AROUND TOWN

Town of Bridgetown Newsletter *Spring 2012*

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

Bridgetown selected as Nova Scotia's 2012 Model Volunteer Community of the Year

Minister Marilyn More (left) presented the award to Bridgetown representatives Andy Kerr, Anna Allen, Dick Campbell and Steve Raftery.

The Community of Bridgetown has been selected as the 2012 Model Volunteer Community of the Year by the Provincial Volunteer Week Awards Committee. This award is presented annually to a community that has shown support for volunteers, that has worked together as a community on a project or projects to enhance the lives of its members, and managed, through the support of volunteers, to make their community a better place to live.

Bridgetown has a proud history of community spirit and volunteerism, as evidenced by the wide range of community facilities, programs and events found in this small community. Coupled with the many facilities are a host of community organizations that knit people together, one stitch at a time, with an incredible human resource of volunteers that organize and deliver programs for all ages and abilities. In addition to running their own programs, it is not unusual to see groups working together on projects or providing support to other organizations.

Message from Mayor Bob Fowler

On behalf of Bridgetown Town Council, I would like to congratulate the Bridgetown community for being chosen as Nova Scotia's Model Volunteer Community of the Year. In the short time that we have been the appointed Council for the Town of Bridgetown, we have witnessed the tremendous community spirit and volunteer effort that helps make Bridgetown and area a wonderful place to live. The efforts of community organizations, the support from local businesses and the high level of volunteer participation are absolutely first rate and have helped immensely as the town works through a very difficult time.

Council and staff continue to work through the myriad of financial and other difficulties facing the town. The appointed council and Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) will serve until the scheduled municipal election in October. We have begun the search for a new CAO and will hopefully have someone in place this summer, to allow for a smooth transition. We are also aiming to have the budget finalized and the tax rates set by the end of June. While there will be some difficult decisions to make, our goal is to ensure that the town is on solid financial ground moving forward.

Finally, now is the time for people in town to start thinking about the next four years and who will provide the necessary leadership on Town Council going forward? We encourage people to attend the Municipal Election Workshop at the Fire Hall on May 9, to learn about what is involved in municipal government (details on back page). We are confident that those future leaders are out there in this Model Volunteer Community.

Low Tide Street Market, 36 Queen Street, Bridgetown 10am-4pm, every Saturday. Looking for a free place to sell your paintings, drawings, photography, sculpture, crafts, or woodworking? We have room outside at 36 Queen Street, on the grounds of Cool Water Café and the Public Library. There's lots of vehicle & foot traffic, so you'll get plenty of exposure for whatever you have on sale. Tables are provided on site, and the large overhang will keep you dry if it starts raining. Musicians and street performers are also welcome! To book ahead, call Steve Skafte at 902-312-1312 or email steveskafte@hotmail.com Search us on Facebook: Low Tide Street Market

Bridgetown Legion Branch 33 Fundraising Auction on Saturday April 21st, 6:00 pm. This has turned into a very impressive auction with many items up for bidding. Professional auctioneer Rick Bezanson will be in to help. Scotiabank will be assisting in the evening's events and in so doing will also be matching the bids on three items. Reservations are HIGHLY recommended.

Bridgetown Ciderfest 2013 will take place September 13-16. This year's theme is 'Barrels of Fun'. For more information, visit www.bridgetownciderfest.com.

Lions Big Breakfast at the Bridgetown Lions Hall. Enjoy a hearty breakfast on the first Saturday of each month, 8:00 am –10:00 am. Free will offering.

My **Youth Ambassador Community Project** will be a mural depicting the past and the present of the town we all know and love, Bridgetown. Thanks to Sharon Lycett, the mural will be on the wall adjacent to the Pharmasave parking lot. With the help of Peter Smith, local businesses, and volunteers I am sure this project will be a huge success that everyone can enjoy for years to come. If you would like to help out with this project, please contact me, Shea Goreham, at 665-4501.

The Annapolis County Seniors' Safety Program and the Centrelea Community Hall are very pleased to welcome lawyer Ned Chase, Q.C. to present on **Important Legal Topics for Seniors and Their Families**. May 9, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm at Centrelea Community Hall. For info, call 665-4481 or 665-2969.

The first ever **Annapolis County Municipal Housing Corporation Summer Gala** fundraising event will be taking place on July 7th, 6:30-9:30 pm at the Falcourt Inn in Nictaux. This event is intended to generate monies that will fund Mountain Lea Lodge and the Annapolis County Adult Residential Centre walking trail and garden expansion projects. It is our desire to offer new and innovative ways to support the residents we serve, our employees, and the greater community. Our target is to generate up to $10,000.00 with the support of community. For ticket information, call Sharon at 665-4489, ext 234.

Earth Day Celebration – Mountain Lea Lodge is hosting an Earth Day Community Clean-Up Celebration on April 22, from 1–3 pm. Come and join us and help make Bridgetown Litter Free. Catch a ride on the ARC bus, enjoy a snack and beverage, catch up on the latest Recycling guidelines, and perhaps walk away with a door prize. We will showcase children's artwork and give out participant gifts.

INTRODUCING.....a vibrant new marketplace packed with local produce, baked goods, fresh food, antiques& collectibles, crafts, take away & one of a kind finds!!! Welcome to the **Bridgetown Farmers and Traders Market.**
Our mission: to enhance quality of life in Bridgetown and surrounding area by providing an opportunity for local entrepreneurs, farmers, chefs, and artisans to join together in marketing their products. Together, we will strengthen community ties, encourage healthy, green living as well as promote the local economy. Located in beautiful JUBILEE PARK, Tuesdays 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. *Children's Playground * Washrooms * Lots of Parking * Bike Racks * Easy access via footbridge * Picnic Tables* Entertainment * Kayak Rentals. OPENING DAY Tuesday, May 15th. For information on becoming a vendor, please contact Rachel Edwards at manager@bridgetownfarmersmarket.com.

BRIDGETOWN AREA Active Living

Bridgetown Area Summer Active Living Fair & Bike Rodeo

June 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Jubilee Park (Rain date: June 7) Drop by to learn about programs being offered in the Bridgetown area this summer. Take part in the bike rodeo - Safety checks, 'decorate your bike', learn about bike safety and cycling events and groups, 'recycle your bicycle' and more. Groups interested in participating can register by contacting Steve Raftery at 824-0387.

Curling Club News

April 20th - The CLUB 100 DRAW at the End Of The Line Pub. Draw starts at 8pm refreshments starts 7:30. Please call Karson for tickets, 532-5524.
May 12th - GOLF TOURNAMENT at Eden Golf and Country Club. We are looking for SPONSORS, TEAMS and VOLUNTEERS to help out. Please contact Bonnie Hudson 532-0852 or Gene Hay 532-5245.
June 2nd - LOBSTER SUPPER at the Curling Club, Cooking starts at 2pm with supper at 4:30 to 6:30. Please Contact Karson Lewis if you are interested in helping out with ticket sales, cooking, serving, etc.

Baseball

A group of local parents are planning to start a new baseball program in Bridgetown, for children ages 5-8, with the emphasis on having fun while learning to play. They are looking for participants and volunteers. For more information, please contact Nicole Hackenschmidt at 840-2165.

KidSport and Canadian Tire JumpStart

are national children's charitable programs that help kids overcome the financial barriers preventing or limiting their participation in organized sport. Application forms are available at Town Hall. The next deadline to apply for grants is May 1.

StoryWalk™comes to Jubilee Park

StoryWalk™ was originally created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library. Annapolis Valley Regional Library will create 5 sets of a StoryWalk™ from the picture book, *Juba This, Juba That*, illustrated by local artist Ron Lightburn. This project combines the benefits of physical activity, time outdoors in nature, literacy, art, community, and family time. Each StoryWalk™ consists of 13 signs that feature the pages of the book and on each sign is an age-appropriate physical activity for children to do. Each activity will be illustrated with a sketch created especially for the project by Ron Lightburn. One set of signs will be installed semi-permanently at Jubilee Park in Bridgetown. Funding for this project is provided from the Annapolis Valley Health Wellness Initiative Fund and Annapolis County Active Kids Healthy Kids.

Jubilee Park Natural Playground News

The group behind the award winning Jubilee Park Natural Playground, in conjunction with the Town of Bridgetown, will be expanding the playground and adding several features this spring. The additions will include a set of listening tubes created by BRHS student Emma Connell and a custom play element created by Interplay Design. If you would like to help out with the ongoing development of the playground, please call Lauren Soloy at 665-4502.

The 11th Annual Bridgetown Triathlon

The organizing committee is busy laying out plans for this years' race (August 5th) to help further its status as a signature event in the Valley. Volunteers are needed for many roles from handing out water to racers to behind the scenes organization, to building bike racks and signage. If you have a few hours, and would enjoy helping out, please call Race Director Carrie Schell at 665-2378 or email carrie.schell@gmail.com.

Municipal Campaign Schools for Women

The Municipal Campaign Schools for Women is an initiative of the Women in Local Government Project chaired by the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) in partnership with Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations and the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women.
May 5: Berwick & District Lions Club, Berwick
May 26: NSCC, Burridge Campus, Yarmouth
June 9: NSCC, Waterfront Campus, Dartmouth
For more information on the campaign schools including registration, click on www.wilg.ca.

Municipal Elections 2012 Workshop

Are you thinking about running for your municipal council, want to work on an election campaign, thinking about becoming more involved in your municipality or community or just want to learn more about municipal government. If so, you should attend the upcoming Municipal Government Workshop.
When: May 9, 2012 6:00-9:00 pm
Where: Bridgetown Volunteer Fire Hall, 31 Bay Road

Dog Registration Reminder

Dog registration fees are to be paid annually between April l and July 1 at the following rates:
Dogs spayed, neutered or equivalent status: $15.00
Dogs not spayed, neutered or equivalent status: $30.00.

Town Hall Hours of Operation

Monday to Friday (Closed on Holidays)
By phone: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
In Person: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Spring Hydrant Flushing

of water mains, as required by the Nova Scotia Department of Environment, will take place the week of May 14-18 during the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This process helps maintain and improve water quality by removing solid particles and buildup in the water distribution system. This flushing will create periods of low pressure, low flow, and dirty water. Avoid light coloured laundry loads during this time. Now is the time to flush your Hot Water Heaters! PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR.

Spring Clean-Up

ONE DAY ONLY!
Town of Bridgetown: May 10, Outside Town: April 27
Items must be road side by 8 a.m. No more than 20 items will be picked up at one location. A list of acceptable items is available at Town Hall. Should you have any questions, please call Valley Waste Resource toll free at 1-800-927-8300.

Tax Exemption

Those eligible for a 2011/2012 Tax Exemption for the Town of Bridgetown must submit applications no later than 4:30 p.m., June 30th at the Town Hall. To qualify for a $100 tax exemption, the total household income for the year ending December 31, 2011 must be less than $16,000.00 **Note:** War Veterans Pension & Allowances should **not** be included in the income figure.

Kudos to …

Marian Ward – 2012 Provincial Representative Volunteer Award for the Bridgetown Area (Inglewood United Baptist Church).
Gary Olsvik (Bridgetown and Area Chamber of Commerce), Angela Clark (Bridgetown Community Recreation Association), Clark Morris (Bridgetown Lions Club), Mary Sheldon (Bridgetown and Area Friends of the Library), Kathy Howland (Bridgetown Area Historical Society) – 2012 Annapolis County Volunteer Awards (Bridgetown Area).

Street Light Repairs

If you've noticed a street light out in your neighbourhood, you can report it to Nova Scotia Power by phone at 1-877-428-6004 or at www.nspower.ca/en/home/residential/services/streetlightrepairs.aspx.

Recycle Your Unwanted Electronics

All residents and businesses in Nova Scotia can recycle their unwanted electronics free of charge through an ACES Drop-off Centre. Local approved drop-off sites are C.N. Orde & Sons, 9551 Route 8, Lequille 532-7440 and Greenwood Recycling, 1070 Central Ave., Greenwood, 765-0335. For the approved product list and more information, visit www.acestewardship.ca.