

??NAME THIS PAPER??

Introducing Your New Community Newspaper Coordinator

by Juanita Black

As I sit here at my computer and try to think how I am going to introduce myself to you, our Community Newspaper readers, I didn't know where to start but here goes.

I always remember doing volunteer work growing up, weather it was at Prince Charles School, at Simonds High School or in my community. I am a single parent of a 33-year-old son who was brought up in the low-income neighbourhood of Crescent Valley, where I have proudly lived for 30 years. I was determined my son would be taught the 3 "R's"- respect for me, respect for you and responsibility for all you do. I have always felt a strong responsibly to my community and have given back for 20 years. In 2004 I received the George Lawson Memorial Award for volunteer work in the community and in 2006 a Certificate for Community Involvement from the New Brunswick Crime Prevention Association as a member of the team that did a the huge community survey in Crescent Valley. I am a grandmother and member of the SJ Block Parents, the RCL Portland Branch # 64 Ladies Auxiliary, Crescent Valley Renew Our Community (CV ROC), and a 20-year member of the Crescent Valley Community Tenants Association.

My involvement with Vibrant Communities is ongoing with the latest project, our new Community Newspaper, which focuses on the five priority neighbourhoods. The pride that I have experienced working with all the volunteers, partners and Neighbourhood Assistants in our communities has been "WOW." All to often you hear about negative things and to have a newspaper that is written by residents in each community and its focus is positive, I can not describe how proud I am.

Now I begin a new challenge in my life as I accept the job as Coordinator of our SJ Community Newspaper. I see myself as someone to rally the volunteers, to listen and offer advice when requested and to work beside VCSJ Coordinator Wendy MacDermott. When there are questions I don't know I will not be afraid to find out the answer. The newspaper will continue to be written by the residents of our communities, that is what made our first issue so unique. Think of me as one big cheerleader who will work with the volunteers and be in the middle of all the challenges ahead.



Lisa Murphy, Ann Barrett, Lyn King, Jennifer Edison, Tammy Garnett

Learn and Go Wrap Up

by Fern Bennett

If you've ever wondered if you could make a difference, just ask a participant of Learn & Go: Working for Change. The program provided an opportunity for residents of the priority neighbourhoods to work as a team on community projects that THEY felt would make a difference. It was fun, hard work, and worthwhile. Learn & Go had three phases.

Phase one was a series of workshops covering topics from running a meeting to public speaking. In phase two participants broke up into four groups and worked their projects. For phase three they presented their project ideas to potential partners. Irving Oil provided funding and Vibrant Communities hosted Learn & Go: Working for Change. The program was free, and childcare and transportation were provided. Not only did participants get the chance to work on something they believed in, they had a place to focus pride in their community and pride in themselves. They made connections with other members of their communities, government representatives, and experienced success as they worked, one-step-at-a-time, in order to make a difference.

In their own words each project team can tell you their story. See the neighbourhood pages for information on the many projects.

Top Five

by Wendy MacDermott

The first issue of our no-name community paper has come and gone and here we are with Issue 2. The feedback from the first issue was so exciting we decided to keep you involved. People from all over Saint John, and indeed New Brunswick, suggested 61 names for the newspaper. Our dedicated team of residents narrowed down the list to the Top 5. In fact you will see Top 5 is the theme for this issue. Now it is time to place your votes! Pick your favourite name and either email us at sjcommunitynewspaper@gmail.com or call us at 693-0904 or go to survey monkey and pick your favourite name at www.survey-monkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Krda5nvQA0AyeZ1WZCBnuQ_3d_3d.

Here are the Top 5 Names for our new community newspaper:

- Neighbourhood Ties
- Around the Block
- Transitions – Neighbourhoods on the Move
- Vibrant Voices
- Connecting Borders

The City Contributes \$16,000 to the Community Newspaper



Tom Gribbons, Juanita Black, Mayor Ivan Court, Dave O'Toole, Joe Campbell

Mitten Tree Ceremony

by Jennifer Edison

Five youngsters from St. John the Baptist School had been chosen to participate in an Annual Christmas celebration at the Seniors Resource Center. Every year the seniors make and collect mittens to donate to Inner City Youth Ministries hot lunch program.

One of the dedicated seniors, Muriel Crilley had worked very hard to help organize the annual celebration.



Delivery of the First Edition of the Saint John Community Newspaper by South End Youth



Some of the Newspaper Volunteer Committee planning the 2nd Edition
Jennifer Edison, Elaine Orser, Kathryn Asher, Juanita Black, Linda Scott, Rose Hallett, Ann Barrett



Old North End



Neighbours Working Together

by Scott Crawford

The old north end has many challenges facing it's residents, however it also has a history of coming together as a community to address these issues. One group in particular showcases this spirit of togetherness and deals with the very important youth population of the north end. In early 2008, the police, the school, ONE Change, Main Street Baptist Church, North End Community Centre, The Resource Centre for Youth, and others started meeting to plan coordinated youth services for the community.

This group called Neighbours Working Together (NWT) had instant impact and by the end of the first meeting had adjusted their schedule to provide 7 day a week youth programming! The group has also planned many interesting partnerships between the school and community including an environmental education evening for the community which was so well attended Lorne's theatre was filled to capacity. The group has continued to meet and work on issues such as health, safety and recreational activities to name a few. They are currently planning to develop uniform rules and codes of conduct for all the organizations so youth know what is expected of them. The North End Youth Council are also involved and will be equal partners for any projects undertaken. This working group shows what is possible when everyone cooperates and keeps the interests of the youth out in front.

Old North End

by Constable Marc Hussey

The Old North End (ONE) area is bordered by the Saint John River, Clarendon Street, Lansdowne Avenue and Shamrock park.

Area schools include Harbour View High, Lorne Middle School and Centennial Elementary School.

The Old North End is a very diverse and vibrant community that SJPF is very privileged to be a part of. Community policing is an essential partner to the revitalization of the Old North End and has partnered with such groups as ONE Change, the Community center and Neighbours Working Together to name a few.

In regards to policing, the Old North End remains a high priority neighborhood and we are working diligently to reduce crime. Calls for service to the area are consistently going down and that is a result of community and police partnerships. Even though crime is slowly declining domestic disturbances and drug activity remain a focus of the Saint John Police Force. It is very important for all residents of the North end to make sure all doors to there property are securely locked.

If anybody has any information in regards criminal activity in the area please feel free to email or call me.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact Tara @ 635-2035.

The Top 5 Reasons for Living in the Old North End

1. Community Unity
2. A place where everyone knows your name
3. This is home (Where I grew up)
4. Close to everything
5. The potential of the area

Free-Cycle, Old North End



The ONE Change Golden Oldies

by Tammy Calvin

In September 2008 a group was started for residents that are aged 50+. The group was started because seniors in the Old North End have stated that they are afraid to leave their homes, that they don't feel connected with their neighborhood.

The intention of the group is to provide an atmosphere where men and women can discuss issues that surround them, enjoy cards, crafts, quilting, cooking and most importantly have an opportunity to get out of the neighbourhood with monthly field trips. The group meets every two weeks for 2 hours at 223 Victoria Street the ONE Change Community building.

For more information about the Golden Oldies, please contact Linda @ 693-7696.



Audience at Environmental Campaign Presentation, Old North End

Main Street Baptist Church would like to wish the people living in Saint John's priority neighbourhoods God's joy and blessing during this Christmas season. We are proud to call each one of you our neighbour and our friend!

www.mainstreetbaptist.ca

Our Business Community

by Tammy Calvin

Overlooking the Saint John River, nestled at the side of the hill lives an Old North End business owner, home owner, and landlord. Mike Carson owns and operates Loyalist City Movers a local moving company. Mike is an asset to his community; he has provided tables for Old North End Days, has participated in community clean ups and has also provided his trucks to pick up items that benefit our community. Most of his employees live in the Old North End, Mike believes in hiring locally. If you need a reliable mover, call Mike @ 696-7056.



Survey Team Presents at UNBSJ

by Ann Barrett and Tammy Garnett
Eight members of the SEACAT Survey Team were invited by Dr. Lee Chalmers to inform her Sociology class about their survey and communities. Tammy Garnett and Jennifer Edison both gave the history of the South End, and Anne McLeod and Barb Dickison spoke about Crescent Valley. Lyn King told how SEACAT had started in March 2006, and Lisa Wetmore told why they decided to do the survey. Ann Barrett explained how the households were randomly picked and how difficult it was. Cindy Worden along with the others told their stories of actually going door to door doing the 15 page survey. The students were given a copy of the survey questions and some of the results. They also spoke of the differences of doing the survey in Crescent Valley compared to the South End. Information was given about what positive actions have occurred in the communities.

The students asked many questions about the communities and their groups. Their feedback said that the information was very informative. A quote from one student was, “I want to thank you for brining in the panel of guest speakers last evening to class. I found the information provided was very informative as I was unaware that these groups existed through out the community. It really makes you think and realize how these communities operate.”

The survey team really enjoyed going and presenting to the students and felt that everybody learned a lot from each other.



Lyn King, Jennifer Edison, Tammy Garnett, Lisa Wetmore, Anne MacLeod, Barb Dickison, Ann Barrett

Community School News

by Nicole MacNeill, Acting Vice-Principal

St. John the Baptist-King Edward School became a Community School this year and we are so excited about all of the things that are happening at our school.

With our PALS and community partnerships, students and their families are being given new opportunities all of the time. Some of the great things are:

- volunteers in the school / mentoring program (approx. 75 volunteers/week)
- a new playground in the backyard of the school
- community spaghetti dinner
- free flu shots for students
- hot lunch program
- performing artists in the school
- students all attend a Sea Dogs hockey game
- Interactive Family Learning Centre for preschool children & their parents/guardians

Our main goal as a Community School is to increase community connections and partnerships. This will be measured by seeing the impact of being able to provide services and learning opportunities to meet the needs of all of our families. Watch for news in the New Year, as we launch our Make-And-Take Meals Program and Parent Enrichment courses.

The First Big Snowfall of 2008

by Jennifer Edison

Heavy snowflakes softly fell to the cold ground over Friday night until afternoon Saturday, November 22. Being the first awake, the coolness of my apartment drew me to the window and to my excitement there was a thick blanket of white fluff as far as you can see. This brought happy memories of building snowmen and afterwards the thawing out over a nice mug of hot chocolate...yummy!

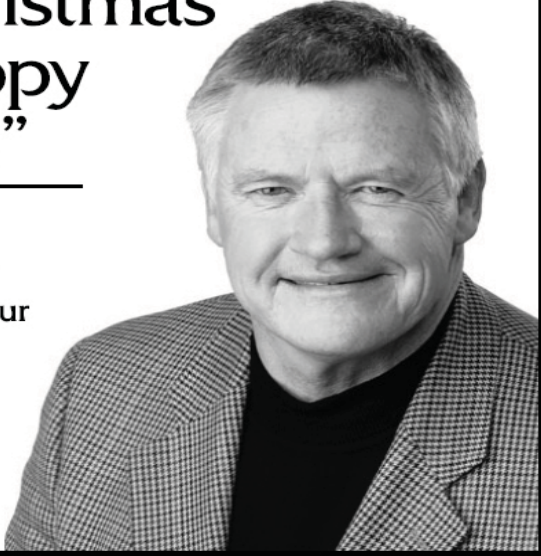

However, the streets and sidewalks had become treacherous which caused everyone to move with caution. That morning I had gone for breakfast and didn't want to wake my children. I had decided to wait until I was far from home taking up the aroma of a cup of timmies, before I gloated about the marvelous weather. By the time I got home the novelty wore off as there was chaos on the homefront as usual. Here I am waiting now for the next big snowfall and anticipating the building of the biggest snowman ever!

The Top 5 Reasons for Living in the South End

1. The diversity
2. Majestic scenery
3. Friendly neighbourhoods
4. Having a community based school
5. Rainbow Park (South End Playground)

“From my family to yours, wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.”

Honourable
Dr. Ed Doherty
MLA Saint John Harbour



Learn and Go - Transition House

by Team Member Jennifer Edison

For the few short months that we all had 12 of us came together to improve the quality of life in our areas within the city, each session had a different speaker and presented us with information on which we would collaborate and help pull our potential project together. In the beginning we all more or less had different ideas and they were all great.

By the end of our First Phase we all had agreed upon our project which is to have a Transition House, which is greatly needed. Some of our goals and objectives are: to provide a co-ed facility in the City of Saint John for a term of up to one year for men and women, 16 and over and to recognize the problem of homelessness and its significance for our community as a whole.

During my experience of the very first Learn & Go workshop, I learned how much potential the 12 of us had. Learning from each others' experiences was great mentoring in itself. We grew as individuals; this, infused bonds in each and everyone of us, which helped our ideas and perspective grow.



Crescent Valley



Working Together

by Team Member Lisa Morris
My name is Lisa Morris and I am one of the Neighbourhood Assistants in the Crescent Valley. Recently I took part in the Learn and Go workshop offered at the Crescent Valley Resource Centre. Working together with Kathy Belanger and Barry Freeze from Leisure Services as well as community members Melissa Clark, Rose McCutcheon, Gerry Leavits and Gary Porter we are working on the Taylor Avenue Field. With 605 children in the area the need is there. We are currently holding meetings for the youth to try and get more volunteers and let them take ownership. Our first step is getting a rink up and running this winter with help from volunteers like yourself. The Kiwanis Club showed support by donating a canteen to us. With this maybe we can make some money to buy some sports equipment and give back to the community. In the end we want to see a new baseball field where we can have sporting events and a place where the community can get together and celebrate. If you would like to help with this project or would like to get involved with the community in other ways please feel free to stop by the Crescent Valley Resource Centre or contact me via email at lisa_morris@hotmail.com or crescentvalleyresourcecentre@gmail.com or phone at 693-8513 or 693-0571.

The Top 5 Reasons for Living in the Crescent Valley

1. Community Garden - Green Spaces
2. Affordable Housing
3. Good Neighbours that care
4. Safe Community
5. Lots of community resources and involvement

CVCTA Honours and Awards

by Bettie Doucette
Each year the combined Children's and Adult Honours & Awards of the Crescent Valley Community Tenants Association is held in late fall. We have a points system that through out the year individuals are given a point for different volunteer things they do. I keep track of these points in a huge journal. This year there were; 16 Certificate of Appreciation, 26 Bronze, 7 Silver, 4 Gold, 6 Platinum and two life memberships were given to Gail McLean-Hudson and Juanita Black. We had contests for CV Idol; 1st Rebecca Raynes, 2nd Shalynne Doucette, and 3rd Shawna Pollock. CV Best Legs; 1st Samantha Thomas, 2nd Gary Porter and 3rd Christiana Hartt, and Mr. Crescent Valley, Cameron Stewardson-Savoie and Miss CV Anaiya Thibodeau.

Each year we pick two of our community partners to thank for their continuing donations of services to Crescent Valley, this year we plaques were presented to, T W Graham Ltd and Donovan Distributors Ltd.

In closing I would like to say the last Award and the highlight of the evening is the presentation of the George Lawson Memorial. This individual receives a plaque to take home and their name is placed on the beautiful yearly plaque at our offices. The Executive and Board members vote on who receives this Honour. Mrs. Judy Lawson presents the Award yearly. This year we were happy to honour two long time volunteers, Eva Feddery and Dale McLaughlin.



Rita Tyler, Pat Caponi, Trevor Muxworthy, Lisa Morris

Why I Like Living in Crescent Valley

by Elaine and Karen Orser
We moved into the area December 2004 and soon discovered the location couldn't have been better. Not only do we have affordable housing but almost everything we need is within walking distance; our favourite supermarket, a taxi stand and coffee shop. We also have a mini mall with a bit of everything, 2 convenience stores, churches, the animal shelter and our community police office.

The Crescent Valley Community Tenants Association was great to join. There is always something to look forward to; meetings, fun BBQ's, bingo, parties for kids and adults.

As members of the CV Community Garden we learned to grow our own vegetables. It's amazing how much food you can grow from one package of seeds and lots of help from our fellow gardeners. Not only does it help with the grocery budget but we get lots of exercise and it's very relaxing. This is our 3rd year in the garden and we were surprised to receive a 2nd place ribbon in this years judging. Not bad for folks who always manage to kill the houseplants!

Another thing we like is we are surrounded by trees, so we get plenty of fresh clean air and in the fall is beautiful. We also have lots of lovely flower gardens in the area that brighten up the lawns.

But the number one reason we like living here is the people in the neighbourhood. They are friendly, caring and most everyone is working together for a better community and a brighter future.

We don't just like living here – we love it and we wouldn't want to live anywhere else.



Happy Holidays!



People make communities

Avide Developments is proud to be participating in the revitalization of Crescent Valley

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Lower West eXPRESS

Happy Holidays from your Neighbourhood Assistant

by Lisa Murphy

Wow!, our first issue of the community newspaper was a great success, and I hear it's in great demand. Residents were very excited to receive this newspaper and read it. We had so many great stories and lots of wonderful pictures. We are looking for poetry, artwork, short stories, success stories, lots of pictures, upcoming events, positive articles, advice, or great deals. This is your community newspaper, so let other people hear from you. Let's make our West Side eXPRESS a great success!

Some events that have taken place over the last few months on the west side are: we had a very successful haunted house for Halloween. Children, teens, and adults came from all over our great city. The teens and young children worked very hard and their hard work paid off. We had over 100 people go through "Charlie's Haunted House".

The month of November was a pretty busy month at the Carleton Community Centre. We opened our doors to a medical clinic, the children prepared for the yearly Santa Claus parade on the west side. The Carleton Community Centre won the award for best non commercial float! The Carleton is currently under construction for a new kitchen. We are getting a complete makeover.....new appliances, cupboards, and counter top.

We are preparing for a community potluck. The teens will be cooking and serving spaghetti and garlic bread. We are asking the residents of our community to bring anything they want. This is a chance for everyone to eat, socialize and have some fun before our busy Christmas. I will also be showing a 6 minute video that some of our community children got to be in. Come on out and join us!!!

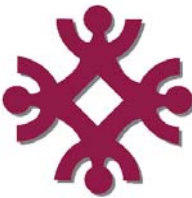
I am currently working on some other programs, one being a tea with me. It will be held on Fridays at 10am. The location is to be announced. This is just a friendly way to sit down, relax and chat about everything. Maybe we will do some great brainstorming for the West Side. We will also be having some treats.

These are just a few of the projects in the making. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to call me at 658-2920, email me at neighbourhood.asst.lws@gmail.com, or drop by the Carleton Community Centre.

I want to wish everyone in my community and all the other neighbourhoods a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday!



The Human Development Council, a partner with Vibrant Communities Saint John, wishes to congratulate the five priority neighbourhoods on this exciting initiative.



Human Development Council

Looking for Information on Community Services?

The Community Services Database is your link to information on community, social, government and health services. Find the database at www.nbinfo.ca or www.saintjohninfo.ca or call the Community Information Centre at (506) 633-INFO (4636) or 1-877-322-4636.

The Top 5 Reasons for Living in the Lower West Side

1. Strong sense of community
2. Carleton Community Centre
3. Family history
4. Friendliness
5. School System - There is a "TRUE" interest in our Community beyond school



Children and staff at the Carleton Community Centre

Cst Tammy Caswell

Community Police Office: #200 Ludlow Street
Office: 647-4137 Cell: 639-3430
E-Mail: tammy.caswell@saintjohn.ca
Tips: policetipswest@saintjohn.ca

The Lower West Side is geographically defined from City Line to the Harbour. This area is mainly residential with some small businesses.

In August 2007, after meetings and consultation with the neighbourhood, the Community Police Development Office was opened on the Lower West Side. This office houses the West Side P.A.C.T. office, the west side community police officer and Mark Wilson, the west side Fire Prevention Officer.

The West Side P.A.C.T. is a group of citizens who formed in January 2007. This group care deeply about the lower west side and are working hard to make their neighbourhood a better place to live and raise their families in. As a member of the board of the West Side P.A.C.T., I assist in any way that I can with enforcement issues and networking with other social agencies.

I have just returned from maternity leave and am getting back up to speed on what has been going on. I have been busy partnering with St Patrick's School, Beaconsfield School, the Carleton Community Center and the West Side P.A.C.T. All are wonderful assets to the community.

Anyone looking to volunteer on the Lower West Side could contact the West Side P.A.C.T. for ideas as they are always running different programs and events where they could use assistance.

Our main goals are crime reduction and crime prevention. To reach these goals we must all work together. Each of you can do your part by knowing your neighbourhood and being aware of who and what is going on around you. If you see something that seems suspicious in your neighbourhood then it probably is. Write down any license plates, physical or clothing description of suspicious people and contact police.

West Side P.A.C.T. News

by Mary Lou Price

West Side P.A.C.T. is doing a pyjama and socks drive for Christmas. So far we have 34 pairs of p.j.'s!

West Side P.A.C.T. is hiring a Community Health Worker and a Community Resource Person to help people find services they might need. If you have any questions or suggestions please call the West Side P.A.C.T. office at 693-8735 and let us know how we can help you.

Specimen/Blood Collection Clinic every Wednesday at the Carleton Community Centre. Hours are from 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. To make an appointment please call 693-8735 and leave your name and number. We will call you back with a date and appointment time. You must have a paper from your doctor to get your blood work done.

A Nurse Practitioner will be starting at the Carleton Community Centre very soon. She will be contacting people in the area, that do not have a family doctor, or a nurse practitioner. For more information please call the West Side P.A.C.T. office at 693-8735.

The West Side P.A.C.T. will be starting the Preschool Reading Club again the second week of January, as well as a free weight loss program. We would like to start a Food Purchase Program, in the community, so please call the office, 693-8735, if you want to join.



Waterloo Village

The Top 5 Reasons for Living in the Waterloo Village

1. Convenience to city amenities (hospital, shopping, etc.)
2. Do not need a car to get around to things
3. Two large youth organizations (Boys and Girls Club and The Resource Centre for Youth (TRC))
4. Beautiful parks (Skate Park, Loyalist Burial Ground and Kings Square)
5. Architecture

Anti-Poverty, Social Justice Advocate visits Saint John

by Brenda Murphy

Early in October, Pat Capponi, Canadian author and advocate on issues of mental health and poverty visited Saint John to share her experiences and to encourage residents in all five priority neighbourhoods to use their voices and stories to effect change.

Pat is one of the creators behind a 12 week training program called Voices from the Street that focuses on helping individuals find their own voices, to tell their stories so that they might bring about change and to build the confidence to take on leadership roles in their communities.

While in Saint John, Pat met with participants of the POWER UP training and Learn & Go programs. Pat doesn't mince words. She speaks from the heart and she challenged us to speak out when we see injustice, to talk about times when we have been treated unfairly. Pat is a strong believer that if we don't use our voices, we will not see the change necessary that will help people to escape from poverty.

The women in the POWER UP program were inspired by Pat and decided to take action on one issue of concern to many low income families in Saint John. They chose to start by gathering information about the New Brunswick Prescription Drug program (NBPDP). Many low income New Brunswickers have health cards but often find, the drug prescribed to address their health concern(s) is not covered by the health card and requires special authorization. The POWER UP group invited a representative of NBPDP to meet with them to explain the program and speak to their concerns. They felt it was important to become better informed if they were to take the next step to urge changes that would address their issues.

Pat has had an impact on our community. She is a role model, an inspiration and we hope that many of us will continue to strengthen our voices so that we too can be agents of change in the fight to reduce poverty.



Pat Caponi along with POWER UP and Learn and Go Participants

The Saint John Community Loan Fund is Moving

by Cindy Horton

The Saint John Community Loan Fund is moving to The Village, and we couldn't be more excited! We've been working hard to renovate a building at 133 Prince Edward street right across from Wyndham and the YM/YWCA. There are even two affordable housing units upstairs! We hope to be in our new home by the time you read this.

The Loan Fund is a non-profit organization to help people in Saint John become more self-reliant. To do that we provide small loans for businesses, shelter and to help people get back to work. We also offer a basic money management course called Money Matter\$. You can check out more info at www.loanfund.ca.

Feel free to stop by our new office to say hello and learn more about what we do in the community. We're looking forward to meeting our new neighbours!

The Village Neighbourhood Association is Back

by Wendy MacDermott



The Village Neighbourhood Association, in partnership with Vibrant Communities will be hiring someone from the neighbourhood to work as a part-time neighbourhood assistant. A neighbourhood assistant's job is to get other residents out, involved, and excited about the changes that are possible in their neighbourhood. We are looking for someone who can work flexible hours, who loves the Village, who likes meeting and talking to others, and who wants to make a difference. If you are interested, please contact Wendy MacDermott at 693-0904 or wendy.vibrantsj@nb.aibn.com.

The next meeting of the Village Neighbourhood Association will be held on January 7th at 7pm at the Boys and Girls Club. This meeting is open to anyone who wants to make the Village a great place to work, live, and play.

We Live in the Village

by The Price Family



Looking up and down the streets, we wondered if we have made the right decision. We purchased our home in the Waterloo Village. We have three teenagers who up until now had lived a fairly sheltered life. Our surroundings were different than the suburbia we knew and we didn't know what to expect. Our biggest problem was our preconceived ideas based on what we had "heard" about our new neighbourhood. We moved in and over the summer got to know some of our neighbours. What we soon realized was that there is a perception of "the Village" that isn't quite correct. Yes, there's crime, however we've realized that this new neighbourhood, the new people, our new home is not that different than other neighbourhoods. People are people wherever you go, they care about their families, their friends and yes their neighbours. We have met the most interesting people, from all walks of life. We never would have been given this opportunity to experience something new if we had kept our minds closed and fearful. We love where we live, it's vibrant and exciting. We decided as a family that we wanted to not only experience "the Village" but be a part of it. That is why we decided to open "Looseleaf Tea House". It's new dawn for this neighbourhood, good things are happening here and we are so happy to be part of it.

Saving Lives

by Team Member Rose Hallett

My friend and I worked on a project for our community to get fencing and more lights in the 'Courts' where we live. We live in NB Housing Units off of Crown Street. The reason for this project was to watch out for our children. We took part in a project (Learn and Go) where we attended workshops and worked on a project that was important to us. Then we presented our ideas. We sat at a table with eight people and told them what we would like done for our community. We want fencing to keep the little ones off of Crown Street and lights because it is really dark in the Courts at night and hard to see. The new lights will be here soon and the fencing should come a little later. That's why we called our project Saving Lives. It's all about the children and if we all work together we can get things done.

Youth in Our Communities

Teen Vibe in Crescent Valley

by Kate Wright and Kate Blackman

Teen Vibe is a program for teenagers aged 13-18, with special days for youth 11 and up. We meet in the Crescent Valley Community Center, but our participants have come from all over Saint John. Teen Vibe does exciting activities all year round, and everything is FREE. This year, our summer program took two trips to Magic Mountain, had an overnight lock-in at Crystal Palace, went rock climbing, kayaking, canoeing, to the movies, the beach, and much more.

We have a Teen Vibe Drop-In program from 3:00 until 6:00. The teens make choices about everything that goes on at Teen Vibe—from what activities we do to what color to paint the walls. On most days we eat snacks, play Playstation 2, do art projects, and plan special events and volunteer projects. There's also a special Girl's Program on Mondays—call us for details!

If you like meeting new people,, getting out of the neighbourhood and improving your community, please give us a call or just show up!

For more information, please call Kate Wright at 647-5160, or Kate Blackman at 647-4850, or email us at kateyep@gmail.com



Shanice and Corey,
Participants in Teen
Vibe



What is happening at the TRC?

by Linda Scott

One afternoon I visited the TRC and sat in "The Zone" waiting to talk to Ken, the Drop In Co-coordinator about TRC programs. It was a busy place with everyone chatting, hanging around and awaiting a daily snack. Today's menu was Hot Turkey Sandwiches! The TRC provides a "snack" every day after school, but two nights a week has more substantial meal. While waiting for the snack to be ready the co-coordinator called the daily Meeting. Everyone gathered round for an informal but organized meeting. The group activity tonight was to go swimming at the Aquatic Center. (From chatting with some of the teens I was told that this was an activity that had been requested earlier.) Daily chores such as dishes done, announcements were made and the meeting ended with a skill testing question.

Hangin' with the Guys, a program geared to boys will be re-offered in the spring. Some highlights from the last group include; "Man Cup Challenge"- challenges involving practical skills for young men from hammering skills to shaving, Ultimate NERF war woodworking night complete with power tools (This netted a new table for the centre handcrafted by the participants.), and party - going out for supper.

In the New Year the centre will be offering a similar program for young women known as "Gurl World". To find out about programs or drop in, call Ken Cross at the centre 632-5615. All programs are free and open to teens in Saint John.



The Zone at the Resource Centre for Youth (TRC)

One Change Youth Programs

by Tammy Calvin

We will be offering the following programs to be run October–May 2008:

Gurl World and Hanging With The Guys will each run on alternate Sunday evenings 7:00pm – 9pm at the North End Community Center

One Fit Teen will run every Thursday 7:30pm – 9pm at the NECC

Youth Council will be meeting at least once a month throughout the year at The ONE Change building

We will also be offering Life Skills and Leader Development courses throughout the year. For information, contact Gina at theonechangeinc@nb.aibn.com or 635-2035.

Teens Making a Difference

by Team Member Ashley Jefferson

After attending the Learn and Go workshop; and realizing that youth in our community need some positive changes, we formed a group called Teens Making A Difference. Our goal is to provide safe and free transportation to and from the Teen Resource Centre. Our project is to supply a monthly bus card for youth. To make this happen we needed help from the following: Saint John City Transit, Saint John City Police, Community Members, and the Government.

We have presented our project to the Saint John City Transit Board and are waiting for the outcome. Our group found the Learn and Go workshop very helpful. It gave us lots of useful skill and ideas for future projects. During the Learn and Go we learned better ways to address our concerns to the community. Without the Learn and Go it would have been hard for us to get involved and take action. Teens Making A Difference would like to give a big thanks to all the supporters of the Learn and Go Workshop. It is great that we have these resources in our community, so we can finally Make A Difference.



Youth
Participate
in National
Housing
Day events



Our theme for December is "Be the Best for the World". School District 8 encourages youth (and everyone) to focus their talents and energy on striving to make the world a better place. By approaching our tasks with service and grace we can be the best for the world.

Thought for the Month:
"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single minute before starting to improve the world." – Anne Frank

For more information on the Celebrate what's RIGHT with the world initiative, contact Joan Wilkins, Coordinator, School District 8 at 643-6884

<http://www.district8celebrate.org>



Team members from St. Malachy's High School. Winners of the Tin Can Challenge, part of National Housing Day celebrations

Youth in Our Communities

Community and Partners Coming Together

by Shannon Campbell
Near the end of October, Crescent Valley was invited to participate in the Santa Claus Parade by Brunswick Pipeline. After getting some input about a theme for our float from Lisa Morris, one of our neighbourhood assistants, the next step was to meet with the Brunswick Pipeline technicians. In a half an hour, we had our plan on paper. They were a very conscious group of fellows and knew that part of the experience was going to be about building this project together. They constructed a wooden shelter which was painted by adults and children, the kids and some parents decorated the float with lights and garland, parents and staff helped to dress up the children in silver and gold robes and the kids worked on some crafts to take with them.

A few showers fell from the sky, but that did not dampen the spirits of float goers in Crescent Valley. We got rained on a lot on the Causeway, but once the parade started, the children were all smiles. For the rest of the ride, they were singing Christmas carols and shouting out Merry Christmas to all who came out to see the floats.



Be a Friend of Crescent Valley

by Ann Barrett
Our fundraising for the Flemming Court Park Project is continuing with great success. St. Pius X Martha Guild just had a full capacity BINGO in their church hall with the proceeds going towards the Park. Ann Barrett spoke to the large gathering telling them all about the park and how it will fulfill the dreams of the children & youth in the area and thanked them for supporting the project. A grand total of \$1,882 was raised. We sincerely thank them.

The project has two Honorary Chairpersons, Helen Bridgeo & Andre Dumas. Both are former residents of Crescent Valley and they know how much this park means to the neighbourhood. They know it will provide the benefits of recreation and play and that the completed project will be a visible reminder of what can be achieved when everyone works together. It will provide motivation and inspiration to continue the work to improve Crescent Valley.

Our newest fundraising effort involves YOU. We know there are many “Friends of Crescent Valley” who live there now, did live there or have some family or friends connected to Crescent Valley. We hope especially at this time of year when people are thinking about sharing and caring that you will make a donation towards the park. All amounts small & large will help us reach our final goal. We are now over the half way mark. We can provide a tax receipt and for donations of \$25 or more your name will be displayed on a “Friends of Crescent Valley” plaque. You can also donate “In Memory of” a loved one. Donation can be dropped off or sent to the Crescent Valley Resource Centre, 130 MacLaren Blvd., E2K 3G3. For more information call Shannon at 693-8513 or Ann at 642-7404.



Saint John Celebrates National Housing Day

by Belinda Allen
The Greater Saint John Homelessness Steering Committee, along with community partners, celebrated National Housing Day (November 22nd) with a week’s worth of activities beginning November 17th. The week included the launch of a new housing video, Saint John’s Housing Story, created by Hemmings House Pictures, profiles of the five priority neighbourhoods, and an outdoor awareness event in Kings Square.

The outdoor awareness event was organized by the youth at the TRC. Three local high schools (Saint John High, Harbour View High, and St. Malachy’s High) participated in a “Tin Can Challenge” and together raised over 4,000 items of food to be donated to local organizations. Money was also raised through donations and \$84.67 was donated to the Salvation Army Jack Frost program.

If you would like to see the video you can visit the Human Development Council website at www.humandevelopment-council.nb.ca or contact Belinda Allen at (506) 636-8541.

A special thank you to all of those who attended the events or assisted in planning and organizing!



Above: Youth Participate in Tin Can Challenge
Right: Brad and Heather host HELP Awareness Event



Seasons Greetings
from
PC MLA Saint John Portland
Trevor Holder and Family



Good luck on your new community newspaper

Community Notices

St. John’s Stone Church

Sundays 9:00 AM Holy Communion
10:30 AM Regular Worship, 6:30 PM Uptown Church
Friday and Saturday Nights 7 PM – Drop In for games, music, fellowship and refreshments.
Stepping Stone Café (usually the last Friday of the month) – Come in for a warm supper and fellowship

Christmas Services
December 21 10:30 AM Christmas Carol Service
December 24 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Service
December 24 11:00 PM Christmas Eve Service of Communion
December 25 10:00 AM Holy Communion

Calvary Temple

Sundays 10:30 AM and 6:00 PM

Christmas Services
December 21 10:30 AM Family Christmas Service
6:00 PM Neighborhood Christmas Caroling
December 24 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 28 10:30 AM Regular Sunday Service – but no night service this Sunday.

Trinity Church

Sundays 8:00 AM Holy Communion 10:30 AM Regular Service
Wednesdays 12:15 PM Holy Communion

Christmas Services
December 22 7:30 PM Handel’s Messiah (\$25 advance \$30 at door)
December 24 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Holy Communion
10:00 PM Christmas Eve Holy Communion
December 25 9:00 AM Christmas Day Holy Communion

Cornerstone Baptist Church

Sundays 11:00 AM and 6:30 PM
Tuesday Youth Group 7:00PM
Wednesday Prayer meeting and Bible Study 7:00PM

Christmas Services
December 21 6:30 PM Family Christmas Music Night
December 24 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service

Salvation Army

Sundays 10:30 AM, Tuesday 1:45 PM Bible Study
Wednesday 2:00 PM, Chapel Service
Thursday 2:00 PM 50+ Club
Friendship Centre (drop in centre) Daily 9- 5 Monday thru Friday

Christmas Services
December 21 10:30 AM Family Christmas Service
December 24 6:00 PM Christmas Eve “Happy Birthday Jesus Party” for Families.

Grace Presbyterian

Sundays 11:00 AM

Christmas Eve Service
December 24 7:00 PM Family Service
11:30 PM Candlelight Service

“JOB BUS” TOUR

Join us for a Job Bus Tour of employers in the North End. If you live in Crescent Valley or the Old North End, this is for you! In late January, beginning with a stop at Tim Hortons and finishing with lunch, we will take you on a tour of employers who are looking to hire. Only 20 seats are available on the bus. If you and a friend are interested please call Shannon at 693-8513 or Tammy at 652-8569. Get your name in soon!

St. Patrick’s School Upcoming Programs and Events

LEGO DONATIONS: Any families that have Lego at home in the attic or basement that could be donated to the school please send it in. We are trying to start a Friday Lunch Lego Club in January. Students can bring their own Lego in as long as it is in a sealable container that is labelled with their name on it but we are trying to get a collection of Lego to house here for some that do not have any of their own. Please make sure Louise Johnson gets any donated Lego.

MOTHER GOOSE PROGRAM: St. Patrick’s School invites mothers, fathers or caregivers to a play group for children between the ages of birth to age 4. Come join us for some rhymes, finger-plays and songs. Snacks will be provided. The cost is free! DATES: Fridays (10:00-11:00) for 6 weeks beginning on January 23. Led by Sherri from the Talk with Me Early Language program To Register or if you have questions: Call Louise at 658-5314 or email louise.johnson@nbed.nb.ca

3.5 Clinic to be held at St. Pat’s on January 28: Do you have a child who will be at least 3 1/2 years old in February? Or, are they a bit older yet have not attended the 3 1/2 Year Old Clinic at Public Health in the Mercantile Building? This is an option for parents who don't want to travel to the Mercantile Building. A Nurse will check your child's vision, hearing, speech, growth and development and dental health. You will be asked to bring your child's immunization record but no needles will be given. Please call 658-3994 (then press #1) to make an appointment. You can let them know that you are interested in going to the St. Pat's site at this time. (Prince Charles School will host their clinic on February 19, if you would like to attend there instead.)

Kids Have Stress Too!

Parent Workshop at St. Patrick's Adults aren’t the only ones who feel stressed. Kids do too. Beginning school can be particularly stressful. Some stress is normal, but too much stress is not good. What does stress in a child look like? Learn ways to help your child manage stress. Participants will take home a tool box of activities. This is a two night workshop – January 14 and 21. Facilitator: Debbie McCormack Public Health Nurse Healthy Learners Program, Districts 6 & 8 To Register or if you have questions: Call Louise at 658-5314 or email louise.johnson@nbed.nb.ca

“ Key To Well Being” Program

Self esteem and personal growth, six week group program
Jan.12-Feb. 20, 2009, Mon-Fri., 1:00-4:00 pm
For more information, please call Susan McKeon at 672-7451



Christmas Trivia

1. In the well known Christmas song, who’s “getting fat”?
2. What country do poinsettias originally come from?
3. What brought Frosty to life that day?
4. Where does Santa Claus live?
5. In the well known song what is the gift for the seventh day of Christmas?
6. How many sides does a real snowflake have?
7. In the movie “A Wonderful Life” how do you know another angel got their wings?
8. What is the traditional dessert on December 25 in England?
9. Who is the author of “The Christmas Carol”?
10. What was the original name of “The Night before Christmas”?
11. What is the date of the “Feast of St. Stephen?
12. What was Joseph’s occupation?
13. Who was the first English monarch to have a Christmas tree?
14. Who was Scrooge’s dead business partner?
15. If you received all the gifts given in the “Twelve Days of Christmas”, how many gifts would have received?

Answers can be found on page 10



Community Notices



Answers

1. The Goose is Getting Fat.
2. Mexico
3. Magic in the Old Silk Hat the found.
4. Lapland
5. Seven Swans A- Swimming
6. Six
7. You hear a bell ring
8. Plum pudding
9. Charles Dickens
10. A Visit from St. Nicholas
11. December 26
12. Carpenter
13. Queen Victoria
14. Jacob Marley
15. 364



The Pavilion Cup

by Helen Bridgeo
The Hatheway Pavilion at Lily Lake is organizing their first annual fundraiser Pond Hockey Challenge “The Pavilion Cup”. The goal of this activity is to raise funds for the development and implementation of an outreach summer camp program for Saint John youth at risk. Our goal for the first year is to see 100 local Saint John youth attend a free summer adventure camp utilizing the existing facilities of the Pavilion and Rockwood Park. We will work closely with other non-profit children’s programs including the Boys and Girls club, Pals Program, local Community Centers, ONE Change and local schools to identify potential campers for the program. The Pavilion will facilitate and manage the coordination of this program.

The exact formulation of the camp will be formalized during the strategic planning session of the Board of Directors of the Pavilion, facilitated by Revolution Strategies in January 2009. One hundred percent of the funds will be administered by a volunteer committee and all proceeds realized will be allocated to the various needs of the camp program including camp staff, facility requirements, safety requirements, buses, transportation costs and equipment rentals.

Your support of the Pavilion Cup will enable the Board to provide the at risk youth of our community an environment that fosters positive reinforcement and promotes the many outdoor, healthy activities of Rockwood Park and the local Saint John community. Thank-you for your consideration in this worthy project.

The Pavilion Cup will take place at Rockwood Park (LILY LAKE) on February 5th to the 8th.

Be engaged. Be informed.

Informed communities produce vibrant neighbourhoods.

Congratulations on your new community newspaper.

Hon. Mary Schryer
Minister of Social Development,
Housing and Minister
Responsible for the
Status of Women



Where to Go When you Need Help

Adapted from Surviving the Streets

Mental Health

Community Mental Health Services:	
Crisis (24/7)	1-888-811-3664
Saint John	658-3737
Sussex Area	432-2090

Needle Exchange

AIDS Saint John.....	652-2437
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Other

Birth Certificate	1-888-762-8600
Employment Insurance Info.....	1-800-206-7218
GST Credit (cheques).....	1-800-959-1953
Income Tax Assistance:	
Salvation Army	634-1633
Volunteer Income Tax Service	1-877-987-8600
Medicare Card.....	1-888-762-8600
Rentalsman	658-2512
Saint John Transit.....	658-4700
School District 6	847-6262
School District 8	658-5300
Social Insurance Number (telephone application)	1-888-428-0888

Pregnancy

First Steps.....	693-2229
Fundy Crisis Pregnancy Center	634-1867
Public Health	658-2454
Sexual Health Centre	658-3998
Public Health (Sussex).....	432-2003 / 1-800-545-8008
Sussex Pregnancy Care Centre.....	432-4006

Abuse / Assault

Emergency	911
Domestic Violence Outreach.....	632-5616
Hestia House (for females)	634-7571
RCMP	1-800-665-6663
Rothsay Police	847-6300
Saint John Police	648-3333
Social Development NB	1-866-441-4340
Sussex Vale Transition House (for females)	433-1649

Addictions

Alcoholics Anonymous	650-3114
Coverdale Centre	634-1649
Gambling Help Line.....	1-800-461-1234
Narcotics Anonymous.....	658-0779 / 1-888-436-2929
PASAGE	642-4035
Portage	1-888-735-9800
Ridgewood Addiction Services	674-4300 / 674-4333 / 432-3428
Sophia Recovery Centre (for females)	633-8783

AIDS / HIV

AIDS Saint John.....	652-2437
Public Health Office.....	643-7404 / 1-877-784-1010

Birth Control / Condoms / Sexual Health

AIDS Saint John.....	652-2437
Public Health / Sexual Health Centre	
Saint John	658-3998
Sussex.....	432-2691 / 1-800-784-1010
STI Information Line.....	1-877-784-1010

TRC -The Resource Centre for Youth (meal & clothing)	632-5659
West Side Food Bank.....	635-1060
United Church Clothing Depot.....	657-3150
Value Village.....	696-5301

Emergency (Police / Fire / Ambulance).....911

Employment / Life Skills Training / Résumé

Computer Access Centers.....	1-877-444-0510
Coverdale Centre.....	634-1649
GED Information:	
Saint John.....	658-6701
Sussex	433-6109
Job Bank: Saint John	643-7258
Sussex.....	432-2110
John Howard Society	657-5547
Options Outreach Employment Inc.	652-3997
Post-Secondary Training Education & Labour:	
Saint John	643-7258
Sussex	432-2110
Saint John Learning Exchange.....	648-0202
Service Canada.....	1-800-206-7218
St Joseph’s Community Health Centre - Access Centre	632-5545
Sussex Outreach Employment	432-7503
TRC -The Resource Centre for Youth	632-5765
YMCA	634-7720
Youth Choices.....	634-0788

VON Healthy Baby & Me:	
Saint John	672-9647
Sussex	433-6336

Prostitution

Are you a female sex trade worker? Need help?	
Coverdale Centre.....	634-1649

Support Services

Cheap Hair Cuts: Academy of Hair Design	633-8292
Coverdale Centre.....	634-1649
Drop-in: Salvation Army	634-1633
Drop-in: TRC -The Resource Centre for Youth ..	632-5615
John Howard Society	657-5547
Main Street Baptist Church Outreach Programs	642-8060
Saint John Community Chaplaincy	634-8218
Shower, Laundry, Hygiene Supplies (soap, shampoo etc.):	
TRC - The Resource Center for Youth.....	632-5659
Shower (males only): Salvation Army Booth Centre	634-7021
St. Joseph’s Community Health Centre.....	632-5537
TRC -The Resource Centre for Youth	63 2-5615 / 632-5765
Youth Choices.....	634-0788
Sexual Orientation / Gender Identity	
PFLAG Canada.....	652-3995

Clothing / Food / Meals

Caring Closet (clothing).....	635-8000
Community Food Basket of Saint John (food bank)	652-2707
Freddy’s New Frenchy’s.....	658-1299
Guys Frenchy’s.....	635-8944
Hampton Food & Clothing Bank	832-4340
Kennebecasis Valley Food Basket	(leave message) 847-5854
Lakewood Headstart (food bank & clothing).....	696-6164
Main Street Baptist Church (meal).....	642-8060
North End Food Bank.....	634-7403
River Road Food Bank.....	468-1087
River Valley Food Bank.....	738-2088
Romero House (meal & clothing).....	642-7447
Saint John East Food Bank	633-8298
Saint John Vineyard Church (meal & clothing)	648-0998
Salvation Army (meal).....	634-1633
Salvation Army Sussex (food bank & clothing) ..	433-3302
Salvation Army Thrift Stores	
Lansdowne Avenue.....	632-8391
Parkway Mall	634-8330
St. Andrew & St. David Church (meal).....	634-3092
St. Luke’s Church (meal & clothing).....	693-4152
St. Vincent de Paul (clothing)	634-3097
Super Frenchy’s.....	652-8786
Sussex Sharing Club (food bank & clothing).....	433-6047

Financial Assistance / Welfare

Social Development NB	1-866-441-4340
Student Loans	1-800-667-5626

Health Clinics / Hospitals

Campbell Drive Medical Clinic	847-5988
Crown Street Medical Clinic.....	635-2273
KV Medical Clinic.....	849-2273
Romero House	642-7447
Saint John Regional Hospital (24/7)	648-6000
St. Joseph’s Hospital, Walk-In/ Urgent Care....	63 2-5511
Telecare Nurses (24/7).....	1-800-244-8353
West Side Medical Clinic	693-2273

Help Lines

CHIMO Suicide Crisis Line (24/7).....	1-800-667-5005
Fredericton Sexual Assault Crisis Centre (24/7) (Call collect).....	0-506-454-0437
Fundy Crisis Pregnancy Center	634-1867
Kids Help Phone (24/7)	1-800-668-6868
Mobile Mental Health Crisis Service (24/7)	1-888-811-3664
Sussex Pregnancy Care Centre.....	432-4006

Housing / Shelter

Coverdale Centre.....	672-6285
Gateway to Hope Transition House (for females)	672-5177 / 672-4878
John Howard Society Hart House.....	643-2013
Salvation Army Booth Center (males only).....	634-7021
Social Development NB	1-866-441-4340

Community Partners

POWER UP

by Cindy Horton

Power Up is a 10-week women's program based on some of the words in this puzzle. The whole idea is to get women involved in their community and give them some skills like leadership, communication and teamwork to help them towards their next step in life. The options are endless: work, education, starting a business, volunteering, etc. The next course will be in April. Please contact Brenda Murphy (Urban Core Support Network) at 642-9033 for more details.



Find the following words in the puzzle above:

- Brainstorming
- Budgeting
- Community
- Confidentiality
- Days
- Ethics
- Friends
- Fun
- Guest
- Humor
- Ideas
- Leadership
- Learning
- Morals
- Neighbourhood
- Passion
- Poverty
- Skills
- Steps
- Team
- Training
- Values
- Voice
- Volunteer
- Women

Community Information Centre

by Chris Hopkins

Where do you look in times of need? How do you find the right person to contact. Most people cannot answer these questions when facing a situation they have never been in before. The Human Development Council has the sources required to answer any question regarding services in the city. The HDC operates a Community Information Centre where you can get answers to all of your service needs.

How do you access the Information Centre: Drop-In – 3rd, Floor City Market, INFO-Line–Call 633-4636 to speak to someone, or the Internet – www.saintjohninfo.ca, www.sportsrecreationnb.ca, www.nbinfo.ca



Poverty and Plenty II

by Kathryn Asher

Vibrant Communities recently released a new statistical report on poverty in Saint John called Poverty and Plenty II. The report gives information about poverty in our city in several different ways, by looking at income, housing, education, employment, and things like age and the number of single parents. The really exciting part about the report is its profiles of each of the five priority neighbourhoods. If you're interested to see what the statistics say about your neighbourhood, like the great improvements its making or the things that still need attention, you can pick up a copy from VCSJ or download one from the Human Development Council's website: www.humandevelopmentcouncil.nb.ca (under Products/Services). In the meantime, here's a few highlights!

	CV	LWS	ONE	SE	WV
Change in the poverty rate in the last 5 years	down 7%	down 6%	down 6%	down 7%	up 5%
Single mother families	54%	27%	39%	32%	26%
Rented homes	86%	54%	85%	80%	94%
People without a high school education	43%	27%	34%	24%	40%
People in the workforce	34%	60%	57%	67%	53%

Garden Buds...We're Growing!

by Patricia Allan-Clark

It was a very soggy start to the lawn care season for Garden Buds, a local business run for – and by – people living with mental illness. However, the team was able to get on a regular maintenance schedule from August 18th onwards.

Garden Buds hired 10 people this season and took care of 12 properties. The company's biggest customers were Saint John Non-Profit Housing and Housing Alternatives/Rehabitat. "The Buds" are especially proud of the contribution they made to improving the look of Saint John's South End. The business received some late-season orders, which meant work continued all they way until early November, doing fall clean up of garden beds and planting flower bulbs for next spring. Grants from Skate-to-Care and KAIROS Anti-Poverty Fund have helped to buy equipment and publicity materials.

Here is a comment from one satisfied customer:

"We have been impressed with all of their hard work, not to mention their professionalism and efficiency. We'll be certain to recommend them to friends and neighbours and to give them a call next spring/summer for more gardening help!"

Prospects for next year are very good. The number one priority now is getting a vehicle, so the the team can take on more work in different areas of the city and surrounding area...and then, of course, there's snow shoveling as soon as winter arrives!!



Photo Courtesy of Brian Hutchinson, The Consumer Gazette

Newspaper Volunteer Committee

- Crescent Valley - Nancy Savoie, Elaine Orser, Shannon Campbell, and Lisa Morris - Neighbourhood Assistant
- South End - Tammy Garnett and Jennifer Edison - Neighbourhood Assistant
- Old North End - Tammy Calvin and Michelle Bainbridge - Neighbourhood Assistant
- The Village - Linda Scott and Rose Hallett
- Westside - Lisa Murphy - Neighbourhood Assistant

Other Partners

- Human Development Council - Belinda Allen and Kathryn Asher
- Atlantic Health Science – Joe Campbell, Danny Jardine and Patricia Allen-Clark
- Vibrant Communities - Wendy MacDermott and Juanita Black
- Saint John Community Loan Fund - Cindy Horton
- Interested Community Members - Mark Leger and Ann Barrett

Community Partners

Saint John Police Force: Community Services Unit

by Sgt. Jim Flemming
The central area of the District is really a “community-of-communities”; nowhere else in southern New Brunswick do we have such a diverse demographic of cultures, working folks, visitors and special events. The make up of the “Uptown” changes several times each day.

The three primary areas that the Police Force must concentrate on are the Village area (Waterloo-Brunswick Drive), the central core and pedway system which includes King's Square, and the growing Waterfront Development area which includes Harbour passage.

As we know, the uptown area of Saint John is one of the fastest growing areas in the province; while that is exciting to watch, it also will present some challenges for the Police Force. To keep all our residents, shoppers and tourists safe we will need increased assistance from our community partners and volunteers.

Community Police Office: #56 Prince William Street
Office: 648-3250 Cell: 647-5723
E-Mail: jim.fleming@saintjohn.ca
Tips: policetipssouth@saintjohn.ca

Cst Andrew Macbean
Community Police Office: #10 Princess Court (Glen Falls School)
Office: 674-4158
E-Mail: andrew.macbean@saintjohn.ca
Tips: policetipseast@saintjohn.ca

The Community Police Office at Glen Falls School is responsible for the largest area of the City, and also the largest number of citizen's requests for police services.

East Saint John is also home to the largest and fastest growing retail - commercial concentration of business in New Brunswick. Because of this, in 2007 the Community Services Unit began the Business Against Theft (BAT) program. This program links many commercial and retail businesses through the internet, allowing them to share information to help reduce crime.

With many miles of roads and highways in East Saint John, we are constantly working with our Traffic Enforcement Unit to address the safety concerns of the citizens. As the City grows, it is important that the public lets us know where the traffic patterns are developing.

East Saint John is also a large residential area; we want to remind the citizens that they should always have good locks on their doors and windows, and an alarm system is a very good investment.

With several elementary, middle and one large high school, the Community Services Unit is in constant contact with the school and district staff; we want to be sure that our children are safe on the way to and from, and while at their schools.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns in your neighbourhood, place of work or at school.



Photo Courtesy of Jane Barry, Greater Saint John Community Foundation

Constable Jeremy Edwards

Community Police Office: 251 Wentworth St
Office: 648-3700
E-Mail: jeremy.edwards@saintjohn.ca
Tips: policetipslowersouth@saintjohn.ca.

The lower south end is home for approximately 6,000 residents and also a number of small businesses. It includes the area bordered by starting at the intersection of Duke St and Water St, Lower Cove Loop, Broadview Ave, Crown St, Union St to Carmarthen St and back to Duke St.

In March of 2008, PULSE (People United in the Lower South End) was formed in response to interests of lower south end residents and stakeholders to move forward with Community policing in this neighborhood.

PULSE's office is located in the Community/Police office at 251 Wentworth Street.

In the spring of 2008 PULSE, working in partnership with the Police, residents and stakeholders of the lower south end held a graffiti clean up and stemming from that a number of other clean ups followed throughout the summer, where kids from the neighbourhood helped to eradicate the graffiti here.

Both PULSE and the Community Police Officers can use volunteers to assist with their operations. If you would like to volunteer please contact me.

If you have concerns in your neighbourhood and would like to problem solve together please contact me. Also if you have information with regards to criminal activity, please contact me or use the anonymous tips email.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a season of hope, peace and giving. It is a time for family and friends ... reflection and celebration. On behalf of Saint John Common Council and the staff of the City of Saint John, Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

JOYEUX NOËL

Noël incite à l'espoir, à la paix, au don, aux rencontres entre parents et amis, aux moments de réflexion et de joie. Au nom du conseil et du personnel municipal de Saint John, je désire souhaiter à tous un merveilleux Noël et une très heureuse nouvelle année.

Ivan Court
Mayor Ivan Court, maire

Deputy Mayor Stephen Chase, Maire suppléante
Councillor Christopher Titus, Conseiller
Councillor Bill Farren, Conseiller
Councillor Peter McGuire, Conseiller
Councillor Gary Sullivan, Conseiller
Councillor Patty Higgins, Conseiller
Councillor Carl Killen, Conseiller
Councillor Donnie Snook, Conseiller
Councillor Bruce Court, Conseiller
Councillor Joe Mott, Conseiller

SAINT JOHN The City of Saint John
www.saintjohn.ca