



Around *the* Block



Issue 73 October / November 2020 sjcommunitynewspaper@gmail.com

Published six times a year by the Saint John Human Development Council

Saint John Food Purchasing Club now accepts e-transfer



By Olivia Clancy, RD, Food Security Coordinator, Crescent Valley Resource Centre

You can now call in your Food Purchasing Club order and pay with e-transfer! It is easier than ever to get your monthly bags of fruit and veggies (see image of sample above). If you want to participate, email your order request and e-transfer your money to Martha.MacLean@HorizonNB.ca or call 632-5537. When emailing your order, you MUST include your name, order size (\$15 or \$25), pickup location of choice (see list below), and contact information.

Pay for the order you want (\$15 for one large bag or \$25 for two bags) by one of the dates below. Pick up your order on pick-up day the following week from 12-3 p.m. from the same location you ordered. You do not need to buy an order every month – just when it is beneficial to you!

Food Purchase orders can be placed at any of the following locations:

- Crescent Valley Resource Centre, 130 MacLaren Blvd., 693-8513
- St. Joseph's Community Health Centre, 116 Coburg St., 632-5537
- Nick Nicolle Community Centre, 85 Durham St., 658-2980
- PULSE, 251 Wentworth St., 632-6807
- St. Mary & St. Bartholomew Church, 646 Westmorland Road
- Carleton Community Centre, 120 Market Place, 658-2920

The remaining dates to place and pick up an order for 2020 are:
October - Money due October 16th | Pick up October 23rd
November - Money due November 13th | Pick up November 20th
December - Money due December 11th | Pick up December 18th

These bags are for everyone and anyone - give it a try this month!

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COVID-19 survey with gift card draw!

How has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted you and your family?
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Complete this online, anonymous survey to share your experience.

Participate at
www.nbsocialpediatrics.com/study



Contact us for more information:
covid19study@horizonnb.ca



By Katie Bonner, Knowledge Translation Coordinator,
New Brunswick Social Pediatrics (Image: NBSP)

NB Social Pediatrics is currently conducting a study to better understand how the COVID-19 pandemic and the government's response have affected the well-being of New Brunswickers. This survey asks about areas of your life that may have been impacted by the pandemic, including access to health services, food security, childcare, employment, and ability to enjoy daily leisure activities.

We will be repeating the survey every six months for the next two years to explore how New Brunswickers are adapting to the new normal. For each survey completed, you'll be entered in a draw to win one of four \$50 gift cards. If you complete all surveys (four in total) you'll be entered to win one of six gift cards.

To participate go to: www.nbsocialpediatrics.com/study

From the Editor's desk:

Let's not lose the urgency

Lorna Brown

647- 4850, sjcommunitynewspaper@gmail.com

With the arrival of autumn comes the new school year - a very different one from any we have experienced before. There are few places where our response as a community, country, and world to COVID-19 is more evident than in our education system. But students who are in K-12 now have never known a world without the Internet, so they are taking the new virtual routine and learning on laptops in their stride. *Around the Block* is delighted that so many schools answered the call to share their news (pages 6-7). As Ben Gillcrist of SJBKE reminds us, we are Better Together.

While New Brunswick has so far (at time of writing, October 4th) been spared the horrors of a second wave, it is critical that we remain alert to the dangers of COVID-19. We have all got tired of the restrictions, but the virus is not tired. When we protect ourselves from it, we are protecting others more vulnerable than ourselves. So don't forget your mask, and maintain social distancing!

And we must not lose the learnings of the lockdown. We must not lose the urgency as we settle into the "new normal." We haven't solved the challenges of the old normal yet. On September 30th, Romero House served a (record) 454 meals out the window, ending a record month - 10,625 meals served to those living in the circumstance of poverty. COVID-19 threw the plight of many in our neighbourhoods into stark relief. Thank you, all those who are helping - but let's not forget: it doesn't have to be this way. Peace!

School Supply Drive



Left to right: Jonathan Driscoll, Latoya Grant, and Chealsea Brown
(Photo: ONE Change)

By Jonathan Driscoll

Thank you to K100 and Port City Kia for hosting a school drive to support our kids going back to school in our community. These supplies will help ensure that youth in our neighbourhood have the tools they need to start off the school year right. The ONE Change has supplies still on hand for anyone in the community that may need even an extra pack of paper or simply a few books. Staff at The ONE Change have already handed out over 60 back to school packages. We want to welcome everyone back to a new school year.

ONE Change Community Dinner

By Christa Petts

We have restarted our Community Dinner. With a little twist it will be a grab-and-go lunch. A huge thank you to Childs Catering for providing our lunch every Wednesday. Childs brings by a hot lunch and dessert each week. Every now and then, a special message is included, reminding our residents how amazing they are. Community Dinner will start at 12 p.m. and end at 12:30 p.m. every Wednesday. We are so excited to reintroduce our Community Dinner. Make sure you stop by - we look forward to seeing you.

Back-to-School Snacks

By Christa Petts

Every year, UNIFOR celebrates back to school for our families by providing a huge barbecue with face painting, music, and awesome food. Unfortunately, because of COVID we were unable to have our barbecue. UNIFOR and ONE Change came up with an idea: providing back-to-school snacks for 100 families for the first week of school. Thank you so much to UNIFOR for all you do to support us!



Lots of snacks!
(Photo: ONE Change)

ONE Future - Digital Media Marketing through Storytelling



By Jill Richards-Cook

The ONE Future youth training program welcomed 15 new participants (ages 19-30) into Digital Media Marketing through Storytelling on September 21st, 2020, offered at ONE Change Inc.

Participants will be learning the elements of marketing strategy. Over ten weeks, these participants will be exploring how to develop a message by knowing their audience. They will also be learning how to brand a story to create sales, social media and techniques for use on social platforms, content marketing, search engine optimization and customer engagement.

Please keep your eyes on the ONE Change Inc., Nick Nicolle Centre's Facebook page, to see updates on these ONE Future participants' progress.

If you are interested in more information about upcoming ONE Future youth training programs (2021), you can contact: Jill.ONEFuture@gmail.com or, call 566-9303.

Happy 12th Anniversary

From your friends at ONE Change



85 Durham Street
Saint John, NB
506.658.2980

The Honourable Trevor Holder MLA Portland - Simonds

Constituency Office:
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Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Friday: Closed



North Neighbourhood Contact

Christa Petts
christa.onec@gmail
Nick Nicolle Community Centre
85 Durham Street
658-2980



Comings and goings: People United in the Lower South End (PULSE)

By Mary LeSage, PULSE

We are open Monday through to Friday now for your needs! We have added Wednesday afternoons from 1-4 p.m.! We ask you to call ahead for an appointment to lessen your wait time in the building. As always our nurse is available upon request!

Please remember our monthly Food Purchase Club money is due October 16th and November 13th (see story, top right). We even have a "Pay it Forward" option where you can provide a single person, a couple or a family with fresh fruits and vegetables! How awesome is that?

We are always looking for volunteers; come in and talk to me and see what you can do to help out your neighbourhood. Cst. Duane Squires can be reached at 977-1733 or duane.squires@saintjohn.ca. Mary LeSage can be reached at 632-6807 or operationsmanager.pulse@gmail.com.



Around the Block Proud Supporter



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Do you love fruits & veggies?

By Lisa Morris

SJ Food Purchasing is a great way to save money, eat healthy and try new recipes. There are \$15 and \$25 orders available; money is due the second Friday of the month and the order is back on the third Friday. In October money is due on the 16th and the order can be picked up on the 23rd. If you are looking for a healthy snack idea, try freezing grapes! Delicious! (To find out more, see page 1.)

Stuff-A-Santa-Fe (with school supplies)

By Mary LeSage, PULSE

It was that time of year again when the kids went back to school! Our great partners at Saint John Hyundai did a school supply drive and Stuffed A Santa Fe! With their generous donation we were able to supply the Saint John Learning Exchange as well as a few families in the Waterloo Village and South End. We donated the remaining supplies directly to the school, as most of our families were paying an amount directly to the school. Thank you Saint John Hyundai!



Marie Sly, Marketing Manager, Saint John Hyundai
and Mary LeSage, PULSE (Photo: Saint John Hyundai)



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Happy Anniversary Around the Block!

**South
Neighbourhood Contact**

Mary LeSage
pulseinc@bellaliant.com
251 Wentworth Street
632-6807



Butterflies at Crescent Valley Resource Centre (CVRC)

By Olivia Clancy, RD

One of the most exciting annual projects at the Crescent Valley Resource Centre (CVRC) is the monarch butterfly project. Each summer, we raise, tag, and release monarch butterflies to raise awareness about the importance of pollinators to our environment.

Monarch butterflies lay their eggs on only one type of plant: milkweed. The caterpillars eat milkweed continuously until they grow large enough to form a chrysalis. To increase their chances of survival, we raise caterpillars indoors. The caterpillars live in a modified aquarium until they become butterflies.

Once an adult butterfly emerges from a chrysalis, they are left alone for a several hours so their wings can dry. Immediately before releasing the butterfly, we tag it with a tracking sticker so researchers can monitor its journey. The monarchs released here migrate toward Mexico!

As of September 16th, 48 monarchs have been released in Crescent Valley! If you would like more information about monarch butterflies, please visit:

<http://www.naturenb.ca/monarchs/>



Butterflies shortly before release (Photo: CVRC)



Crescent Valley Community Tenants' Association (CVCTA) update

By Mary Doiron, Board Member, CVCTA

The CVCTA has been busy this year!

Things have been a little different because of COVID-19. Instead of having our regular meetings and programs, we had to think of a way to do these things while still remaining safe and following the COVID-19 restrictions.

We celebrated Honours and Awards differently as we had to think of a safe way to show our volunteers how much we appreciate them. We had a phone call meeting and decided we would hand-deliver the Volunteer Appreciation Awards to each person and organization. Gift cards were attached to the certificates as well to say "thank you for volunteering." Thanks to Social Development for their contribution!

We also delivered Summer Fun Bags to all the houses in the neighbourhood, as we could not have our annual Fun Days. This is usually our big summer event.

We also have a 19-plot community garden and we were glad when we got the OK to plant. Everyone has enjoyed planting and growing lots of vegetables. Every year for the last few years we have grown a plot of vegetables for Romero House. This garden plot is taken care of by some of the gardeners who have plots in the garden. When it is ready, we harvest it and take it to Romero House.

We are currently working on our annual Christmas party. Keep an eye open for this or a version of this in the community newsletter!

Thank you to all who are members of our Community Tenants' Association! If you are not a member, come and see what we are all about.

Our next general meeting is October 27th, 7 p.m. at 55/57 MacLaren Boulevard.



Crescent Valley Neighbourhood Contact

Anne Driscoll
CVRC.driscoll@gmail.com
130 MacLaren Blvd.
693-8513



Carleton Community Centre update

By Kate Worden, CCC

Our GED program is back in session and FULL! We are super excited to announce a new partnership with Saint John Learning Exchange. Starting in October, we will have a WorkLinks Job Developer Coach on site to support learners and community members.

We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting FREE online workshops in partnership with Loch Lomond Villa beginning in October. These Digital Literacy Webinars will be accessible remotely, with limited in-person availability as well (wifi and devices provided). Our schedule is as follows:

- October 7th – Staying connected through Zoom & virtual gatherings
- November 4th – Navigating the Internet
- December 2nd – Staying safe online

'Tis the season! Carleton Community Centre will host a Community Flu Clinic provided by Horizon Health Network and organized by Market Place Wellness Centre. Mark your calendars: Wednesday, October 21st, 3-7 p.m.

For more information on any of the programs and events above, please call the Centre: (506) 658-2920.

Flu season is coming soon

By Jill Roberts, RN

The flu, or influenza, is a contagious virus that anyone can get. There are things that you can do to avoid catching it.

- Wash your hands often
- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze
- Do not touch your face
- Stay at home when you are sick
- Clean and disinfect surfaces

FREE flu vaccines will be available this fall through your neighbourhood community health centre for individuals aged six months and up. Please watch Market Place Wellness Centre's Facebook page for updates regarding dates and how to book your FREE flu vaccine.



Congratulations on your 12th Anniversary!

Welcome UNBSJ Nursing Students

By Jill Roberts, RN

Market Place Wellness Centre is pleased to welcome students Jolene Ralph and Nicole Hebert for their community clinical placement from September 2020 until December 2020. Jolene and Nicole are both Licensed Practical Nurses who have decided to continue their education and obtain their Bachelor of Nursing degrees from the University of New Brunswick - Saint John (UNBSJ). As Community Health Nurse, I am pleased to have been asked to mentor them. They are excited to take on a project that will provide a plan for delivering safe flu vaccines during a pandemic. They will also help support projects that have been initiated by some of our community partners. Welcome to you both!



Jolene (top) and Nicole (bottom) (Photos: Market Place Wellness)



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**West
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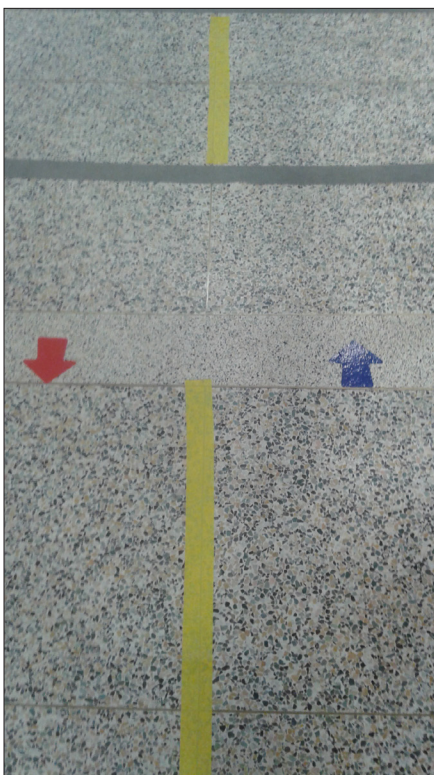
Being thankful

By Ben Gillcrist, Community Schools Coordinator, St. John the Baptist/King Edward School (SJBKE)

At first take, Thanksgiving 2020 might seem a bit of an anomaly in this extraordinary year of contractions and constrictions at the hands of COVID-19. It might appear that we've little to celebrate. One look down the school-day hallway at SJBKE belies that sense. Undoubtedly, we are living in the oft quoted "new normal," and yet, within that reality, there is so much about our school year that is "right."

Our extraordinary staff has responded to this crisis with their usual alacrity - COVID has been taken in (an admittedly huge) stride and they were ready for opening. Students found (find) the same welcome they've always known, and kind and generous people willing to steer them through the new elements of these unusual days. Our administration is attentive to the needs of both staff and students, and our custodians are making sure the school is as clean as it must be. Students themselves are showing their resiliency by adjusting to what has come. As with every year, there are, and will be, challenges, but the fact that our classrooms are full speaks to the trust both kids and families have in us. We have so many kids who tell us daily how glad they are to be back in school.

There is a general feeling that diffuses through face shields and masks, that rises above all the bubbling and social distancing.... we are, indubitably, "Better Together." If that isn't something to be thankful for, I'm not sure what is. :)



SJBKE's
"COVID-compliant" floor -
many directions, walking
together

(Photo: Ben Gillcrist)

PALS at the Port



(Artwork by a kindergarten student)

By Krista Turnbull, Community Schools Coordinator, Seaside Park Elementary School

Things have certainly been busy at the west side docks as our PALS at the Port work on their West Side Modernization.

Of the many benefits of the project will be the arrival of larger ships to our port, an increase in container growth and the creation of a number of new job opportunities over the span of the seven-year project.

But, for a little boy in kindergarten, who has the advantage of living near the port and seeing the cargo traffic every day, only one thing mattered ... those big blue cranes. That is what he chose to draw a picture of in his first week at school.

The deck of the west side terminal was increased a few years ago, to allow for the arrival of the new, larger cranes.

We are so fortunate at Seaside Park Elementary School, to learn from our PALS at the Port program, where students have an opportunity view the workings of all aspects of the port.

We have had a strong partnership with our PALS at the Port for many years and are excited to see our local port grow.



WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

The safety of our community and team is our first priority, which is why our office is remaining closed at this time. Our virtual office is open- call us anytime from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday at 658-5252.

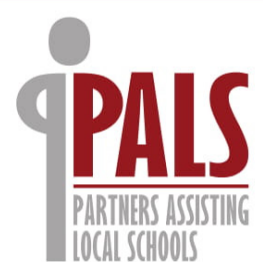
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Partnering from Kindergarten to Grade 12 and Beyond

- Partnerships
- Volunteering
- Mentoring
- Role Models
- Coaching
- Focus on Literacy
- Having Fun
- Tutoring
- Breakfast/Lunch Programs
- New Opportunities
- After School Programs
- Career Exploration
- Making a Difference



Deborah Fisher
fisher.deborah@jdirving.com

Susan Tipper
tipper.susan@jdirving.com

We ALL have something to offer!

A great volunteer and grateful students!



Paul Fraser teaching a group of middle school students about harvesting vegetables and how they grow!

(Photo: Princess Elizabeth School)

By Jennifer Carhart, Principal. Princess Elizabeth School (PES)

Princess Elizabeth School has been very fortunate to have been able to keep our Community Garden alive and well through the kindness of Paul Fraser. He has been a faithful volunteer at PES for two years now, ensuring our garden is ready for harvest when our students return each fall. His dedication has meant countless hours of weeding, watering, and planting so that our student community can enjoy the vegetables of his labour. Our students are very appreciative of the lessons Paul provides and all the healthy snacking, too! Returning to school to eat carrots, potatoes, radishes, cucumber, and parsley (to name a few) is a real treat for all of us!

Aquaponics at Forest Hills School

By Pat Halford, Technology and Physical Education Teacher, Forest Hills School

Here at Forest Hills School we are exploring the growing technique Aquaponics. This is a method that relies on hydroponics and fish waste to fertilize the plants. This is an initiative that began two years ago with the plans to establish a 1500-square-foot aquaponic greenhouse and has led to Forest Hills becoming a certified EcoSchool. The greenhouse will be used as a resource for our students and the East Saint John Food Bank. We currently have two functioning prototypes for our students to work with that have grown various vegetables and are currently growing strawberries.

We look to continue to grow this initiative to provide a valuable educational experience for our students to learn about sustainability and food security. These are important areas at Forest Hills as we engage in Global Competencies and The United Nations Sustainability Goals.

Right: Strawberry hydroponics at Forest Hills School (Photo: Tomalyn Young)

A facelift for Prince Charles School



Volunteers and school and district staff (Photo: Debbie Fisher)

By Angela Calder, Community School Coordinator, and Lori Doyle, Principal, Prince Charles School (PCS)

Prince Charles School has recently been given a wonderful gift from our PALS Partners at JDI! They have given our school yard a much-needed facelift. Crews from JDI Finance, Gulf Operators were hard at work before students arrived to spruce things up in our parking lot, and our beautiful Learning Garden. Our Learning Garden was first designed and gifted to PCS by Mrs. J.K. Irving many years ago, and seeing things given a makeover brought back memories of that time for staff and volunteers alike. Jennifer Verart-Sym and Ashley Kirkpatrick from JDI Finance spearheaded the charge with many volunteers from their department and with Mr. Irving's support got the job done. They were joined by Calvin Rice, Leo Lignos, Dan O'Donnell and their crew from Gulf Operators with the heavy equipment. The results are amazing! We cannot thank them enough for this wonderful gift to our school and community!



Congratulations *Around the Block* on your 12th anniversary edition.

Thank you for providing a voice to share good news in our communities.

The Saint John Police Force wishes you continued success.

Questions about our services? Call anytime or visit us at www.BrenansFH.com

It's traditional...

There are many traditions surrounding funerals. The oldest have been with us for centuries, the newest; they're being created every day.

It's our tradition to do everything we can to ensure that each family that turns to us gets the service they expect, the respect they deserve, choices that suit their budget and everything they need to find meaning for today and hope for tomorrow.

Sharlene MacDonald	Gary Smith	Lethe Kerr	Karen Belyea	Kate Lavhey	Doug Ells	Patrick Olsen
1461 Manawagonish Road 634-7425		111 Paradise Row 634-7424		152 Pettingill Road 849-2119		



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Your money matters: prepare your kids for higher education



(Photo: Saint John Community Loan Fund)

By Darlene Jones, Money Matters Coordinator, Saint John Community Loan Fund

"I am so thankful I live in a world with Octobers." - Anne with an "e" Shirley

Most of us have wonderful memories of our school days. High school graduation is still a vivid memory. What happens after high school? The logical answer is NBCC or UNB; however higher education comes with a high price tag that we are not prepared for. Canada Learning Bonds are a commitment from our federal government of \$2000 per child for families living in low and modest-income households. All you need to do is apply. Sounds easy, right? The application process is not a straight line. It is a two-step process.

First step: obtain a Social Insurance Number for each of your children. Good news: no need to go to Service Canada to get that; you can now apply online. Second step: open a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP). You can do that through many financial institutions, such as a bank or credit union. More good news: you are not required to contribute any money to the plan in order to obtain the \$2,000 for your child.

We at the Loan Fund are committed to working with families to set up Canada Learning Bonds. It is my goal to have 60 families set their children up for success in post-secondary education. Reach out to me by phone or email and I will help you with the process. Children with a learning bond are more likely to graduate from high school. During this back-to-school season let's take the time to complete the task of signing up. Remember, no matter how much or how little your income is, how you spend your money matters.

(506) 652-5626 Extension 4
darlene@loanfund.ca

Happy Anniversary, Around The Block!



SAINT JOHN
COMMUNITY LOAN FUND

THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
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The Community Loan Fund supports individuals and organizations become more self reliant. Visit loanfund.ca to learn more about programs in enterprise development and financial management or for help with saving, loans, quality housing and office space.

Youth entrepreneurship: creativity in art and business!

By Eric Cuenat, Youth Social Entrepreneurship (YES) Program Facilitator

It all started with a hobby. Malaki had a passion for old ships and churches and the history behind them, which led him to drawing them. When we mentioned he could possibly turn this into a part-time job, his eyes lit up.

Through the YES program, Malaki was able to set up a table at the night market with his peers, Evan and Seth, where they were able to apply their entrepreneurship skills in the real world. They were taught how to turn an idea into a product, pricing, presentation and key customer service skills. After having a successful night at the market, Malaki, Seth and Evan planned on returning the following Thursday!

Artwork by Malaki (aged 15) which he has been selling at the Night Market as postcard prints and originals



Community Engagement, Fall 2020

By Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP) Saint John

Our team is excited for community engagement this fall! We will be coordinating with school groups to do cleanups, while practising social distancing as well as in-person educational visits to teach youth about our work and why it is important! During these events, we are following the protocols put in place by regulators including wearing masks, hand washing and virtual engagement options, where appropriate.

We were sad to cancel our annual Marsh Creek Clean-Up but are very excited to kick-start the #PortCityPickUp Challenge in October 2020, to help reduce litter in and around our beautiful city! Visit our website to learn more about how to participate and be entered for weekly prizes!



Bailey and Bethany clean up!
(Photo: ACAP Saint John)



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Housing and homelessness



Cathy Boyce (left) and Michael MacKenzie (right) speak to attendees of BNL Intake and Assessment Training (Photo: Chris Gorman)

By Michael MacKenzie, System Planner, Saint John Human Development Council (SJHDC)

Despite the pandemic, front-line service providers in Saint John continue to house and support individuals experiencing homelessness, with a total of 51 individuals being housed since March. In fact, COVID-19 has shown more than ever how important housing is for our health and safety. To house people as quickly and efficiently as possible, Saint John has created a uniform process for people experiencing homelessness to access housing and supports. Part of this process is our By Name List (BNL) – a real-time list of everyone in Saint John known to be experiencing homelessness. On September 2nd, the community had its first official (physically distanced) training session for BNL Intake and Assessment. More than 12 agencies took part in the training, which was provided by the Human Development Council. For more information on the BNL, check out the Coordinated Access section on the HDC's website: www.sjhdc.ca.

Saint John Learning Exchange (SJLE) Learner Spotlight: Dawn Lee-O'Leary

Beginning in October 2020, we'll be shining a spotlight on our learners to celebrate their amazing achievements!



Before attending the Learning Exchange in 2011, I was homeless, living on the streets of Fredericton battling addiction. I grew up in poverty, left school in Grade 8, and had no family support. I moved to Saint John, beat my addiction, and decided to complete my GED, find employment, and have a better life. That's when I was first introduced to the Learning Exchange. My journey here has spanned seven years. I've been a part of almost every program and service they offer. The staff treat you with respect, have compassion, and support you in so many ways. It feels more like being part of a big family! As a result, I'm no longer afraid to ask for help, my self-worth and confidence have grown, I realize I'm a good person and I'm proud of how I've changed my life around. My future plans are to complete my last GED subject. I'd then like to go to college and take the Admin. program, find employment in this field, get my driver's license, and eventually buy a house. As a family living in poverty, four generations deep, I'm teaching my two kids to work hard and value their education. I'm breaking the cycle of poverty! Poverty will stop with me and my family!

Urban Youth Employment/Education Service (UYES!) update

By Callie Mackenzie, UYES! Project Manager

Everyone needs the opportunity to truly dream about their future, as well as a pathway that offers support to take steps that will make one's dreams a reality. But when each day feels like an uphill battle and your energy is spent on surviving, the idea of dreams becoming reality may seem out of reach. This is the role of UYES! (Urban Youth Employment and Education Service), a project co-delivered by the Human Development Council, The Saint John Learning Exchange, The Teen Resource Centre, and other service providers in Waterloo Village.

UYES! provides wrap-around services for youth ages 15-30, enabling them to overcome barriers and tap into the supports they need in order to further their education, prepare for and gain meaningful employment, and take part in community projects that build confidence, skills, purpose, and relationships, while enriching neighbourhoods.

The programs' services and supports are flexible and free (thanks to federal funding from Service Canada's Youth Employment Skills Strategy) and open to people who are: 15-30 years of age; Canadian citizens, permanent residents, or protected by the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act; legally entitled to work in NB; able to indicate that they are facing barriers to success (food or housing issues, mental health struggles, discrimination, transportation barriers, etc.); and are seeking help to change their current circumstances. We recognize that everyone needs an ally in their corner and a helping hand to move towards independence. For more information, call:

633-4636 or 648-0202



A New Face at Waterloo Village Neighbourhood Association (WVA)

By WVA

On September 8th, the Waterloo Village Neighbourhood Association (WVA) welcomed a new team member, Kaya Sleep, as the new co-op placement focused on food security. Kaya is a Saint John native with an Associate of Arts in not-for-profit work and a background in international aid. She is a proud member of the LGBTQ+ community, a plant lover, and a musician in her spare time.



Kaya Sleep
(Photo: Jonah McDonald)

Kaya had been working for a communications company for the past three years but, as it has for many people, when COVID-19 hit work situations changed. Kaya had been waiting for the push to get back into community-focused work, and with the help of WorkLinks at the Saint John Learning Exchange she put her name forward for WVA's new co-op position.

When Kaya isn't around town learning more about food security, you can find her hiking or rock climbing, watching movies with her daughter, or trying to keep her cat Sybil away from her pet birds! She likes to keep busy and she cares deeply for Saint John.

Kaya is eager to get involved with the work of WVA, meeting with their partner organizations and residents to talk about food security in our community. WVA would like to thank PULSE Inc. for providing office space. If you are interested in learning more about the Waterloo Village Neighbourhood Association and our food security initiatives feel free to contact Kaya at:

wva.fscoordinator@gmail.com

#1 Music Fan




Aria at Music in the Park
(Photo: Debbie McLeod)

By Debbie McLeod, Social Development


Congratulations to four-and-a-half-year-old Aria Byers. Aria has been attending Music In The Park in Chown Field since she was four months old. Aria has entertained the crowds with her dancing, singing, flower picking and her big smile. Aria has twin brothers and they have started to attend Music In The Park as well. Aria is a fan favourite and we all look forward to not only hearing the musicians each week but to seeing this beautiful, full-of-energy little girl. She is always early and she greets everyone with her big smile.

August 24th was the last concert for the summer. The band that was playing that night made a special announcement acknowledging Aria as the #1 fan and presented her with a gift bag full of activities for her to play with. Aria was delighted and so were the people in the audience. A big thanks to Delbert Worden and friends for entertaining us for four weeks and a special thanks to George and his partner for this most thoughtful gift! Looking forward to many more great summers of music and fun! Thanks to Lynne from the City of Saint John and Kool 98 for their support and help each week.

**LIVINGSJ**
Ending Generational Poverty

**Congratulations to
AROUND THE
BLOCK
on your
anniversary!**

Thank you for sharing
your inspirational stories!



**\$2 WEEKLY
CONTINUOUS
50/50 DRAW**



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Boys & Girls Club
of Saint John

Waterloo-Village Neighbourhood Contact

Penni Eisenhauer
commorg.penni@gmail.com
Saint John Learning Exchange
139 Prince Edward Street
647-8047



Women's Empowerment Network

By Sharon Amirault, Executive Director, WEN

The Saint John Women's Empowerment Network (WEN) is excited to welcome Leah Secord to our team. You may recognize Leah from the neighbourhood as she previously worked at The Wheelhouse of Waterloo Village as their Community Coordinator. While a pandemic may not seem to offer much to be joyful about on the surface, we have really enjoyed discovering new and exciting ways to deliver our programs so that we can continue to empower women in our community. This fall we will offer Power Up online, and Self-Esteem online and in person. Thanks to the United Way who helped us obtain all we needed so we could offer our programs virtually. Call us (642-9033) or email us (sjwen@sjwen.net) for more info or to register.

Programs Resume at Coverdale

By Channele Morgan

Coverdale is pleased to share that programs will be resuming on October 1st, 2020. We will be taking every precaution to keep everyone safe and healthy. Programs will be offered by appointment only, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. A scheduled program will be offered in the morning, with individual programs that meet client needs on a case-by-case basis in the afternoons. To make a program appointment or to learn more about our offerings, please contact Channele Morgan, our Program Facilitator, at 634-1649 or by email at coverdaleprograms@gmail.com. Our schedules will be posted on our Facebook page. We look forward to meeting with women at our centre again!



Teen Resource Centre (TRC) update



Saint John Rotary members pack book bags for TRC youth (Photo: Saint John Rotary)

By Letti Eastwood, Drop-in Coordinator, TRC

COVID-19 has meant big changes at TRC during our back-to-school season but one thing that didn't change is the incredible support we received from our community. Community members and local businesses like Cooke, Saint John Energy, Rotary Club of Saint John, Colin MacDonald (Exit Realty/Ripple Effect SJ), Bayview Credit Union (East), Cleaves Source for Sports, Wyndham and the Pub Down Under among others raised funds and gathered school supplies to help outfit more than 100 youth returning to middle school, high school and post-secondary with not only the usual pencils and notebooks but new needs like laptop-friendly school bags and headphones as they start their school year. Thank you to all who donated and made this uncertain return to school a success.



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TEEN RESOURCE CENTRE

CONGRATULATIONS AROUND
THE BLOCK ON YOUR 12TH
ANNIVERSARY!!

Pathways
to Education

Laura Corscadden, new City Librarian



Laura Corscadden (Photo: Sean Thompson)

By S. D. Thompson, Library Assistant

Laura Corscadden is the new director of the Saint John Free Public Library. Laura started her new position overseeing the city's three public libraries in March after serving two and a half years as director of the Kennebecasis Public Library.

Corscadden's appointment came just as the global COVID-19 pandemic forced the world into a months-long shutdown, the likes of which no previous Saint John Library head faced since 1918. She coordinated the library's safe reopening in July and is overseeing the gradual return of services, from circulation to public access computers. While online programming through Facebook and YouTube continued through the summer, Corscadden is working with staff to resume limited in-person programs this fall.

Corscadden replaces Joann Hamilton-Barry, who retired in January after 33 years in the New Brunswick Public Library Service, the last 15 as Saint John City Librarian.

Civic Tech Saint John has relaunched!

Civic Tech Saint John (CTSJ) has restarted after our summer break. CTSJ is an open and inclusive forum for all Saint Johners to explore community issues with one another to identify and implement potential solutions. We are a 100% volunteer-driven group of passionate citizens who believe in increasing community participation by applying technology, data, and design for the betterment of Saint John. In short: we do technology for social good! We meet online every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. For more info about how to attend, send an email to: civictechsaintjohn@gmail.com

HAVE AN EXTRA BIKE HANGING AROUND? WE NEED IT!

Donate your gently used or unwanted bike and we will tune it up and give it to an adult or child in need of a bike. Contact the Saint John Bike Share Program at Crescent Valley Resource Centre, 130 MacLaren Blvd., Saint John, 693-8513, @cvrcsj or our satellite location at the Carleton Community Centre, Market Place, West, 658-2920.


**Saint John
Bike Share
Program**

La fête nationale de l'Acadie



Près de 200 personnes ont participé à la fête extérieure
(Crédit: Jonathan Poirier)

Par Jonathan Poirier, Agent des communications et relations publiques, ARCf (Association Régionale de la Communauté francophone) de Saint-Jean

Cette année encore, malgré le contexte difficile de la COVID-19, il a été possible pour la communauté saint-jeannoise de célébrer la fête nationale de l'Acadie. L'ARCf a adapté l'activité à un format répondant aux normes sanitaires les plus élevées pour éliminer tout risque d'exposition au virus.

Un spectacle haut en couleur a été organisé pour toute la communauté. L'ancienne élève du Centre scolaire Samuel-de-Champlain Daphnée Brideau a chanté l'Ave Maris Stella lors de la cérémonie de levée du drapeau. Au niveau artistique, le groupe local Moyenne Rig, Paul Hébert et Pierre Robichaud ont offert un spectacle varié en styles de musique acadienne. De plus, le maire Don Darling et le ministre de la Francophonie, Glen Savoie, étaient sur place pour des allocutions reconnaissant l'importance de la culture acadienne dans notre région.

Pour assurer la sécurité de la communauté, un protocole strict de contrôle et de distanciation a été élaboré.



Around the Block
Anniversary Draw



Children 4 to 12



Colour the Jack o'lanterns.

Drop off at the Boys & Girls Club

by October 28th for entry into the draw!

Children 4 to 12

YMCA Peace Week, November 14th-21st



**By Kristen Wheaton Clayton, BAMHT, CFRE,
Chief Development Officer, Saint John Y**

YMCA Peace Week is celebrated the third week of November to recognize the work that happens year-round to build peace in our communities, both inside and outside the YMCA. In 2020, this work needs to continue more than ever. COVID-19 and the urgent calls for action against anti-black racism are challenging us, as individuals, as communities and as a country, to reconsider where we've been and where we want to go. Peace is more than the absence of violence and conflict. Peace is the ongoing work of building and rebuilding conditions of fairness, inclusion, empathy, security, and respect for diversity. We invite you to join us in embodying the values of PEACE through your daily actions. Together, let's *Build community. Act for Peace.*

As part of YMCA Peace Week, YMCAs across Canada present the YMCA Peace Medal to individuals or groups who, without any special resources, status, wealth or position, demonstrate a commitment to the values of peace through contributions made within their local, national or global community.

Visit www.saintjohnny.ca to nominate an individual or group for the 2020 YMCA Peace Medal.



**YMCA CHILD CARE
& AFTER SCHOOL**

spaces and financial assistance available!

Contact us today at 693-9622 or saintjohnny.ca

Conversation Groups at The Saint John Newcomers Centre / Les groupes de conversations au Centre de nouveaux arrivants de Saint-Jean

By/par Emily MacMackin and/et Lina Gharbiya

In order to completely understand a new language, we know we have to practice it, either in writing or ideally in conversation. From a practical perspective, language acquisition starts when learners actively listen to conversations in their new language and implement what they have learned by speaking and contributing to those conversations. French and English Conversation Groups at the Saint John Newcomers Centre are run by a volunteer instructor team with diverse experience in education, history, psychology, communications, and teaching abroad.

Newcomers can expect interactive conversations that will allow them to use their new language to discuss their daily experiences discovering Maritime and Canadian culture. While these groups are now taking place online the volunteer instructor team is continuously cultivating engaging ways to provide supportive and casual learning experiences. Newcomers should contact a settlement advisor at the Saint John Newcomers Centre to learn more about how Conversation Groups can help them reach their settlement and citizenship goals. For more information please contact welcome@sjnewcomers.ca or call 642-4242. ***

Afin de comprendre complètement une nouvelle langue, nous savons que nous devons la pratiquer, soit par écrit, soit idéalement en conversation. D'un point de vue pratique, l'acquisition de la langue commence lorsque les apprenants écoutent activement les conversations dans leur nouvelle langue et mettent en œuvre ce qu'ils ont appris en parlant et en contribuant à ces conversations. Les groupes de conversation en français et en anglais du Centre de nouveaux arrivants de Saint-Jean sont dirigés par une équipe d'instructeurs bénévoles possédant une expérience diversifiée en éducation, histoire, psychologie, communications et enseignement à l'étranger.

Les nouveaux arrivants peuvent s'attendre à des conversations interactives qui leur permettront d'utiliser leur nouvelle langue pour discuter de leurs expériences quotidiennes de découverte de la culture maritime et canadienne. Bien que ces groupes se déroulent maintenant en ligne, l'équipe des instructeurs bénévoles cultive continuellement des moyens attrayants pour offrir des expériences d'apprentissage encourageantes et informelles. Les nouveaux arrivants devraient communiquer avec un conseiller en établissement du Centre de nouveaux arrivants de Saint-Jean pour en savoir plus sur la façon dont les groupes de conversation peuvent les aider à atteindre leurs objectifs d'établissement et de citoyenneté. Pour plus d'informations contacter welcome@sjnewcomers.ca ou le 642-4242.

**The Saint John
Newcomers
Centre**



**Le Centre
de nouveaux arrivants
de Saint-Jean**

Join us for our Conversation Groups!

Achieve your citizenship goals by engaging in conversations on the topics of Canadian culture, language, Maritime slang, the winter season, Canadian and Cultural holidays, and more!

welcome@sjnewcomers.ca | 642-4242

Another good deed



(Left to right) Volunteers Marianne, Sandra, and Charlie
(Photo: Debbie McLeod)

By Debbie McLeod, Social Development

The Charlton Place/Stephenson Tower Tenant Association Volunteers put together 190 bags filled with water, chips, and a six-inch cold cut sub. These bags were hand-delivered to each resident to enjoy. Thank you so much for the wonderful volunteers who are always willing to help and support.

In memory of Terry Chamberlain

By Richard Northorp, Vice Chair, Brunswick Drive Tenants Association (BDTA)

On August 25th we lost a dear friend and fellow tenant of 656 Brunswick Drive so suddenly that it was a big shock to us. Terry Chamberlain lost his wife two years ago to cancer and was never the same since. He was always willing to help people, shared with people and even gave things to people. He had a wonderful singing voice as he would stand out front of the building and sing like Dean Martin and other older singers. We all have people in our communities who struggle physically, emotionally or mentally and we should always be kind, respectful and friendly to them as we don't really know all that they are struggling with, the pain they hide inside of them and how suddenly they can be taken away from us. We know Terry is singing with the angels in Heaven and yet we still miss him dearly. Gone so suddenly but will never be forgotten. (Photo: BDTA)



Going back to school

By T. Roy

This year going back to school has been met with new challenges. We have a new normal to get accustomed to. One thing on Anglin Drive that stayed true to tradition was our annual "Going back to school" dance. The local mothers helped in the search for a DJ. DJ Steve was so gracious to give his time to our community; he put on an amazing show with lights and kid-friendly dance music. DJ Steve was so interactive with the local children; he danced and taught the children dance moves. It was a blast! Thank you, Steve, for your time. Anglin Drive appreciates your kindness.



Cayne Challoner at the dance
(Photo: Ashley Challoner)

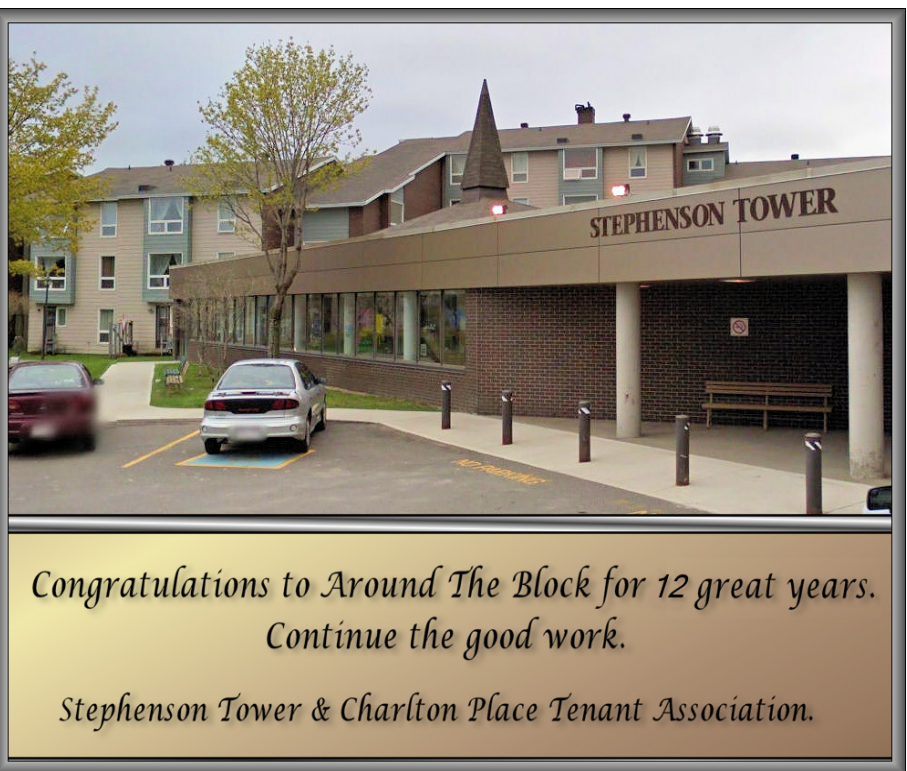
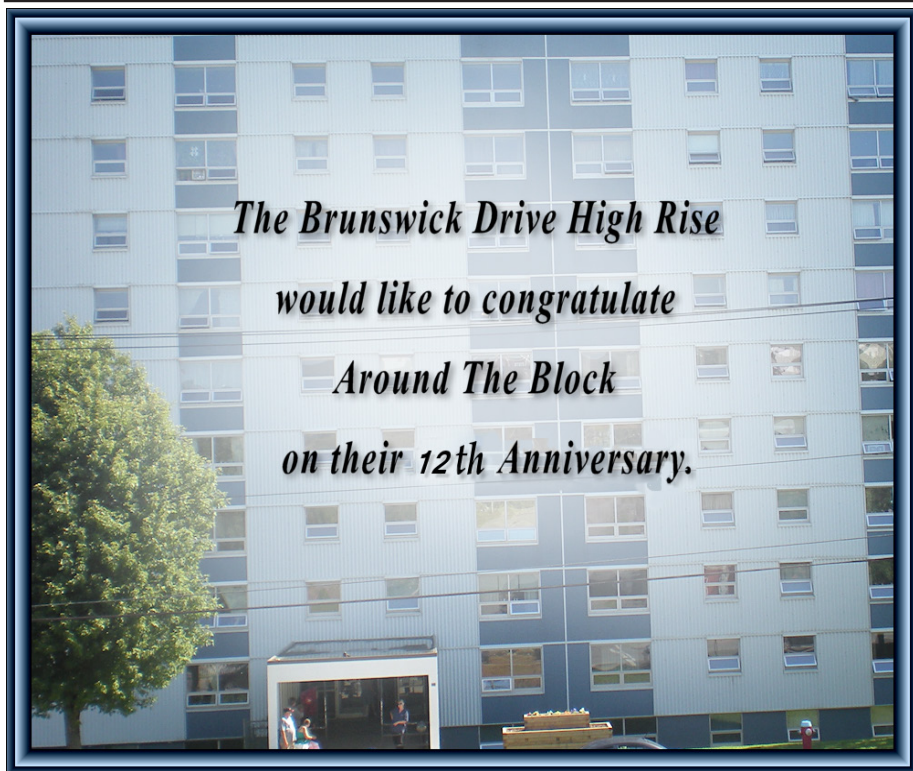
Anglin Drive "Storytent in a Box"



Photo: Cheryl Brown

By Cheryl Brown, Quality Learning New Brunswick (QLNB)

When we saw that COVID-19 meant we couldn't run our regular Anglin Drive Storytent – yes, "COVID sucks" - we decided to bring brand new books, as well as Summer Reading Club sign-up materials, to families who participated in 2019's Summer Reading Club as well as any other families who approached us during the first of two planned book deliveries. In total, QLNB was able to deliver 94 new books to 25 children from 12 families. Children expressed delight at being able to keep the books. In addition to being a practical way to support community literacy while respecting provincial COVID-19 guidelines, reinforcing personal book ownership by giving away good quality books to keep is an important factor in children coming or continuing to see themselves as readers. Financial support from the City of Saint John, and in-kind support from the Department of Social Development and the Saint John Free Public Library, made this project possible.



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saint John (BBBS): call for volunteers



(Image: BBBS)

By Rhoda Welshman, BBBS

Urgent call for volunteers of all ages, especially those 55+. You have the opportunity to make your mark by joining Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saint John in its journey to help young people realize their full potential. With various volunteer mentor programs to choose from, traditional one on one, In-School and Group programs and now the Big G – an intergenerational mentoring program aiming to match youth with older adults looking to give back to their community and have fun! Like many other programs, we are doing a lot of virtual and online activities. Call or email us today to find out why and how we are prepared equip you with what you need to get started.

By joining our mentorship programs, you will have a unique opportunity to expand your network, increase your social connections and explore the community all while influencing the next generation to be the best they can be!

Community Social Pediatrics Clinic

By Katie Bonner, NB Social Pediatrics

The NB Social Pediatrics Program was eager to get back to their community clinic as COVID-19 restrictions have gradually lifted across the province. Community Social Pediatrics is a “kitchen table” approach to caring for children. This helps break down barriers and incorporates various healthcare professionals to draw on the strengths of the child and improve overall wellbeing. The first clinic took place on June 3rd in the HUB’s Wellness Room. Dr. Sarah Gander and Social Worker Maranda Fullerton spent their day meeting with families while maintaining social distance.

The clinic has temporarily relocated and **occurs twice a month at Hilyard Place**, where kids and their supporters can meet with either Dr. Gander or Dr. Marianne McKenna, and Maranda. The team hopes to be back up and running at their permanent location in SJBKE School later this fall. Learn more at nbsocialpediatrics.com/clinic



Around The Block Team (Issue 73)

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Food Purchase Contest - we are back, bigger and better!



(Photo: PULSE)

By Mary LeSage, PULSE

For issues 73 and 74 our Food Purchase contest will be expanded. We will continue to partner with Saint John Energy to offer two \$15.00 and two \$25.00 food purchase orders of fresh fruits and vegetables.

You need to locate, hidden throughout *Around The Block*, two Saint John Energy logos, **excluding** this notice, the sponsor block on page 1 and the Saint John Energy ad on page 6. Send your answer to sjcommunitynewspaper@gmail.com or call 647-4850 and **leave a message**. You need to:

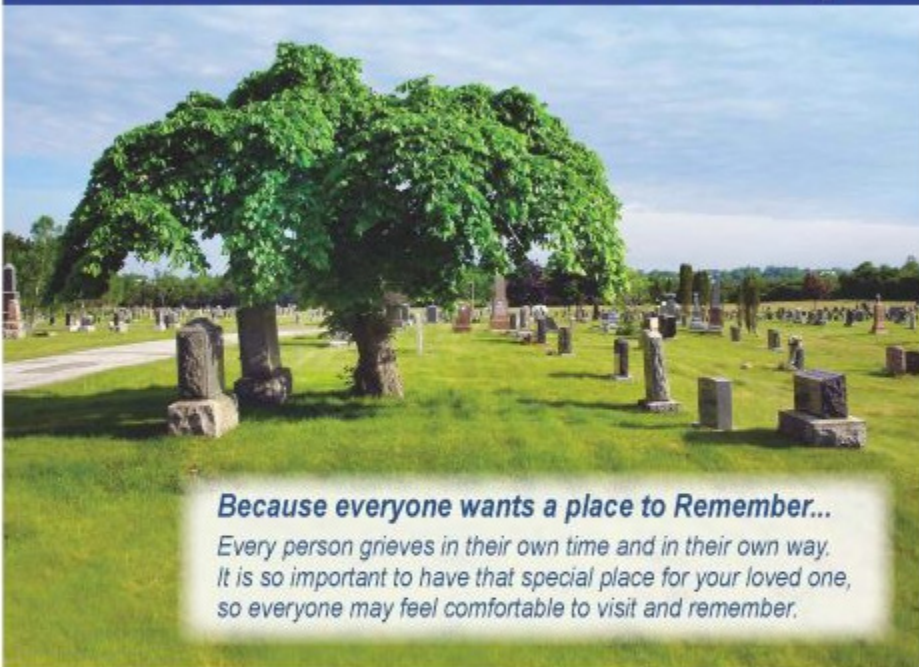
- identify the page and location of each hidden logo;
- tell us your name, address, and phone number.

Only one entry per household. Your name will go into a draw for one of the four orders.

The contest will end October 22nd at noon and you will be called if you are a winner. We will also list the winners on the Saint John Human Development Council Facebook page.



Cedar Hill - Greenwood Cemetery



Because everyone wants a place to Remember...
Every person grieves in their own time and in their own way.
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and Greenwood Cemetery
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650 Manawagonish Rd. Saint John, NB – 672-4309

Christmas assistance with The Salvation Army

By Major Tracy Goyak, The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army will be opening registration for their Christmas assistance starting Monday, November 2nd. Registration times will be from 12-3 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Deadline for registration is firmly November 26th. Each family must only register with one organization within the City of Saint John.

This year, unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and our desire to keep everyone healthy and safe, we will NOT be taking registrations in person. Instead, we would invite individuals and/or families to register online at facebook.com/TSASaintJohn/ or by calling (506) 634-7166 starting November 2nd on the days listed above.

Proof of identification for you and all members of your household will be required at time of pick-up.



Giving Hope Today

Saint John Christmas Exchange



By Beth Roy

The Saint John Christmas Exchange is a non-profit agency, operating in co-operation with churches/agencies in the Saint John area. Our goal is to provide food for Christmas dinner for those in need. Due to COVID-19, we are asking individuals/families to register in early October at a local church. You can register for both the Empty Stocking Fund and the Christmas Exchange at the same time, but **only register once.**

Churches require current government ID (identification) for each family member. The Exchange checks all those registered for duplication. The church/agency where you register provides for you and will advise when you can pick up your gift card or basket. **The Christmas Exchange will not give gift cards this year, due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Christmas Exchange does not take registrations.**

The Empty Stocking Fund: applications close November 16th!

[illegible]

By Patti Blake, Coordinator, Empty Stocking Fund

The Empty Stocking Fund is increasing our communication online in order to boost donations. Follow us on Facebook at Empty Stocking Fund - Saint John and on our website at www.emptystockingfund.ca

To receive funding, the child is to be **older than one, and 12 years of age or younger**. Take the application with you to your social worker or to a participating church or agency. You must have a valid government-issued ID for each child. Each child may only be registered once.

Registration opens on October 1st and closes on **November 16th**. This is a firm deadline. Do not wait, register early as church hours vary.

Patti Blake: 506 636-1588

Editor's note: Please take careful note of the deadline!

***The Empty Stocking Fund application
is due:
November 16th***

*The broadcast is:
November 21st*

