

THE CENTRE POST

Issue 43, December 2015

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Submissions due March 1, 2016

Ocean Zn Gifts and Décor

by Gail Salmon

Another fascinating business has relocated to Centreville and I had the wonderful experience of walking into Ocean Zn Gifts and Décor to talk to owner, Michelle Fahai. The shop is located at the old Ward's Store on Hwy 359. It houses artwork and crafts, sea glass jewelry, art and décor, baked goods, antiques, nautical décor, furniture, jewelry, soaps, quilts, and many other wares. The ambiance is enhanced by the antique tin and copper of the old general store, mixed with treasures and baubles that remind one of a quieter time. Take a moment to reflect on the *objets d'art* and unusual finds.



Michelle grew up in Hants County and spent summers and weekends at the family cottage in Economy picking up beach glass. With 45 acres of oceanfront, she was able to spend hours walking and searching for sea glass. She was fascinated by the different colours and her collection and interest grew into the craft of making jewelry, sea glass windows, frames, vases, candle holders, and other décor. Michelle had a job in continuing care with the community support group, Community Living Alternatives Society; she made jewelry in her spare time, selling it to friends and online. Word of mouth and craft fairs increased interest in her designing skills. In 2012, Michelle's dream became a reality with the opening of Ocean Zn in the old Kentville Theatre storefront. Recently, Ocean Zn moved to Centreville and the story continues.



Michelle's art starts with the unknown history of sea glass. From there she captures the beauty, builds a story, and shapes the glass. The outcomes are extraordinary. From pendants to pictures, vases to tables, her designs are as plentiful as the glass. The glass can be set in silver and gold, black and pink wire - all one-of-a-kind art. She also does custom orders and can build from glass and stones the customer has found or with the glass from the seemingly unlimited containers full of colours and shapes. Michelle also has craft parties for adults and children, where you can learn to make pendants, mosaics, and other art. If anyone is interested, all they have to do is call.

The showcase Michelle has set up houses sea glass and offers a little of the history regarding the mysterious treasures. Did you know that Nova Scotia has had more than 5,000 shipwrecks since the early 1700s? Michelle has a clay ceramic piece dating to the 1400s, a glass bride's basket, and a uranium glass that was made between 1830 and 1840 and glows! Sea glass comes from bottles, ceramics, fish floaters, lights, nautical lights, car lights, and marbles. The marbles would be from children waiting on the docks for their fathers and dropping marbles in the water. There is even fire glass, formed when people throw glass into beach fires where it melts and is eventually dragged out with the tides. Sea glass takes about 20 to 30 years and as much as 50 years to acquire its characteristic texture and shape from being tossed in the ebb and flow.

Ocean Zn is a member of *Doer's and Dreamers*, and therefore all but five percent of the goods sold have to be made in Nova Scotia. Ocean Zn Gifts and Décor has 18 vendors, featuring all Annapolis Valley artists. The youngest ones are Michelle's two daughters. Lauren, age 11, makes driftwood pictures and décor. She has sold enough that she can afford to buy her own paint and has her own special place in the store. Hanna, age 13, makes bracelets out of fishing rope but has had to slow down her craft as she has another job, babysitting. Michelle has another young business associate, Maggie, whom I met today. She takes old jewelry and repurposes it, creating interesting necklaces, pendants, and earrings.



continued on p.3

The Centre Post is published four times a year: September, December, March and June.

The deadline for news items, etc., is the 1st day of these months, with the newsletter at the outlets by the 21st. It is always good to get your information in before the deadline.

For announcements, stories, ads or information, contact one of the following:

Set-up of newsletter:

Suzanne Trudeau at 902-678-7769

E-mail: centrepstlady@hotmail.com

To place an advertisement:

Mike Sweeney at 902-679-2780.

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Associate Editor's Note

Thank you to all of the contributors and advertisers in this issue of *The Centre Post*.

Hopefully everyone has their snowtires on as the winter weather will soon be here. A reminder to turn on your headlights when driving, as the days are shorter and darker. Good news, the days will soon start getting longer!

I hope that as you begin your preparations for the holiday season that you will take the time to shop locally. If everyone were to spend \$100 more in their immediate community, it would make a huge difference.

Season's Greetings! See you in the new year!

Elisha Harper

Submissions may be edited due to space limitations or for clarity purposes. Context will not be changed.

Centreville 'Events' Website

Do you have an up-coming event? Do you want it seen on the Centreville Website, www.centreville-kings-county.com? If so, send the information to:

events@centreville-kings-county.com

Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Battery Recycling in Centreville



Used batteries can be dropped off at the Centreville Community Hall on Thursdays, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, as well as at the monthly Big Breakfast, except in July and August.

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Centreville Park Association News

Suzanne Trudeau

The fall cleanup took place on October 17, 2015. It was done in record time with the number of volunteers on hand. I suspect that the spring cleanup will take longer, as the leaves weren't down at the time of our fall cleanup! We will be getting a dumpster or having a controlled burn for the pile of brush.

The Park Association held its Annual General Meeting on November 18, 2015 with a review of the 2015 Financial Report.

Pauline Raven gave us an update on the funding for the next project (i.e., the bathroom upgrades as well as the Accessible Path and the Outdoor Learning Center). We are waiting for official approval by the Municipality for this grant and work will resume this coming spring.

From December 1, 2015 to March 1, 2016, we are asking that you take home your dogs' bags, as the snow and weather make it difficult to take garbage to the curb at this time of year. We thank you for your cooperation.

This winter snowshoes can be borrowed by contacting either George Graves, 902-678-8136, or Helen MacDonald, 902-678-7696, as it would be too costly to have the road to the main building cleared of snow on a regular basis.

We are counting on your support early in February 2016 at the next Area Rate Meeting. Announcements will appear in The Advertiser and at public outlets in the community two weeks prior.

Have a great Christmas holiday everyone, and we hope to see you in the new year to help out with new ideas and projects at the park!

My apologies to Scott Henshaw and Mike Foote for getting their names wrong in the September issue of *The Centre Post*. On page 1 'Scott Henderson' should have been "Scott Henshaw" and on page 3 under the photo, 'Billy Foote' should have been Mike Foote.



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We Care

Ocean Zn continued from p. 1

I was lucky enough to be given a present of some paper-rolled earrings.

Ocean Zn is a family business: Michelle's husband, Aaron Davidson, shares in the responsibilities and plans to open the Sandy Nook Café in the spring. After listening to Michelle's description, I will certainly plan a visit to taste their culinary wares.

Ocean Zn will hold a vintage and antique tag sale at the Centreville Hall in March. Michelle sells antiques in the store and she has vendors who are interested in selling their goods at this event. She says that this will help the community and the vendors, and she hopes to meet many more of her Centreville neighbours. The store is closing on December 24th until the spring, so there is still time to get those last minute unique gifts. Michelle looks forward to their new endeavours and creations in the new year. Hopefully new customers and tourists on their way to Hall's Harbour and environs will discover this distinctive shop, as their regular visitors from as far away as California, Florida, and Newfoundland have. I wish her and her family all the best!

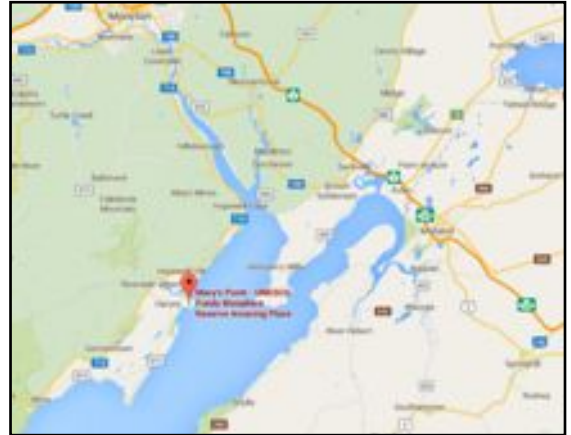


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The Other Side of the Bay

By Dave Ward

Somehow most of us think of the Bay of Fundy as belonging to us, a feature of Nova Scotia; but there is another side – the New Brunswick side. We have the Minas Basin, a feature of ‘our’ side, while New Brunswick has Chignecto Bay and Shepody Bay. That Bay has Westmorland County on one side with Albert County on the other. Albert County was the destination of one of the ‘two or three sleeps’ getaways Trudy and I take from time to time; we went there at Thanksgiving.



Two features of Albert County that most are familiar with are The Rocks at Hopewell Cape and Fundy National Park at Alma. Our main destination was Mary's Point, a small piece of land jutting into Shepody Bay and named after Mary Majka, a refugee from Poland who settled there in the late 40s. As the years went by, Mary became a well known wildlife conservationist, all prompted by a picture in the Moncton press of a local who shot a Bald Eagle – at that time not a protected species in New Brunswick. It now is, together with other bird and animal species, thanks to Mary's pioneering efforts.

Both the Canadian Wildlife Service and Ducks Unlimited have undertaken projects in the Mary's Point area, with interpretative displays on site. A few years ago I read a book written on Mary's life work on wildlife conservation and always wanted to visit that area, and so we did.

That little getaway also had a ‘it's a small world’ moment. Chatting with another visitor, a Mr. MacDonald, at Mary's Point, I learned that his father was born in McKee's Mills, New Brunswick (near Bouctouche!); my family had a cottage there and I came to know most families in the area. He said that his father joined the army, saw active service in the Second World War, and moved to the Moncton area after the war to become a mail carrier with the post office. When I asked him for his father's name, he replied – Ernie MacDonald. The small world connection? I delivered Christmas mail in '52 and '53 on Ernie's route; he sorted, I delivered.



Mayor Dave
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Recently honoured by the Canadian Volunteer Firefighter Association were Clem Fairclough with a 50-year service medal; Carl Knox with a 40-year service medal; and Hugh Stronach and Art Hamilton with 30-year service medals. Through a stellar effort to create the best training and a great organizational environment, the KVFD is being rewarded with new recruits each year, ready and able to follow in these footsteps. Our thanks to Chief Ryan MacEachern, Deputy Chief Scott Hamilton, and Deputy Chief Jeff Martin for their leadership.

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A Note From the Centreville Baptist Church

Winter: a blanket to cover the earth and a time to still our minds. We look forward to the Advent season, when the birth of the Christ Child is reenacted in so many ways by giving. As Christians, we were given this baby who would become the One to save our sins - a priceless gift. Throughout the winter we can give our own small gifts: those that will help our area refugee family, gifts of food or shovelling to help neighbours, gifts of phone calls to those alone or ill, and gifts of prayer.

The Centreville Baptist Church and other local churches are rallying behind the refugee cause to support a family of eight whose six children have only known life in a camp, never in a community. We will need to use our best welcoming skills, patience, and compassion to help the family as they begin to adapt to freedom instead of constant fear. The contact person is Jeff Newbery, Centreville Baptist Church, or contact may be made through Bethany Memorial Church.

One very successful six-week after-school program for elementary students has been completed at the church and another will unfold in January. This activity is under the leadership of Reverend Sarah Stevens, Associate Pastor of Children. This service to the community is free, so if you know of a child who would like to be part of the after-school/activity program at Centreville Baptist on Mondays, call the church for more details. Students work in very small groups with adult leaders reading, making crafts, playing games, and having snacks. The school bus transports students from Aldershot School to the church and parent pick-up is at 4:30 pm.

On Thursday evenings at 7:00 a much older group of students gets together. Students in Grade 6 or older are welcome to join the group of teens who meet with a number of adults under the direction of Pastor Jeff Milne. There is fun, fellowship, food, and facts all rolled into the weekly Youth Group activities. This Youth Group challenged church members and adherents to fill as many Christmas boxes as possible to send away to other countries. Whether it was the challenge or the continuing generosity of so many, the Christmas boxes surpassed the count of previous years. Well done, youth!

All are wishing former pastor Reverend Doctor Marc Potvin well in Lennoxville, Quebec, as he has begun his new call there. He and Janice will be ministering in a new area that is mainly anglophone, and in a somewhat smaller church.

The Ministry Team at Centreville Baptist Church is presently made up of Reverend Doctor Judith Saunders, Interim Pastor; Jeff Milne, Associate Pastor of Youth; and Reverend Sarah Stevens, Associate Pastor of Children. All are welcome to attend the Sunday morning worship service at 10:30 am. If you feel the pastors can be of help to you in any way, do not hesitate to call the church phone number, 902 678-1946, or contact the church by email, cvillebaptist@eastlink.ca.

It is the common, everyday blessings of our common everyday lives for which we should be particularly grateful. They are the things that fill our lives with comfort and our hearts with gladness.

- Laura Ingalls Wilder



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Story from the Family Farm



by Mack Frail

I was four years old when WWII began on September 1, 1939. My early memories of the war are when travelling with my mother from Centreville to Kentville on the train. When the train was travelling through Camp Aldershot and when it stopped at Aldershot station I was amazed at seeing so many soldiers. After arriving in Kentville there were large numbers of military personnel around the town, and most of them were Canadian Army soldiers from Camp Aldershot. I recall that at times it seemed that most of the people in Kentville were soldiers from Camp Aldershot. The large number of soldiers in Kentville, and walking between Camp Aldershot and Kentville, continued until after WWII.

In the fall of 1940 I began school, and my world changed from spending a happy routine of contentment at home on our family farm to the responsibility of a scholar. I was in the primary class in the little part of the Centreville School (now the Community Centre). Miss Nellie Ogilvie was my teacher; she was a young teacher with a couple of years of teaching experience. Our school desks were the long double seating type, and my seating partner was Earl Veinott - a boy a year older who was in Grade 1. I was pleased to have a friend with his experience in this environment that was so unfamiliar to me. I had received strict instructions at home concerning the proper way to behave at school, and one of those stressed as most important was not to speak in class unless the teacher asked you a question. I am not blaming Earl because of his experience as a scholar, and for not being a good example to me, but we talked during class and had a great time together. Going to school was not like my parents had advised me - to keep quiet, and behave: it was lots of fun. Earl and I both did well with our school work, but at the end of the school term Miss Ogilvie failed both of us. That's what we got for talking.

The following school term, beginning in 1941, Mrs. Marjorie Watson was our new school teacher. I began the school term as the most advanced student in primary class, with a thorough knowledge in the alphabet, colouring, counting, and the grade's primer reader. Earl and I had separate seats, and I had another close friend who began school that year, Robert Veinott, Earl's younger brother and a year younger than I was. Earl, Robert, and I were inseparable during the WWII years when their father, Fred Veinott, was overseas with the Canadian Army. We did all of the things that boys did in those days, most of which are out of place in the lives of today's Centreville children. Families had a lot less in material items during the 1930s and 1940s but I would not trade my youth with the youth of today.

After the war, Fred and Helen Veinott purchased a farm in Upper Burlington, Hants County, and Earl and Robert moved from Centreville. We kept in touch and visited often and remained close friends. Robert joined the Royal Canadian Air Force, and I was his best man when he was married in 1958. He died in April 2011. Earl remained on the family farm in Hants County, and worked as a mechanic. His first wife died in October 2003, and when he remarried in 2005 I was his best man. Earl and I remained close friends over the years until his death from cancer on September 25, 2015. My last visit with Earl was when he was very low; his reaching for my hand as I was leaving him and telling me to "take care of myself" left me with a lot of memories of a time when close relationships between family, friends, school, and community were not quite the same as in today's society. It was not easy for me to lose Earl after seventy-five years as close friends. I have a lot of memories of growing up in Centreville during WWII when our way of life was much different than it is now.

I have a connection to WWI through my mother's brother, Robert Isaac, who was fatally wounded in France by a German bullet. My father, Wallace Frail, also served in the trenches in France during WWI. He was in the front lines fighting during the Battle of Vimy Ridge. Canadian soldiers had reached the German lines when Wallace was wounded by a German bullet in his right hip. He received a German bullet through his shoulder, a shrapnel wound, and shell shock before the war ended on November 11, 1918.

Christmas was very different during the WWII years although at the time, as a child, I was happy and content. I realize now that we were poor compared to today's standards. I describe my own situation as a young child when I state that "we were poor but we didn't know it". Most of the families in rural communities were in the same position, and struggled to make ends meet. After I had grown up I realized that my parents made a tremendous effort to provide a good Christmas for their children. Mothers with husbands serving in the military overseas struggled on their own. Families living on farms were able to provide for their families with the produce from their farm, and were better off than most people. As children we did whatever we could to earn extra money to purchase Christmas gifts. We waited patiently for the arrival of the mail order from Timothy Eaton Co. Ltd., which contained clothing that was given to us as Christmas gifts by our parents. We were excited and happy with the gifts that we received. I have thought of the reaction of the Centreville children of today if they were to receive the useful but simple Christmas gifts that caused us to feel excitement and happiness. I believe that their reaction would be annoyed and disappointed. Christmas continues to be a happy and exciting time for me that I celebrate the traditional way, with emphasis on the celebration of the birth of Christ.

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The Centreville District Community Development Association (CDCDA) held its 9th annual Christmas tree lighting December 7, 2015 at the Community Hall. Approximately 65 adults and children joined in the festivities, which included carol singing, hot drinks, and cookies. Thank you to Scott Henshaw, who made his beautiful horses and wagon available for rides, and to Ken Morse for once again providing a beautiful tree. The tree lights were lit by Pauline Raven, our municipal councillor, who has contributed so much to our community's activities, in particular those involving our park.

Annapolis Valley Events Calendar:

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Centreville Park and Orienteering

by Jim Blanchard

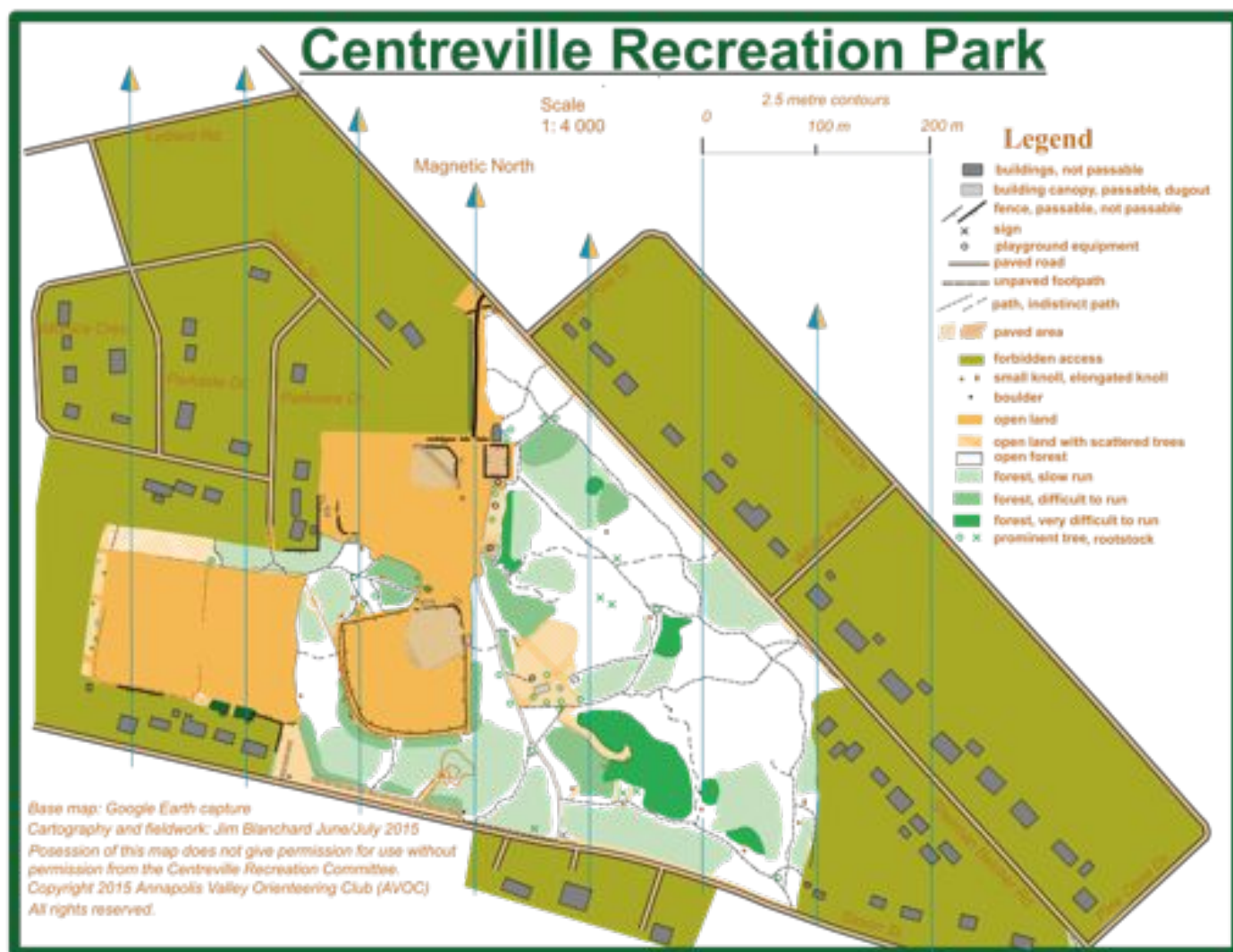
Below are two definitions, which give a general idea of what the sport of Orienteering involves.

Def 1: Orienteering is a sport in which orienteers use an accurate, detailed map and a compass to find points in the landscape. It can be enjoyed as a walk in the woods or as a competitive sport.

Def 2: Orienteering is the sport of navigation with map and compass. It's easy to learn, but always challenging.

The object is to run, walk, ski, or mountain bike to a series of points shown on the map, choosing routes—both on and off trail—that will help you find all the required points and get back to the finish in the shortest amount of time.

In recent years orienteering has taken to the idea of mapping parks and town and city centres to further expose the sport to the public as well as giving the participant a different look at the sport. This part of the sport has been identified as a Sprint Event in which the participant tries his or her best to meet the determined winning time of 12 to 15 minutes. Usually, however, only the most fit and most accurate participants meet this recommended winning time.



Pauline Raven
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Your District 3 voice on county council

JOY & PEACE

May your holiday celebrations bring you comfort and joy. And may this season of goodwill fill all our days in the new year.

Residents Want To Elect a Kings County Mayor

by Pauline Raven

Have you heard that at least two of every three Kings County residents have a strong preference to elect a mayor for Kings County in 2016? Consultants surveyed 386 randomly-selected residents this fall and found people want to elect a mayor, even though once the switch to mayor is made there is no way to revert to the warden system. This could mean that, when county voters head to the polls in October 2016, they will need to mark their ballot with a choice for their mayor as well as a choice for their councillor. In other words, the people, not councillors, will choose who will lead and represent the county.

A petition delivered to council in October also showed strong support (over 600 signatures) for electing a Kings County Mayor. Pierre Clouthier, a resident of New Minas, presented the petition results. He used a graphic of a horse and buggy to illustrate why it is now possible to leave the “outdated” warden system behind.

When Kings County was incorporated in 1879 and Kentville was incorporated in 1886, counties elected wardens and towns elected mayors. Why? According to Clouthier, reasons were practical and related to travel constraints. It was the time of horses and buggies and rutted roads. It was therefore impossible for mayoral candidates to campaign in all areas of the county. Towns didn't have this geographic problem, so residents were given the advantage of electing their own mayor. More than 100 years later, with cars, faster mail, and social media, county candidates for mayor can campaign countywide.



The most negative thing I heard at one of the public consultation meetings about the current warden system was this: Becoming a warden can push people to “make backroom deals”. Once a simple majority of councillors is drawn to a warden a voting block can be produced. Agendas can then be controlled and perks provided to those districts represented by members of said voting block.


In contrast, a successful mayor must put a platform before voters. A mayor provides an independent leader who, once elected, is responsible to all residents, more so than councillors. More transparent representation and fairer application of the general taxpayer's dollar may have a better chance.

Based on survey results, fewer districts are also likely to be recommended by the consultant. Council will vote on the number of districts, (8-10 versus the current 11 districts), as well as the change to a mayor (versus remaining with a warden) no later than mid January. Council's decision will then be further examined, approved, or adjusted by the Utility and Review Board.

Kings County residents are saying: “Leave Warden System Behind”, and many are inclined to reduce the number of councillors, too. Please do not hesitate to be in touch if you have questions, comments, or concerns. 902.670.2949.

It is never too late to be what you might have been.

- George Eliot



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Recipes From Between the Bushes

Submitted by Margie Brown
The Nova Agri Group of Companies

Blueberry Turkey Burgers With Blueberry Ketchup

Ingredients:

- 1 pound ground turkey
- 3/4 cup fresh or frozen (unthawed) Blueberry Acres blueberries
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger
- 1 tablespoon minced lemongrass (optional)*
- 1 teaspoon coarse black pepper
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 4 poppy seed hamburger buns
- Lettuce and sliced red onion, optional
- Blueberry Ketchup (recipe follows)

Directions:

1. In a large bowl, combine turkey, blueberries, ginger, lemongrass and black pepper; mix well.
2. Form mixture into 4 patties.
3. Brush soy sauce on both sides of burgers.
4. In an oiled skillet over medium-high heat, grill patties until cooked thoroughly, about 4 minutes each side.
5. Serve on buns with lettuce, sliced red onion and blueberry ketchup.

** Peel away woody outer layer from the bottom portion of the lemongrass stalk; mince inner flesh.*

Ambition is the path to success.
Persistence is the vehicle you arrive in.

- Bill Bradley

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Blueberry Ketchup

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- 1-1/2 cups fresh or frozen (unthawed) blueberries
- 1/2 cup minced onion
- 1/4 cup rice wine vinegar
- 1/4 cup dark brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon pickled ginger or minced fresh ginger

Directions:

1. In a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine blueberries, onion, vinegar, sugar, ginger and salt.
2. Bring to a simmer; cook about 15-20 minutes, stirring frequently.
3. Remove from heat and allow to cool.
4. Remove to blender or food processor; whirl until smooth.

Refrigerate until ready to use.

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"What Happens in Vegas, Stays in Vegas!"

by Heather M. Kennedy /CTC

Las Vegas, an ever-changing fantasy-land of a city, has seen unbelievable expansion since it emerged from the desert just over 100 years ago. The sights and sounds of Las Vegas are enjoyed by millions of visitors every year. They stay in some of the most glamorous, unique hotels in the world. They eat at five-star restaurants and expansive buffets. They play at casinos, pools, health spas and golf courses. Sometimes (many times, actually) they even marry each other !

You will be dazzled by Vegas, but the sheer number of things to see and do can seem overwhelming. A little advance planning will help you to enjoy your Vegas trip.

So, you've never been to Las Vegas. What's kept you? Never mind - let's stop talking, and start doing! The important thing here is that you're ready for the time of your life, and there's no better place to celebrate than Las Vegas. First up – you have to do some people watching. It may sound mundane, but with the cross-section of visitors and celebrities who come to Las Vegas it's usually primetime entertainment. There are several terrific vantage points on the Strip, including Mon Ami Gabi at Paris Las Vegas, a French bistro with the bonus of being directly across the street from the famous Bellagio fountains. Serendipity 3 at Caesars Palace also has a great outdoor view of Las Vegas Boulevard, not to mention some tasty treats. Elevated viewing with outdoor dining is always popular at Planet Hollywood. Cruising the Strip is required for any first-timer, by car or by foot, and since we're on the Strip, now's a good time to start. As you cruise, check out the enormous digital marquees for amazing shows you'll only find in Las Vegas. There's LOVE by Cirque du Soleil at The Mirage, Rock of Ages at The Venetian, Tournament of Kings at Excalibur and Le Rêve - The Dream at Wynn Las Vegas. The people back home will expect you to see at least one of them. Check out legendary magic duo Penn & Teller at the Rio Hotel for a one-of-a-kind Las Vegas experience.

Be sure to get out and have a little fun exploring, too. Stroll through the open-air street party that is Carnival Court at Harrah's, or let out a few screams riding the roller coaster at New York-New York. The new LINQ entertainment and shopping street meanders between the LINQ Hotel and Casino and Flamingo Hotel. With new restaurants, shops, and performance venues, this family-friendly destination will soon be home to the High-Roller Observation Wheel.

There's so much to do in Las Vegas besides gaming, but you almost have to play a little. Many hotels offer free lessons for novices - the Golden Nugget among them. While you're downtown, check out the assortment of restaurants and bars that make up the Fremont East District and the new Container Park, made entirely of shipping containers; and be sure to drop by the historic El Cortez and the all-new elegant

Downtown Grand Hotel. Let's face it, Vegas has a ton of things to do and sometimes you just don't know where to start. From ultimate pool parties to concerts to the world's best cuisine, Las Vegas has redefined entertainment.

Are you hungry yet? Well, Las Vegas used to only be famous for buffets. Nowadays, you can also enjoy the culinary creations of any number of celebrity chefs; but as a first-timer, a buffet is in order. The Bistro Buffet at the Palms will satisfy your palate with international selections, while the Bayside Buffet at Mandalay Bay features a diverse selection of tastes, with sweeping views of a tropical water garden. Celebrated for its expansive selection of gourmet offerings, the Bacchanal Buffet at Caesars Palace will leave everyone at the table wanting more.

Looking for adventure? Vegas has you covered whether you like thrills by air, land, or sea. Start with the Sky Jump at the Stratosphere. At 108 stories, it's the longest controlled free fall of its kind. Soon, you'll be able to experience Slotzilla - a spectacular high-flyin' attraction where you get hooked to a harness and zip line right over the crowds on Fremont Street and under the giant video canopy. Not daring enough? How about swimming with the sharks at the Shark Reef Aquarium at Mandalay Bay?



Las Vegas has inspired plenty of myths, legends and lore. Here, though, are a few surprising and actual facts.

- ★ When Paul Anka first played Vegas he was too young to be allowed in the casino.
- ★ Bugsy Siegel named his casino the Flamingo after the long legs of his showgirl girlfriend.
- ★ In Nevada it is mandatory that video slot machines pay a minimum of 75 percent on average.
- ★ Vegas Vic, the enormous neon cowboy that towers over Fremont Street, is the world's largest mechanical neon sign.
- ★ Howard Hughes stayed at the Desert Inn for so long that he was asked to leave. He bought the hotel.
- ★ Camels were used as pack animals in Nevada as late as 1870.
- ★ More than 41 million people visit Las Vegas each year.
- ★ Seventeen of the 20 biggest hotels in the U.S. are in Las Vegas.

The hottest offers in town, and they're yours for the taking. Planning the perfect Las Vegas adventure has never been easier.

Good Neighbour Club News

by Susan Wood



Thank you to the people of the community for your donations to October's Fuel Supper, especially to the hard workers who made it such a success.

There will be no breakfast in December as everyone at the GNC and our faithful helpers are getting ready for the holidays. The next breakfast will be on January 16, 2016. Time has gone by quickly: in February 2016 we will be celebrating 10 years of holding successful 'Big Breakfasts'. Thanks to all our helpers!

On December 3rd, the GNC celebrated the Christmas season with a potluck supper and gift exchange at Centreville Hall. The meal was delicious, and the entertainment was fun - even hilarious at times. Club members who were decorated in kind challenged the beauty of the Christmas tree. Special thanks to the Entertainment Committee - Suzanne, Jenny, and Beverley - for organizing a memorable evening.

Regular meetings will resume January 21, 2016. Come out ladies, and give us a try!!! If you have any questions, feel free to email me at susanqrst@hotmail.com or phone me at 902-678-3266.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Good Neighbour Club.



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THE GOOD NEIGHBOUR CLUB'S BIG BREAKFAST is held at the Centreville Hall on the third Saturday of the month, 7:00-10:30 am, except in July, August, October, and December. Choices include eggs, bacon, sausages, baked beans, hash browns, toast, tea, coffee, and juice.

Free-will Offering

Next breakfast is on January 16, 2016



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Update from the Charles Macdonald Concrete House

by Fred Macdonald



In 1939, Charlie Macdonald began a Canadian Youth Hostel program with the concrete cottages at "Hunting Point", engaging a Mrs. Moody as House Mother. His record of accounts tells us that, in August of that year, a Miss Elizabeth Owens of New York was "well pleased" with her 3-day stay. At 25 cents a day, guests appeared from near and far. In September of that same year, a gentleman from England was "delighted" with his layover. A simple "great" was the comment by M. Creighton of Halifax, and on August 13 of 1943, a F. O'Ryan of Tipperary, Eire, described it as "a little bit of heaven" for which there was "no charge".

In recent years, the resumption of Charlie's enterprise has allowed The Charles Macdonald House of Centreville Society to conserve his Blue Cottage at Huntington Point and has enabled us, at long last, to retire the cottage's banking obligations.

Pictures of Centreville District and Surrounding Area

Did you know that the Centreville website has an e-mail address where you can send pictures? If you have pictures you want to share with others, you can send them to :

centrevillepictures@centreville-kings-county.com

Pictures of interest could be historical, nature, business, or people - anything that you think others would be interested in seeing. Pictures received will be posted on the Centreville website:

www.centreville-kings-county.com



Forest Friends Homeschool Group taking in some local lore on an autumn outing to the Red and Blue Cottages at Huntington Point.

When you can't change the direction of the wind, adjust your sails.

- H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

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Your Public Library

By Suzanne Trudeau

A lot has changed since my first introduction to a public library. I was 10 years old at the time and I remember asking my brother where he got all the books. His response was "at the public library." It cost 10 cents for a membership card and you were allowed to have so many books out at one time. Times have changed at your local library and it's not just about books anymore.

Recently, I rediscovered our public library in Kentville. It had been such a long time since I had visited this facility that my library card had expired. It turns out that the membership is free (a replacement will cost \$3.00) and in addition to your regular card, you are issued a key chain card as well.

It amazed me what this little facility has to offer. In addition to all the regular books, there are large print books, magazines, newspapers, and a large collection of current DVD movies that can be borrowed for a one-week period.

There is no limit to the number of books you can borrow at one time and you have a three-week loan period. If you wish to extend this period, you can renew your book(s) either by phone or online.

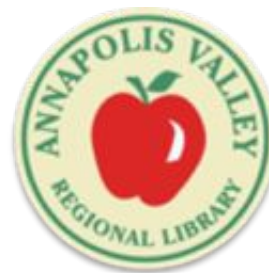
Your card allows you to borrow material from any of the regional libraries and return it at any one of these, or place it in the return box outside the Kentville location.

I discovered that books could be reserved and transferred from one branch to another. This can take approximately one week and you can be notified by telephone or email when your requested book(s) is in.

In addition to books, DVD movies, magazines, and newspapers, the library has seven computers at your disposal. Headsets are provided and required when using the computers.

Until March 2016, get one-on-one tech help with:

- tablets, e-readers, and mobile devices;
- email, Facebook;
- on-line library services;
- backing-up and storing important files;
- and much more!



Bring in your laptop, e-reader, tablet, smart phone, or use the library's equipment. Book a one-hour slot for personalized assistance with downloading e-books and audio books, setting up your tablet, getting an email account, or other basic computing tasks. Pre-registration is required for this service: for more information you can call the library at 902-679-2544 during open hours.

The Bookmobile service is still running every third Wednesday, and stops from 3 - 4 pm at the Kwik Way. Check the website calendar for dates.

Winter is the perfect time to learn a new skill or language and meet new people with similar interests. Be sure to check out the various upcoming events and activities - for adults and children alike - listed on the library's website, <http://www.valleylibrary.ca>.

In an article published in the Kings County Advertiser on September 18, 2015: "Kings wants more information before committing to Kentville library proposal". The existing library is to be torn down and re-located to make way for the new bridge. I'm looking forward to a larger facility, but in the meantime I encourage you to drop in to your local libraries and take advantage of all they have to offer. I know I will!

Q: How do trees get on the Internet?
A: They log on!

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A Message From Your MLA

John Lohr, MLA Kings North

I have now had the privilege of serving as your MLA for two years. While this past year has been one of personal struggle for my family, serving as your MLA has been very rewarding. Many of you have reached out to Heather and me with your sympathies, and I want to say thank you for all the kind words.

One of the main issues my office deals with is the state of the roads. In early December I will be meeting with Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal senior staff and bringing to them my concerns and priorities for next year. I appreciate your comments on the roads. If you receive my weekly newsletter you will note that I keep a record of serious pothole concerns, called Pothole Patrol, for which we expect action and repair. I invite you to call my office to report any pothole

you know of and I will make it known.

A particular concern for Centreville is an effort to see speed reductions in the hamlet. A petition is circulating to that effect and I would encourage you to sign it. The petition calls for a 10-km/h speed reduction. Public support for this speed reduction would be key to getting the Department of Transportation to make the change.

Another effort of our party in the legislature has been the call for a public inquiry into the state of mental health care in the province. This has been spurred on by the many tragic stories that people bring to us. The Minister of Health and Wellness, Leo Glavine, has said there is no crisis. Having personal stories helps put a face to the issue and work for change. Thanks so much to those who have chosen to tell their stories.

The Christmas holiday season is busy, filled with excitement and anticipation for the future. I, too, am looking forward to its arrival and to that of the New Year.

I continue to work on your behalf and welcome the opportunity to speak with you about your issues, hear your comments, and try to help address your concerns if I can.

I want to wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and the very best in 2016.

My office address is: 401A Main Street, Kentville

Continuing Ed ... all.acadiau.ca

Acadia Lifelong Learning Centre (ALL)

The Acadia Lifelong Learning Centre (ALL) provides courses, seminars, outings, and special events in literature, science, fine arts, writing, and more. Participation is no longer restricted to those 50+ years of age, with the exception of free credit course audits.

ALL membership benefits include free Acadia credit course audits (age 50+ only); access to the Vaughan Memorial Library; free ALL seminars, lectures, and readings; reduced ALL course fees; special events and outings, and e-mail notices of ALL and community events. The annual membership fee is \$25.00.

To view courses offered through ALL, Acadia University calendars will be available at the Centreville Post Office or from our website: all.acadiau.ca

For more information or to register, call 902-585-1434 or 1-800-565-6568, or e-mail all@acadiau.ca

Community Groups

**To book the Centreville Community Hall,
please contact Minnie Sheffield at
902-678-6391**

Centreville '50-Plus' Group

The '50 Plus' Group meets every Wednesday from 1:30 to 4:00 pm at the Centreville Community Hall. New members are always welcome.

Pins and Needles



Anyone is welcome to join us at the Community Hall on Thursdays. Bring along a craft you are currently working on and a paper bag lunch, and stay for the day. Tea and coffee are available. We also get together once a month to work on 'comfort quilts': These are made with donated fabric and are sewn and tied, then given to organizations to provide comfort to those in need.

For further information call Ann Steadman at 902-678-4472.

TOPS

TOPS meets at the Centreville Baptist Church, Murray Drive on Monday evenings. Weigh-in from 6:00 to 6:30 pm, with a short meeting to follow. We are open to new members at the cost of \$36.00 yearly, which includes a magazine from headquarters with "Eating Sensibly" ideas and recipes. You can drop by for one free night.

For more information contact:

Hope Shanks at 902-678-1302 or

Madeline Sheffield at 902-678-7584.

Al-Anon

Are you affected by someone else's addictions? If so, Al-Anon is for you. Al-Anon is a support group for families and friends whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking, drugs, etc. Our meetings are held **every Tuesday at 10:00 am at the Baptist Church in Centreville.**

For more information, please contact
Beverley at 902-678-4798.

Good Neighbour Club

The Good Neighbour Club (GNC) meets at the Centreville Hall at 7:30 pm on the first and third Thursdays of the month (except June, July, August and December). All Centreville women are welcome to attend and join the Club.

Centreville Park Association

The Centreville Park Association meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Centreville Hall. Anyone interested in becoming involved or wishing to share ideas or concerns is welcome to attend. Centreville community members are those who will make the park a success.

Next Meeting: January 20, 2016

Centreville District Community Development Association (CDCDA)

Board of Directors' Meetings

Where: Centreville Hall

When: Fourth Thursday of the month

Time: 7:00 pm

*Exceptions: June, July, August, and December by
notification*

All meetings are open to the public — come out and support your community's development!

Next Meeting: January 28, 2016

Centreville Baptist Church

Reverend Dr. Judith Saunders

Associate Pastor of Youth, Jeff Milne

Reverend Sarah Stevens, Associate Pastor of Children.

All are welcome to attend the Sunday Morning
Worship Service at 10:30 am

Christmas Eve Service: December 24 at 6:30 pm

Cancer Support Group

For women with and/or recovering from any type of cancer.

Meetings: the 3rd Wednesday of each month

Info:

Dorothy 902-538-3374 msalsman@xcountry.tv

Pat 902-678-9100 patmutch@hotmail.com

Margot 902-542-1466 margotwithat@hotmail.com



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