

EAST RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Newsletter Issue 108

September-November 2026

6341 East River West Side Rd. Eureka B0K 1B0

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



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR, DAVID WILSON

10 August 26

Congratulations to the Hopewell Ceilidh Committee for another very successful Ceilidh yesterday. Saturday's thunderstorms and heavy rains and the Sunday morning mists and drizzle cleared up to mainly overcast skies and a muggy 26° which brought a great crowd of people out to enjoy the parade, the music, the food tents, a stroll along the trail and over the footbridges, and the chance to chat with old and new friends.

Kudos and many thanks to the volunteers who donated their cakes to ERVCD as they sold, well, like hot cakes! A definite boost to our operating budget.

See you at the Churchville market next month (details on page 5).

Christmas Market in the East River Valley

ERVCD will be hosting an early-bird Christmas Market at the Plymouth Fire Hall on Saturday, November 14 from 10am-1pm.

We will have a wide variety of vendors, the Plymouth Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will have their famous brown bread and bake sale.

ERVCD will have a 50/50 draw.

To become a vendor the cost is \$20 per table. Payments will be collected the day of the market and only Kara Allen will be looking after signing vendors up. Please be mindful of scammers who try to accept sign-up and payment.

You can sign up by phoning/texting Kara at 902-301-0339 or emailing spotlight.1@hotmail.com

We will have a list of vendors shared on our Facebook page leading up to the event.

So, follow our page for updates

<https://www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley>



WE NEED YOUR INPUT!!!

We have developed a Survey to learn a bit about what is needed or desired in the East River valley.

We want to provide opportunities for everyone, but without knowing what is wanted or needed, we are guessing. To take part in this short survey visit the link provided

<https://forms.gle/DzAEjqDdqJVFkR3v6>

We will be doing a random draw for a gift certificate for those who participate!

Deadline to conduct the survey is October 15th.

We love receiving good news to share.

Send to Kara at spotlight.1@hotmail.com to be included in the next newsletter.

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The Riverton Hall offers a cozy space for gatherings for up to 44 people. Accessible entrance and washrooms, and a new kitchen with stove, fridge and dishwasher.

Rentals are available at the Riverton Hall by contacting Kara at 902-301-0339.

Visit the website for availabilities
<https://eastrivervalley.ca/>

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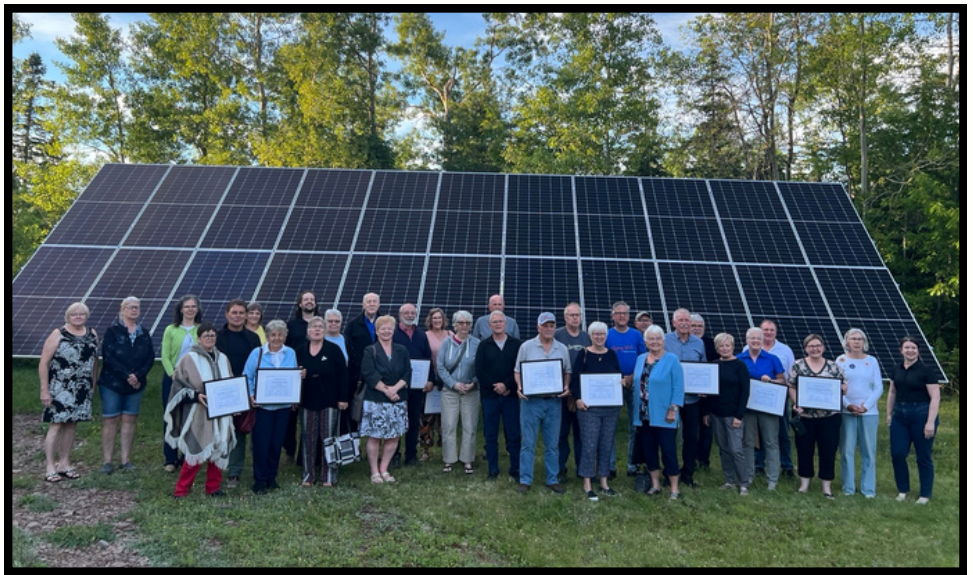


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Net Zero Project

On June 25th community organizations that took part in the Net Zero project came together at the Churchville Hall, to celebrate the success of the project in Pictou County.

District 11 Municipal Councillor, Andy Thompson and Liam Cook, of Navigate Energy who both spearheaded this initiative presented the plaques. The project included; upgrading 21 local halls with solar panels, heat pumps, insulation and lighting. This project has helped turn seasonal halls, into year-round community assets, all while reducing the carbon footprint. Over 115 other community non-profits, across the province have been identified as potential continuation locations for the project.

It's great to see this grow outside of our county, after being such a great success here. Congratulations, to all of the halls and organizations who participated, and worked so hard to have their halls become what they are today.

Halls in the East River Valley include: Churchville, Bridgeville, Sunnybrae, Springville, Plymouth Community Halls and East River Valley Recreation.

ERVCD Executive

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Kara Allen-Coordinator/Secretary

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CHURCHES IN THE EAST RIVER VALLEY

The United Churches of the
Hopewell Eureka East River Pastoral Charge
St Columba & Bridgeville United Churches
Minister Sam Graham 902-921-0137

The Presbyterian Churches of the
East River Pastoral Charge
Springville Jim Wilson 902-923-2696
St. Paul's Howard Archibald 902-928-2780

First Presbyterian Church, Hopewell
Minister Rev. Bonnie Langille 902-396-6266
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
2020 East River East Side Rd. Bridgeville
Kevin Stuart, Chief 902-923-2893
kevinandleisa@hotmail.com
Jason MacIntyre, Deputy Chief 902-759-3588
Tuesday Training Meetings at 7pm

Eureka and District Fire Department
5222 Stellarton Trafalgar Rd. Eureka
Hall 902-923-2751
Roger Caddall, Chief 902-759-6526
Brandon MacDonald, Deputy Chief 902-301-6697
Civic signs can be ordered through Cliff Jardine
cliffjardine@hotmail.com

Plymouth Fire Department
4667 East River East Side Rd. Plymouth
Rod Livingstone, Chief
902-396-9161
Wayne VanVeen, Deputy Chief
902-759-2368
plymouthfire13@gmail.com
Monday Training Meetings 7pm

If interested in volunteering at one of the
departments reach out today!



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* Interested in fund raising? Contact us.



*100th Birthday Celebrations for Dr. Ellen McLean
September 19 at the home of her son, Neil McLean
2258 River Road, Plymouth
You are invited to drop by any time after 2pm, that afternoon.
Best wishes only please!*



Congratulations, to East River Valley resident, Petra Moriarty on the release of her debut album, "Movin' On". You can find it on Spotify.



Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels returns mid-September, running every Tuesday & Thursday for a supper-time drop off. It is available to anyone in the East River Valley for just \$8 per meal. To sign up, please contact Alice Cameron at 902-928-0767.

ERVCD Outdoor Rural Fall Market

This year's Outdoor Fall Market at the Churchville Hall, will take place on Saturday, September 19th from 11am-2pm. To sign up to be a vendor contact Kara at 902-301-0339 or spotlight.1@hotmail.com \$10 for adult vendors \$5 youth vendors Youth Vendors will be inside. More details to follow on our Facebook

ERVCD CRIB TOURNAMENT

We are hosting a Crib Tournament on October 17th starting at 1pm at the Riverton Hall. \$10 per person. Beginners and all-ages welcome! We will have a cash canteen with non-alcoholic drinks and snacks. If you're interested in signing up early, call or text Kara at 902-301-0339.

Looking to advertise or Submit?

Deadline for December 2026-February 2027 newsletter submissions is Monday, November 9th. Our newsletter reaches over 1500 by mail and electronically. Advertising is available by contacting Kara.

Pricing for ads are as follows:
Business card size (2x3) \$30, 1/4 page \$50, 1/2 page \$100

Email spotlight.1@hotmail.com for details.



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Feeding Communities in the East River Valley

We were fortunate to receive a grant to assist with feeding our community.

The East River Valley Meals on Wheels and Dr W A MacLeod Consolidated were chosen as the beneficiaries of this funding.

Instead of providing gift cards to each Meals on Wheels client and the school, Kara Allen, ERVCDA Coordinator went shopping!

For the Meals on Wheels clients we packaged 2 re-usable Sobeys bags for each household, filled with all the staples that someone could use. Alice Cameron, our Meals on Wheels Coordinator and delivery volunteers Arlene MacGregor and Marion Mahoney assisted Kara in bagging the groceries, which were then taken to the doors of each client (who were not expecting them).

Kara Allen purchased lots of healthy snacks for MacLeod School, and Brenda MacLean accepted on behalf of the school. These snacks would be used for the Free Breakfast Program and field trips. While the Meals on Wheels and the School were the main recipients, ERVCDA also chose two deserving community families to receive some groceries to assist in hard times.

Plans are underway for another Meals on Wheels grocery delivery, and MacLeod School will receive more items for their breakfast program when school resumes in September

Pictured are some of the grocery items, Alice Cameron bagging up some peanut butter and Brenda MacLean with the schools items.

**FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT WAS PROVIDED BY
NS DEPARTMENT COMMUNITIES, CULTURE,
TOURISM AND HERITAGE**





The Churchville Hall came alive with music on Sunday, July 19th as the monthly Kitchen Party took place.

From guitar, to fiddle, to electric bagpipes, the afternoon had a wide variety of tunes, which had everyone tapping their toes and singing along.

The kitchen parties will continue to take place every third Sunday of the month. All musicians, of any age or level are welcome to play.

For details contact Doug at dougflet@gmail.com



Hopewell Ceilidh 2026

Congratulations, to the Hopewell Recreation Association on another successful Hopewell Ceilidh. We at the East River Valley Community Development Association would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who donated cakes to sell, and to everyone who purchased cakes from our tent. This event is about community, making memories and raising money for what has continued to be a historic landmark. The Hopewell Footbridge continues to live on because of this event, and the tireless volunteer hours. Well done, everyone! We cannot wait to see what is in store for the ceilidh in 2027.

Be sure to follow the Hopewell Recreation Association page on Facebook for updates. They are always looking for people to volunteer.





YOGA WITH BELLA
BRIDGEVILLE COMMUNITY HALL
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
STARTING SEPTEMBER 9TH/10TH

GENTLE SENIORS YOGA
WEDNESDAY 9:30 AM
THURSDAY 9:30 AM
5 WEEK SESSION

ONCE A WEEK	\$50	\$40
TWICE A WEEK	\$100	\$85
DROP IN		\$12

****DISCOUNT THANKS TO
COMMUNITY HEALTH BOARD SUBSIDY**

HATHA YOGA
WEDNESDAY 6:30 PM
THURSDAY 6:30 PM

ONCE A WEEK		\$50
TWICE A WEEK		\$100
DROP IN		\$12

TO REGISTER EMAIL :
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YOGA WITH BELLA
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...

GENTLE SENIORS YOGA

- THIS CLASS IS SUITABLE FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS A LITTLE MORE SUPPORT.
- SUPPORT CAN BE USING A CHAIR, BLOCKS OR JUST TIME TO FIGURE IT ALL OUT.
- EVERY ABILITY IS WELCOME AND EACH POSE WILL BE MODIFIED ACCORDINGLY.
- FREE INDOOR WALKING PROGRAM NOVEMBER TO APRIL.

HATHA YOGA

- THIS CLASS HAS ROOM FOR EVERYONE
- ON THE MAT.
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History has it that the first settlers in Churchville, John Robertson and his son James slept under an elm tree when they first came to the area in 1784. The famous tree, at least in Churchville, succumbed to the dreaded Dutch Elm disease many years ago. The Robertson family felt they wanted to keep this part of their history alive and a new tree was purchased.

Descendants of the Robertson clan were in Churchville in August to plant the new elm tree. Colin, Tessa and Grey from California and Neil & Tricia from Halifax were supported by some local residents as the new tree was planted. Colin & Neil are grandsons of Colonel Robertson. A new plaque was unveiled at the cairn to replace the one that had been stolen last year. Some repairs need to be completed before the sign is permanently attached.

Senior Cooking Session in Riverton

We will be offering a **free** cooking session for seniors with Annabelle Cameron at the Riverton Hall on October 20th at 1pm.

Participants will learn how to cook a hearty and healthy meal option, and leave with all the ingredients and instructions on how to cook it for yourself.

Taste testing will also take place.

Registration is required to know how many people to expect and how many packages to make.

Contact ERVCDA Coordinator Kara Allen at 902-301-0339 to register today!

Limited amount of seats available.

There will be a time to socialize and meet your neighbours, with a light lunch provided.

Funding provided by the New Horizons for Seniors Grant we recently received.



- Every third Sunday~ Kitchen Party at the Churchville Hall 1-4pm**
- Every third Tuesday~ Coffee Social at the Churchville Hall 8-10am**
- September 6~ Music in the Park Iona Park 4158 Stellarton Trafalgar Rd. Hopewell 2-4pm.**
- September 19~ ERVCDA Outdoor Rural Fall Market-Churchville Hall 11am-2pm.**
- October 17~ Crib Tournament at the Riverton Hall 1pm**
- October 15~ Deadline to fill out survey found on Page 1.**
- October 20~ Free Senior Cooking Session at the Riverton Hall 10am.**
- November 11~ Remembrance Day Services in the East River Valley**
- *times to be posted on our Facebook page.**
- November 14~ Early Bird Christmas Market at the Plymouth Fire Hall 10am-1pm.**