call 1-833-727-2256. You can also register online at [mopcfirsthome.net](http://mopcfirsthome.net).

## **Important Dates**

September 16~ Rural Fall Market Churchville 9am-12pm.

September 30~ National Day of Truth & Reconciliation

October 5~ Historic Tour of ERV & Luncheon-Riverton Hall

October 9~ Thanksgiving

November 6~ December-February Newsletter Deadline

November 11~ Remembrance Day \*services will be posted on our Facebook page as details are confirmed

November 17~ Family Feud 2.0 at the Eureka Fire Hall

Be sure to follow us on Facebook as to not miss out on event details [www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley](http://www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley)