AROUND TOWN

Town of Bridgetown Newsletter

Happy Holidays!

November 2007

271 Granville Street, PO Box 609, Bridgetown, NS B0S 1C0 (902) 665-4637

Celebrate Christmas in Bridgetown

The Christmas season in Bridgetown will kick off on Friday, November 30th with the Official Tree Lighting Ceremony taking place at 6 pm in front of Town Hall. Once again this year, the tree will be decorated by the students of Bridgetown Regional Elementary School and will be lit using energy efficient LED holiday lights. The tree lighting ceremony will include Christmas carol singing led by the BRES Grades 3–6 Choir, under the direction of music teacher Erica Strowbridge. Immediately following the official tree lighting, representatives from the Town of Bridgetown and Nova Scotia Power/Conserve Nova Scotia will be conducting a LED holiday light exchange. Area residents will be able to exchange two sets of traditional lights for ONE set of LED lights – a gesture from Nova Scotia Power and Conserve Nova Scotia to help you on your way to energy savings. Quantities are limited and provided on a first come, first serve basis with a limit of one LED set per person.

The Midnight Madness Christmas Sale will take place at local merchants from 6 p.m. until midnight. Free hot chocolate will be served from a booth on Queen Street. Santa Claus will visit Queen Street on Saturday, December 1st.

Bridgetown and Area

Chamber of Commerce

New Business Group for Bridgetown Area

The 22nd of November will see the merger of Bridgetown's two business organizations, the Bridgetown Business Society (BBS) and the Bridgetown and Area Board of Trade (BABoT). The Bridgetown and Area Chamber of Commerce will be the new voice of the local business community. The new organization will merge the responsibilities of its predecessors and provide opportunities for an expanded role in the promotion of Bridgetown as a place to do business. The new Chamber will also give area businesses and government agencies a single business contact for information and liaising, while maintaining the Board of Trade's existing ties to the Nova Scotia Chambers of Commerce, the Atlantic Province Chambers of Commerce, and the Canadian Chambers of Commerce.

The Annual General Meetings of both the BBS and the BABoT will be held at 6 pm on the 22nd of November at the End of the Line Pub's new meeting facility.

The new Chamber will hold its inaugural meeting at 7 pm. The meeting is open to all BBS and BABoT members and interested persons. Pat Ryan, Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, Nova Scotia Business Inc. will be the guest speaker for the dinner meeting, with limited seating available. Tickets will be advance sales only, and available at the End of the Line Pub, Bridgetown Pharmasave, and at the Bridgetown branch of Scotiabank at a cost of $20.00 each.

Come out to the **Bridgetown Library** throughout November and December for lots of fun programming for children and teens. We will have After School Programs for ages 8-12 that will cover topics such as Space, Magic, Pirates, Science and Winter. There will also be a Teen Book Club, as well as Teen Craft Programs for ages 13-18. The craft programs will include Locker Decoration, Duct Tape Crafts and Clothing Reconstruction. To register or to get times for these programs please call the Library at 665-2758 or go online to http://www.valleylibrary.ca

The Canadian Mental Health Association Christmas Historic House Tour takes place on Saturday, December 8, 1:00 – 5:00 pm. Several of Bridgetown's historic homes, in all their seasonal splendour, will be open to visitors. Be sure to visit St. Alphonsus Catholic Church for tea and Christmas treats. Tickets are $12 each and can be purchased from Tara Edwards at 665-2945, Marge Keast at Chapel Creek Gallery 825-6511, D's Chicken Place or Town Hall.

Join the **Bridgetown Legion Ladies' Auxiliary** for a 'No Fuss Dinner' downstairs at the Legion every Friday at 6:00 pm. $7.00 per person until sold out. Members and non-members welcome.

The Bridgetown Ramblers will resume their monthly walks on Sunday, December 9 at 3:30 pm. For details please check the calendar on the town web site, or *The Spectator*, or contact Rachel Brighton at 665-4538 or rachelbrighton@ns.sympatico.ca Also, please pass on your suggestions for winter wonderland trails.

The **Middleton Choral Society**, directed by Maureen MacLean, with Debbie Rice (organ) and Judy Foster (piano) as accompanists, presents its annual Christmas concert in Bridgetown Baptist Church on Saturday, December 1 at 8 pm. Special guest will be Kurt Haussecker (flute). Bridgetown members of the chorale are Diane Price, Marian Ward, John Montgomerie. A free-will offering will be taken.

Bridgetown Baptist Church Christmas Tea and Bake Sale will take place on Thursday, November 22nd, from 3:30-6 pm, Turkey-a-la-King, $7.00 per person. Tickets from Frances Saunders 665-2597 and at the door and Take Outs available. Call 665-4736 - Joan Gillis. Everyone Welcome!
Rev. George Neily, Pastor at Bridgetown, Centrelea and West Dalhousie Baptist Churches for the past 15 years has announced his retirement effective July 31, 2008. George and Jane are looking forward to moving to Calgary to be near their family.

Bridgetown Lions Club will be conducting their Annual Xmas Wreath Campaign on Saturday, December 1st.
The Lions Club Community Breakfasts are held at the Lions Hall on the first Saturday of each month.
The Lions Club, in conjunction with the Town of Bridgetown and the Municipality of Annapolis County, will be presenting *Lions Winterfest* on February 23 & 24. Saturday's events will include a brunch at the Lions Hall, snowshoeing and a skating party at the arena. The Lions Church Parade will take place on Sunday.

Celebrate the Life and Work of Ernest Buckler in 2008
Friday, July 18/08 – 7 pm:
Mini film festival at King's Theatre in Annapolis Royal.
Saturday, July 19/08 – 2 to 5 pm:
Ern's 100th Birthday Party in Centrelea.
Sunday, July 20/08 – 2 pm:
Service at All Saints' Anglican Church at Gibson's Lake near West Dalhousie.
The Friends of Ernest Buckler Society is planning a scholarship in Ern's name for a Bridgetown Regional High School graduating student who is a gifted writer. For more information, contact Anne Crossman, President, The Friends of Ernest Buckler Society, 902-665-2969, ab.crossman@xplornet.com

BRIDGETOWN AREA Active Living

Bridgetown & District Memorial Arena

Kinder Pre-Skate: Sat 10:00 – 11:00 am - No charge - for children learning to skate
(must be accompanied by an adult)
Public Skating: Sat 12:30-1:30 pm - No charge
Holiday Public Skating: Dec 20 & 21, 3:00 – 4:00 pm
Note: These programs are sponsored by the BCRA. They may be cancelled for tournaments or special events. Call 665-2767 to confirm.
There are ice times available for rent. Special rates for children's birthday parties. Call 665-2767 for info.

Bridgetown Minor Hockey Association Annual Christmas Tournament

Thursday, Dec 27 - Monday, Dec 31.
If you enjoy watching hockey this is the place to be, as all levels will be participating. Come out and support your local minor hockey players.

Bridgetown Figure Skating Club

Practices are Monday evenings. For info call Catherine Ashby at 665-2423.

BRHS Drop-In Programs for Adults

Badminton: Tue evenings; Basketball: Thu evenings

Bridgetown Fencing Club

New members welcome. Youth 10+ and adults.
Mon & Wed 6:30-8:00 pm at BRES.

Bridgetown Triathlon Club

Training program starts in January.
For info call Mike Parker at 665-4819.

Tae Kwon Do Club

Classes are at the Legion on Thursdays, 6:00-7:00 pm.
For info call Shirley Ploudre at 665-4592.

Tribal Style Bellydance

For info contact Angela Reynolds at 665-4421.

Town of Bridgetown Fitness Programs

January 14 - March 31.
Register at Town Hall. Space is limited.
Active 50+ Fitness: For those who are currently active

Legion Hall	Mon & Fri	12:30-1:30 pm	$76.00

Total Fitness – Adults:
Toning, strengthening and conditioning (all levels)

Lions Hall	Tue & Thu	6:00-7:00 pm	$80.00

Adult Skating:
Bridgetown Arena Day & Time TBA
Snowshoe Loans:
Snowshoes can be borrowed for a day or a weekend at no cost. Call 665-4637 or visit Town Hall to book a pair.

Bridgetown Curling Club

Regular Curling: Mon, Wed & Fri evenings
Senior Curling: Tue & Thu afternoons
Little Rocks Curling: Sun afternoon
Junior Curling: Tues evening
Special Olympic Curling: Thu evening
Learn to Curl: Thu evening ($5 per night)
Bridgetonian Men's Bonspiel: Dec 7 – 9
For more info stop by the club, call 665-4662 (evenings) or visit **www.bridgetowncurlingclub.com**

Yoga

For info contact Shelley Murchison at 532-7684 or sheljim@ns.sympatico.ca

Athletics East After School Fitness Program

At the Bridgetown Development Centre, 26 Bay Road

Mon & Wed	2:45-3:45	Girls	Grades 1-6
Mon & Wed	4:00-5:00	Girls	Grades 7-12
Tue & Thu	2:45-3:45	Boys	Grades 1-6
Tue & Thu	4:00-5:00	Boys	Grades 7-12

FREE! Fun, fitness, games for interested students.
Skills development and testing for high school athletes.
For info contact:
Charles Scarrow charles.scarrow@ns.sympatico.ca
Terry Saunders tjsuand@staff.ednet.ns.ca

Winter Parking Regulations

Effective immediately to March 31, 2008, between the hours of 12 midnight and 8:00 am, no person shall park or leave standing a motor vehicle upon the highway or street within the Town limits. In accordance with Sections 138 and 139 of the Motor Vehicle Act, vehicles, whether attended or unattended, shall not be left in a position or manner which may interfere with or obstruct snow removal or winter maintenance operations.

Town Hall Holidays Schedule

Dec. 24 – open until noon
Dec. 25 – closed
Dec. 26 – closed
Dec. 31 – open until noon
Jan. 1 – closed

Bridgetown & Area New Year's Levee

All are invited to attend the Bridgetown & Area Community New Year's Levee on January 1
at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #33,
20 Jeffrey Street, Bridgetown, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Christmas Tree Pick-Up

Town of Bridgetown Public Works will be picking up Christmas Trees on January 15th & 16th ONLY - please have your tree by roadside for pick up.

Emergency Preparedness

As winter approaches, the Town of Bridgetown would like to remind residents that:
WHEN A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY IS DECLARED BY TOWN COUNCIL, THE BRIDGETOWN FIRE HALL AT 20 McKENNA STREET WILL BE YOUR "CARE AND COMFORT STATION". DURING AN EMERGENCY CALL 665-4505. AT OTHER TIMES CALL THE TOWN HALL AT 655-4637.
Copies of the emergency preparedness guide *'72 hours… Is your family prepared?'* are available at Town Hall.

King's Transit

Passes and schedules are available at Town Hall.

The Scotiabank, Bridgetown has had a very busy year! We have now reached our annual goal of $5,000.00 raised for the Bridgetown Fire Department Building Fund, which will be matched by Corporate Scotiabank for a $10,000.00 donation. We also have reached our annual goal of $5,000.00 raised for the Bridgetown Friends of the Library, which will also be matched for a $10,000.00 donation.
We are currently holding a fundraiser for the Bridgetown and Area Food Bank, a Christmas Tree decorated with $100.00 worth of lottery tickets. The draw date is December 18, 2007, so hurry in to buy your tickets! Also, this year we took on a new event, The Terry Fox Head Shave, to raise money for the Terry Fox Foundation. That event, plus chocolate bar sales within the Branch, enabled us to make a donation to the Foundation of $3001.57!!!
We would like to say a big "Thank You" to everyone who helped support us with all of our fundraising events, we couldn't have done any of this without your help! We will be hosting a Customer Appreciation Day at the Branch on Thursday December 20, 2007. Please join us as we celebrate all of these accomplishments, and present our donation cheques to the organizations.

At this year's Ciderfest, the Silent Auction and Toonie Barbeque Special sponsored by the **Bridgetown and Area Friends of the Library** was a great success. The Fundraiser Quilt Raffle winner was Tara Edwards. These three projects raised $3,175.00 - well done, Bridgetown! Our float in the Grand Parade utilized the talents of children under the supervision of Amy, our librarian: they created posters for the float, depicting the theme of farmers acquiring knowledge courtesy of facilities provided by a library. Along the parade route, children passed out apples to the crowd, courtesy of Inglis Farms.
Our next project is selling *Yuletide Preparations 2007*, the popular Christmas magazine of recipes, craft ideas, decoration tips, Christmas stories and music. It is now on sale at Town Hall for only $3.00. The Bookcase Quilt has room for more names, making an excellent $20.00 gift. Memorial donations are accepted for the New Library Building Fund, which now stands at $29,582.45. Please see Margarida at the Town Office to take advantage of these opportunities to support a new library for the Bridgetown area.