



Spotlight on the East River Valley

March-May 2024

Issue 98



East River Valley Community Development Association

6341 East River West Side Rd. Eureka, NS B0K 1B0

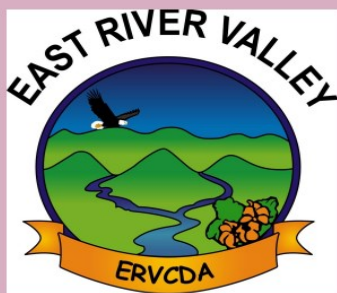
Mission Statement: To promote the sustainability of the East River Valley Communities

Notes from the Chair-David Wilson

As I mentioned in the November Newsletter, the Hopewell footbridge and the Ceilidh have been a big part of the monthly meeting discussions lately. It has been decided that we need to have a public meeting to find out if there are enough people interested in the bridge and to revitalize the Ceilidh whether in the past format or some other.

For planning purposes, we have already spoken to 144 Air Reserve Flight regarding repairs to the bridge and made an application for a grant to help with obtaining the materials that will be required.

Unfortunately, ERCVDA just does not have the people to take over, so we need ideas and willing hands for the meeting at the Eureka Fire Hall, now scheduled for 7PM on April 15. This is an important meeting; we stand to lose both the bridge and the Ceilidh, so it affects all of us in the East River Valley. Please plan to attend.



East River Valley Community Development Association Annual General Meeting

When: Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Where: Riverton Hall 5678 Stellarton Trafalgar Rd. Riverton

Time: 7pm

New Board Directors Welcome

Everyone Welcome to Attend!

RSVP with Kara at 902-301-0339 or spotlight.1@hotmail.com

Call for Volunteers for ERVDA

It is an exciting time in the East River Valley.

With an active community, with a multitude of community groups hosting events. The East River Valley Community Development Association partners with these groups for various events and activities throughout the East River Valley and looking to add more fundraising events for our organization. We need someone like you to help make this a success! Join a group that is driven to make an impact in the East River Valley! Instead of saying "I wish we could have that in our community," help make it a reality!

Our mission is to promote the sustainability of the East River Valley communities. These communities include Bridgeville, Centerdale, Churchville, Elgin, Eureka, Foxbrook, Glencoe, Hopewell, Island East River, Lorne, Millstream, Mountville, Plymouth, Riverton, Springville, St. Paul's and Sunnybrae.

Get involved - ERVDA is looking for individuals for our board of directors and volunteers to assist with events. We are a volunteer working Board, with monthly meetings. If this sounds like something you would like to help with, reach out to Kara at spotlight.1@hotmail.com with the subject VOLUNTEER or phone 902-301-0339.

If you cannot make meetings, that is fine! We would still love to have your contact information to be in touch.

Riverton Hall Rentals



A great fully-accessible location 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.

For a complete list of community halls with rentals visit our website www.eastrivervalley.ca and click "Community Information" and scroll to Community Centres.



ERVDCDCA Monthly Meetings

If you are interested in attending an upcoming meeting of the ERVDCDCA, 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

Thank you

Thank you to District 11
Municipal Councillor Andy
Thompson and District 12
Municipal Councillor Chester Dewar for their
continued support of the ERVDCDCA.

We appreciate their funding, guidance and
feedback. Working together to make the East
River Valley the best place to live.

Hopewell Christmas Happenings

Hopewell's Christmas festivities was one for the books. A large crowd gathered for the Christmas Tree Lighting on December 3rd, with village crier Lester Ward being the Honouree this year in cutting the cake and lighting the tree. The Candy Cane Committee were also happy to have had the Candy Canes up this year, as they were not able to have them up in 2022.



Thank you to Joanne MacHardy for submitting photos.



Pictured on the left is Lester Ward (centre) cutting the cake with his family members after the lighting of the Hopewell Christmas Tree.

Pictured on the right is one of the Candy Canes in the village lit for the season.

Happy Easter and Mother's Day from ERVDCDCA





Hon. Tim Houston
MLA for Pictou East

902-695-3582
 phtoueastamanda@gmail.com
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Mother nature is continuously encroaching on our homes, driveways, trails, and fields. Regain and maintain your properties full potential with help from Forest to Fireplace.

It's a near certainty the wildfire risk will be extremely high this summer. Nova Scotia saw its most devastating wildfire season on record in 2023 with 25,000 hectares of land and 200 homes burned. Damage fuelled by downed trees left in the wake of Fiona. With maritime summers becoming hotter and drier, having a long look at your yards, fields, and woods to consider if you have done everything you can to protect yourself against wildfires? Is there woody debris laying around? Should the treeline be pushed back? Can emergency vehicles access all your structures?

With a little preventative action, I can help protect your property and improve its appearance by processing downed or hung-up trees with relative ease.

Lower your risk and raise your property value while considering the by-product might be custom firewood made to measure, milled lumber for your building projects, and wood chips for mulching. Don't need those? Perhaps sell what's processed and recoup some of the clean up cost. You'll be surprised what a difference a day can make with Forest to Fireplace on the job.

Lastly, I invite you to place an order for next winters firewood and know that mid-season chimney cleanings are available.

Santa stopped by the Riverton Hall on December 3rd and visited with close to 150 guests that afternoon. Giving out candy canes and book from the Adopt-a-Library Program, this kicked off the Christmas season in the East River Valley. Thanks to Santa for always

being a beacon of the Christmas spirit!



Shout out to Olivia Halliday, her Mom Yvonne Halliday, Step-dad Mike Kirby and friends Madison and David MacDonnell for transforming the Hopewell Footbridge into a Christmas wonderland.

Decorations and lights made the footbridge a magical site once again this Christmas. It gave people yet another reason to visit this wonderful treasure we have in our community.

Thanks for all you did!



Attention All Crafters and Artisans in the East River Valley!

This includes sewers, knitters, artists, floral/wreath designers, bakers, woodworkers, honey producers, and canners, sorry if I've missed any sectors.

My name is Becki Henderson and I'm located at 8 River Road across from the new bridge in Springville. For the last 3 years, I have had a small shop (Cabar Feigh Creations) in my barn open during November and December.

This season I had a few ladies from the area who told me of their joy in crafting and how they'd like to have a small shop too. From these conversations sprung the idea of joining together as a group of individuals, selling the items we take joy in creating. Since then, I have had a ton of ideas from people who think they have no place to sell their items, or those with limited items and/or time, and the creation of a local map/brochure to designate all participants in the East River Valley area has been thought of.

I would love to get all those interested in discussing ideas that would benefit all of us and our communities together at the Springville Church & Community Centre on Tuesday, March 19th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Anyone interested, can contact me by email at beckihenderson2@hotmail.com, text at 780-837-6433, or message me on Facebook under Becki MacKenzie Henderson, or Cabar Feidh Creations.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Family Feud 2.0 Event on November 17th.

8 teams competed for top prize (which included hoodies from Balodis Inc. and baked goods from Arlene MacGregor) Thank you for those donations of prizes. Thanks to Foxy Entertainment for another stellar event and to the Eureka Fire Dept. for co-hosting this event with us.

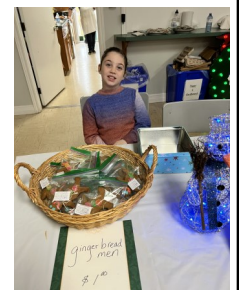
Pictured are our top teams: The Misfits and The Comeback Kids.



Thank you to the Plymouth Fire Dept. and Ladies Auxiliary for another wonderful Christmas Market on November 18th.

Thank you also to the fantastic vendors who had some of the nicest products to offer our guests. We look forward to this partnership each year.

From fresh baked bread, gingerbread men, donuts and take-out goulash and chili there was something for everyone with the Plymouth Fire Dept. tables.



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

Sunday School 9am (in hall)

Sunday worship 9:45am

Coffee hour following worship every 1st Sunday

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 Rod 902-396-9161 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



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:

Hall 902-923-2751

Roger Caddall, Chief

Lee Fraser, Deputy Chief (H) 902-923-2170

(C) 902-754-8686

Plymouth Fire Department:

Rod Livingstone, Chief

902-396-9161

John Davison, Deputy Chief (H) 902-752-4254

(C) 902-759-0631.

plymouthfire13@gmail.com



**Municipality of the County of Pictou
Department of Emergency Services**

NOTICE: FIRE DISPATCH SERVICE CHANGE

Dear Residents of the Municipality of Pictou County, Towns of Pictou, Trenton, Westville, and Stellarton (Excluding the Town of New Glasgow)

We would like to inform you that most of the counties' fire services have recently transitioned to a new dispatch provider. The new provider is **Valley Communications**, located at 217 Belcher Street, Kentville, Nova Scotia B4N 1E2, Canada.

If you have alarm monitoring on your properties or businesses within any of the fire department districts listed below, we kindly request you to contact your alarm monitoring company at your earliest convenience to inform them of this change and ensure there are no delays in receiving a timely response from your local fire station.

Effectuated fire department coverage area:

Abercrombie Fire Department
Alma Fire Department
Barney's River Fire Department
Blue Mountain Fire Department
Caribou Fire Department
East River Valley Fire Department
Eureka Fire Department
Scotsburn Fire Department
Thorburn Fire Department
West River Fire Department
Pictou Island Fire Department

Linacy Fire Department
Little Harbour Fire Department
Merigomish Fire Department
Pictou Fire Department
Pictou Landing Fire Department
Plymouth Fire Department
River John Fire Department
Trenton Fire Department
Westville Fire Department
Stellarton Fire Department

We are asking residents to ensure this change has been made by the end of January. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this change, please feel free to contact Evan Hale, Director of Emergency Services with the Municipality of Pictou County. You can contact Evan at Evan.Hale@munpict.ca or by phone at 902-485-2242.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter and thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Evan Hale
Director, Department of Emergency Services
Municipality of Pictou County

Junior Reporter: Madeline Smallman

School Play at Dr. W. A. MacLeod School

Dr. W. A. MacLeod Consolidated School, aka DWAM, is doing a play this spring. We practise at DWAM, but will do the play at Northumberland Regional High School in Alma. The play is High School Musical Junior. High School Musical is an all-time favourite Disney show and movie.

High School Musical Junior is about Gabriella who is a new girl at the school. She meets a boy named Troy and they become friends. The play is about their friendship and involves many other characters. You will know the characters if you've ever seen High School Musical the Movie on tv.

You will recognize many cast members because they are from the East River Valley.
Yours truly will be playing Coach B, Troy's dad.

This is the second play DWAM has done under director, Music Teacher Ms Gilby.
Last year the students performed Willy Wonka. It was really fun to perform!

We will find out when we will perform the show in March. I will share more information for the East River Valley Facebook page.

Break a leg!

Jokes!
What do you call a theatre production about puns?
A play on words!

I tried to come up with a funny theatre joke, but it was all just an act!

On December 5th ERVCDA hosted a Christmas Lights Tour of the East River Valley. 12 seniors boarded the CHAD bus with coordinator Kara Allen to look at the beautiful lights throughout the East River Valley.

We stopped at the Bridgeville Community Hall for refreshments. Thank you to the Community Health Board for providing the funds to host this event, and to the Bridgeville Community Hall for providing a space to enjoy cookies and hot chocolate. Also, a shout out to CHAD Bus Services for providing a comfortable ride with Christmas music.



Hopewell Ceilidh & Hopewell Footbridge

Community Meeting

Monday April 15, 2024

7pm

Eureka Fire Hall

5222 Stellarton Trafalgar Rd. Eureka

This will be a community meeting to discuss the return of the Hopewell Ceilidh and future of the Hopewell Footbridge.

EVERYONE is welcome to attend who has an interest in the Ceilidh and Footbridge.

We want to hear your ideas, so this is the perfect time to tell us!

If you cannot make the meeting email Kara at spotlight.1@hotmail.com and your email will be added to the follow-up email.

Everyone Welcome!

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

June-August Newsletter Deadline for submissions is Monday May 6, 2024

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 for details.



Meals on Wheels



Meals on Wheels has returned

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 by volunteers. For just \$8 you receive soup, roll, main entrée and dessert, with most clients saying it is enough for two meals.

You can sign up for just one day a week or both.

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

E-transfer is now available for an easy payment option.



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Saturday 8-5



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Spring & Mother's Day Market

Hosted by ERVCDA and Plymouth Fire
Ladies Auxiliary & Department
Plymouth Fire Department
4667 East River East Side Rd.
Plymouth

April 27
9am-12pm

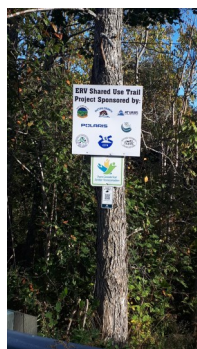
Sign up as a vendor for \$20 per table
Contact Kara at 902-301-0339 or
Spotlight.1@hotmail.com

Payment for tables required at
booking to reserve.
Kara will provide those details.

East River Valley Shared Use Trail Update

Hurricane Fiona left the East River Valley Shared-Use Trail in Pictou County in a devastating mess (much like every other wooded area in Pictou County). With the assistance of several grants, the trail was able to be cleaned up for the safety of all users and the threat of wildfires. A new 40ft 70 tonne bridge has been installed, 10km's of the trail surface has been upgraded, and culverts have been replaced to assist in the flow of water along the trail. It's an on-going process of course with the full 33km's of trail from Sunnybrae to East River St. Mary's expecting to take close to 7 years to complete with upgrades. Recently two open houses were held, one in Springville and one in Eden Lake to discuss the trail. A survey was also sent out to gauge the interest in trail usage, which show a strong support for upgrades to the trail. Thank you to everyone who put in volunteer time in assisting in getting the trail safe for use.

If you have any questions about the trail contact Ken MacDonald at 902-923-2365 or kenmacdonald@seasidehighspeed.com



Important Dates

March 5~ ERVCDA AGM 7pm Riverton Hall-All Welcome

March 19~ Crafters/Artisans Meeting 7pm Springville Hall

March 29~ Good Friday

March 31~ Easter

April 15~ Hopewell Ceilidh/Footbridge Community Meeting 7pm
Eureka Fire Hall

April 27~ Spring & Mother's Day Market 9am-12pm Plymouth Fire Hall

May 6~ June-August Newsletter Deadline

May 12~ Mother's Day

Be sure to follow us on Facebook as to not miss out on event details

www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley