



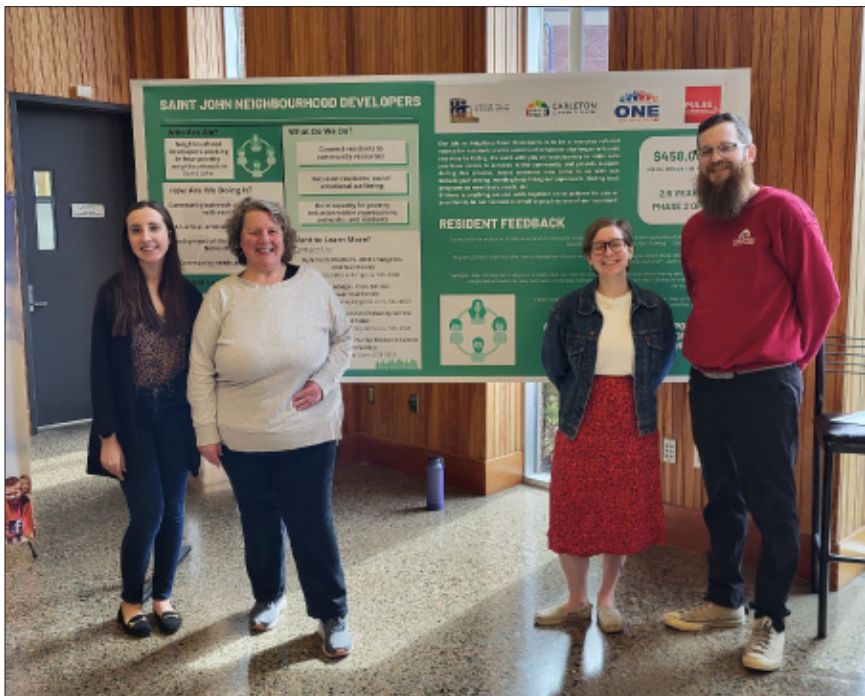
Around *The* Block



Issue 84 August/September 2022 sjcommunitynewspaper@gmail.com

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Saint John's digital divide: a partnership finds the facts



Left to right: Neighbourhood Developers Kyla Scott-MacBeth, Mary LeSage, Rachel Milne, and Tim Chaffey (Photo: submitted)

By Civic Tech Saint John Co-organizers

Civic Tech Saint John has joined forces with Saint John's Neighbourhood Developers to collect some hard data about the digital divide in our City.

In partnership, the Carleton Community Centre, Crescent Valley Resource Centre, ONE Change, PULSE, and the Waterloo Village Neighbourhood Association implemented a community-based survey aimed at understanding the digital needs of their residents.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced a large number of Saint Johners to go online for work, school, and to access services during the lockdowns – and not everyone had the equipment, internet access, or skills to do so. Individuals and agencies throughout Saint John were concerned about a widening digital divide that could leave behind many residents living in the priority neighbourhoods.

“As inclusion and participation in society grows more reliant on personal and household access to the internet, we run the risk of excluding citizens who do not or cannot access the internet,” said one of the Neighbourhood Developers involved in the survey.

As a first step, the Neighbourhood Developers from these organizations conducted the survey. The preliminary data revealed that 31% of the survey respondents do not have access to the internet. *(continued on page 13)*

Proud Sponsors of *Around The Block*



SAINT JOHN



Fishing Week: June 20th-23rd, 2022



An Atlantic tomcod caught within a fyke net in Courtenay Bay
(Photo: Bailey Brogan)

By Shayelin Braydon, Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP)

During our June fishing week, the ACAP team caught hundreds of fish including winter flounder, mummichog, white perch, Atlantic silverside, a variety of stickleback, American eel, Atlantic herring, rainbow smelt, a grubby, a plethora of sand shrimp, and Atlantic tomcod (pictured above).

Apart from sand shrimp, the Atlantic tomcod was our most-caught fish in June. Tommy cods have a single barbel on their chin and are very soft, smooth, fish; they are also quite docile which makes them easy to measure! Tomcods prefer fresh to brackish water with sandy or gravel substrate. This species can be found within North American coastal waters from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, and Quebec, as far as Virginia. Stay tuned to find out what we catch next!

From the Editor's desk:

The power of partnerships

Lorna Brown, sjcommunitynewspaper@gmail.com

Issue 84 has been a fascinating collection of stories to edit - stories of joy and hope, of anger and frustration, of learning and of sharing learnings with others. And stories with facts. A stunning 31% of people surveyed in the neighbourhoods don't have access to the internet - the tool that has become increasingly necessary for equitable participation in education and the economy. Facts from Romero House: when the social assistance payments are out, Evelyn and her team still have to serve 300 meals in a day, yet when the assistance runs out mid-month that number goes up to 450!

But what struck me most of all was how many of these stories were about partnerships. Rose House going up (p. 6). The Neighbourhood Developers and Civic Tech Saint John pooling their knowledge and expertise to gather numbers about the digital divide (see left). Students around the province coordinating a protest (p.12). Kids playing music for seniors and planting flowers with them, and the community-wide list of partners working with Brilliant Labs to provide STEAM camps (p. 9) - and look at the diversity in those photos. Science and tech aren't just for one gender, or one race, any more. Strong women with dreams expressing themselves freely, and triumphing, fill page 15 (even down to the ad - thank you to the Sisters of Charity for years of support).

This community is awesome. Did you know that 250 volunteers made the Acadian Games possible here in July (p. 17)? If you would like to volunteer, there are three calls on page 18! Thanks to six of our councillors, who shared why they chose to serve. I leave you with one image (p. 19) that says it all: newcomers to Canada - playing table hockey!

Peace and joy to all. You get them by giving them.

Summer Camp is fun!



Summer camp youth engrossed in a project (Photo: John Driscoll)
By John Driscoll, ONE Change

This year at The ONE Change we held our Summer Camp. Each day every youth who walks through our doors has the chance to learn something cool and new. We began this year with teaching respect, how to treat others, and the value of friendship. We have had countless youth come up to our staff and say how much fun they are having this year and that they are excited for what each day will bring. Some of the fun activities we have done so far are coding, 3D printing, science experiments, neighbourhood knowledge walks - and we were even joined by our friends from Brilliant Labs. We want to thank United Commercial Travelers (UCT) for all their help providing youth with nutritious snacks and fun activities to do, like tie -dye days and much more! If you think you know a youth that could benefit from any of the programs we offer, please call (506) 658-2980 to register.

Tea and Tech



Old North End residents enjoying Tea and Tech (Photo: John Driscoll)
By Christa Petts, ONE Change

Every Friday from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. is our Tea and Tech Program. Meet with John and learn all about your phone, iPad, or computer. John meets with our adults to answer any of your questions about your devices. Whether you want to learn how to email or use apps on your devices, John is here to support you with anything you may need help with. Anyone interested in learning more about Technology can join. It is fun and relaxing and a chance to meet new people. If you have any questions, please call Christa at 658-2980.

The Honourable Trevor Holder

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Office Hours: Monday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Friday: Closed

ONE Future Digital Media Marketing



Sidney VanBuskirk capturing Tamara Kelly's headshot (Photo: Mark Hemmings)
By Sidney VanBuskirk

The ONE Future program, operated out of ONE Change Inc., Nick Nicolle Centre, has been an incredible opportunity for me (and many others over the years). If I were to list everything that we've been taught since we started on the last day of May, I'd bore you to the point that you would just stop reading. So instead, I've decided to give you the highlights, the main one being our afternoon classes spent with photography/videography instructor Mark Hemmings. Mark is teaching us the rules of photography and how to shoot video. The thing I enjoyed most in Mark's class was learning product photography. When I shared the pictures I took online, I got hired to take menu photos for River Valley Fish and Chips in Grand Bay Westfield.

Another part of the program is the digital media class with Sean Simpson. We've learned how to build websites and design everything from posters to business cards. We've also been taught how to create stop-motion videos, music videos, and much more. Our amazing Workplace Essential Skills instructor, Joe Marriott, has been teaching communication skills, which include how to write a proper email and present information, as well as adaptability and problem-solving.

The ONE Future program is outstanding. I am excited to see what the future holds, and I am proud to call myself a Digital Media Marketing Intern. If you are an employer interested in hosting a subsidized Digital Media Marketing Intern, call Jill at 333-1312.

Aging in Place workshop

By ONE Change
Are you supporting a senior who is aging at home? We are looking for you! On September 12th-15th at the Nick Nicolle Community Centre there will be an "Aging in Place" workshop teaching practical skills for accessing, navigating, and organizing care and services for your loved ones. The workshop is delivered by licensed practical nurses from New Brunswick Community College (NBCC) to help you learn what you need in a safe, supported, and comfortable group atmosphere.

Workshop registration is at no cost to you! To register for this workshop or for more information, please contact Stephanie Mason at 647-5190 (leave a message).



North

Neighbourhood Contact

Christa Petts
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Nick Nicolle Community Centre
85 Durham Street
658-2980



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

All stories and photos by Lisa Morris, Resident Engagement Coordinator, PULSE Incorporated

-PULSE Inc. hours of operation
Visit us Monday to Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Stop in and visit our staff and volunteers.

-Lunch Connection: Summer Edition Free Picnic Lunch at PULSE, 251 Wentworth St, Tuesdays and Fridays 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and Family Story Tent on Fridays!

-Wednesday Walks Join us on Wednesdays at Tannery Court at 11 a.m. and 175 Britain Street at 11:15 a.m. for a walk around Rainbow Park. Welcoming group for everyone of all levels. Cancelled if weather is more than a drizzle.

-Vaccination Lamination Need your vaccination record laminated and made to fit into your wallet? Stop in and visit Lisa in the office and she can resize and laminate a copy for you to keep in your wallet at no charge. Donations are appreciated.

-Tax season has ended; however we are still here for you! We are open year-round to complete your taxes, including previous years. Drop off your taxes anytime we are open and pick up in a few business days.

-Monthly Calendars available! Next time you stop in don't forget to grab a monthly calendar to keep track of the comings and goings at PULSE - we've been busy!

-Internet Access PULSE has a tablet and printer available at no cost for residents' use for accessing appointments, job searches and printing resumes or forms. Please call ahead to reduce wait times or call to schedule, (506) 632-6807. Limited to 30 minutes.

-Our nurse is available upon request as always! Call us at (506) 632-6807 to schedule.

-Saint John Food Purchasing Order Looking for affordable veggies? Money can be dropped off to PULSE or e-transferred to Martha.MacLean@HorizonNB.ca. Please include your name, phone number, order size, and pickup location.

-August - money due August 12th, pick up August 19th
-September - money due September 16th, pick up September 23rd
-October - money due October 14th, pick up October 21st

If you want to Pay It Forward with a Saint John Food Purchasing Order to someone in the community, simply send a \$15 or \$25 e-transfer to Martha.MacLean@HorizonNB.ca and put in the notes to which area you would like your order donated!

-Help Yourself Pantry - The Help Yourself Pantry is stocked daily with donated food items including bi-weekly bread donations from The Saint John Bakery, and through partnership with Second Harvest, a twice-a-week donation from Starbucks (West Side). Our public washroom is also filled with donated personal care items through Code Red and the community. If you would like to donate, please contact Lisa at (506) 608-9609.

Picnics and butterflies!

Next time you're walking by PULSE Inc. at 251 Wentworth St make sure to visit our parking lot! Transforming the parking lot has been so much fun! After an unexpected move I found myself with limited space and no room to do what I love, which is to paint. Once we had the beautiful shed installed, I knew what had to be done, and here we are!





Every Tuesday and Friday you can visit the parking lot from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and join Lunch Connection: Summer Edition for a free picnic lunch, and Family Story Tent on Fridays! All ages welcomed and encouraged! Bring the kids and enjoy some parking lot games of Tic Tac Toe and Hopscotch; visit our Help Yourself Garden; and take a photo in front of the Monarch butterfly wings and become a beautiful butterfly. Don't forget to tag us!
Above: Lisa Morris trying on the butterfly wings located at PULSE Inc. (Photo: Mary LeSage)

Grow, veggies, grow!

Five plots have been planted by Roots and Wings volunteers. Together, long-time community volunteer Kathryn Ferris and I cleared and planted at the Rainbow Park Community Garden. The plots have been planted in memory of Rainbow Park's beloved gardener, Peter. The plots will be cared for and maintained by volunteers in the community and the harvest will be donated to Help Yourself Garden at PULSE Inc. It takes many volunteers to care for the plots and we are excited to have Key Industry volunteers step up to help! The plots have been planted with easy-to-grow vegetables that still have time to grow, including radish, onions, beans, cucumber, and lettuce. We will also plant some late crops, including garlic, in the fall! Happy gardening!



Above: Kathryn Ferris and Lisa Morris taking a selfie after clearing and planting four plots at Rainbow Park Community Garden




**ALL AGES
SOCCER BASEBALL**

Join us every Tuesday at 6pm for an all ages fun game of Soccer Baseball!

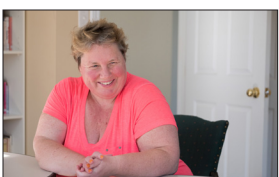
Bring your friends and join us at the Baseball Field at the bottom of Wentworth St (beside the armories)

Bring plenty of water!



South Neighbourhood Contact

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



Gerry Lowe
Ward 3 City Councillor

Email: Gerry.Lowe@saintjohn.ca
Phone: 639-0969



CV Summer Squad supported by UCT Jack Kidd Council #755



By Crescent Valley Resource Centre (CVRC)

Crescent Valley Summer Squad received a fabulous donation from the United Commercial Travellers, Jack Kidd Council #755. \$800 was donated to help provide meals served to the children during the summer. WOW! Receiving the donation on behalf of CVRC's Summer Squad in the photo above are, left to right: Justin, Jenna, Ausstyn, (with Olivia Donovan, UCT), Sophie, Michaela, and Kirsten. (Photo: CVRC)

Summer's going to be fantastic in CV!

Bingo Break at CVRC



CVRC Bingo participants with door prizes provided by UCT Jack Kidd Council #755 (Photo: CVRC)

By Joy Comeau, Crescent Valley Resource Centre (CVRC)

CVRC'S June Bingo was a great success. A big shout out to UCT Jack Kidd Council #755 who supported the June Bingo with wonderful door prizes! The Bingo program first began in October 2021 in partnership UNB Nursing students Alecia and Sarah and has been going ever since! We wish to thank our participants who provided ongoing support, much laughter and of course, great Bingo!

We hope to see you at "Bingo in The Garden" over the summer.

The Growing Place has exploded with green!



Sarah Hetherington and Annaliese Nylen, summer students at The Growing Place Community Garden, working in the Food Bank plots
Story and photos by Sarah Hetherington

The growing season is in full bloom in the Growing Place (TGP) Community Garden and Greenhouse in Crescent Valley. Some gardeners have already taken home vegetables. Vegetables have also sprouted and continue to grow in our six North End Food Bank plots. These plots are managed by our summer students, and this year we have two new students joining us, Sarah Hetherington and Annaliese Nylen. They have been working hard at planning, planting, and maintaining the Food Bank plots over the last month and a half. If you stop by the garden Monday-Friday, be sure to say hello!

The summer students welcomed a few elementary school classes to the garden this year, leading them on a tour of the plots and greenhouse, as well as teaching the kids how our compost system functions. For example, a grade two class from Glen Falls Elementary School stopped by in June for a visit and even donated some starter plants the class had grown to the Food Bank plots! The kids were able to help plant, learn some important gardening skills, as well as learn about the importance of the Food Bank plots to the community. We look forward to more visits and tours this summer as the growing season continues at TGP!



Right: Students from Glen Falls Elementary School learn about the greenhouse at The Growing Place

Crescent Valley Neighbourhood Contact

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Barry Ogden

Ward 2 City Councillor

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Difference makers at the Carleton



Back row, left to right: Sydney, Cole, Eliot; front row, left to right: Mahmoud, Abbygail, Tamika, Madelynn (Photo: submitted by Jen Brown)

By Jen Brown, Executive Director, Carleton Community Centre

difference maker (dif-er-uhns mey-ker), noun:

A dedicated person who can make a big impact even with just a small action or a few words. Someone who improves the lives of others. One who rallies or encourages others to propel themselves forward and bring about change. A difference maker is an ordinary person who accomplishes extraordinary things by creating positive change in their community and in the lives of others.

We'd like to welcome these difference makers to the Carleton team as our summer staff!

We are so lucky to have these dedicated individuals join our team and offer an exceptional summer for our Carleton Kids!

Art Contest winners at Seaside Park Elementary School



Adelaide Estey (left) and Kirk LaViolette (Photo: Krista Turnbull)

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

At the end of the school year, we held an art contest for the cover of our thank-you cards. We are pleased to announce that the winner in the K-2 category was Adelaide Estey in K-Fox and the winner in the grade 3-5 category was Kirk LaViolette in 3-Aucoin. Both Adelaide and Kirk won a special prize package, and their drawings will be featured on the cover of this year's thank-you cards. Individual classroom winners received a token prize as well. Thank you to all the students who entered the contest.

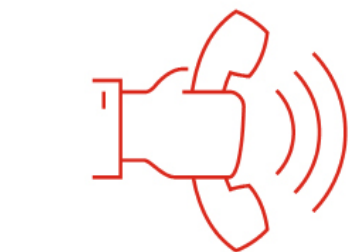
We have some very talented artists at Seaside Park Elementary School!

Cedar Hill - Greenwood Cemetery



NEW COLUMBARIUMS
CEDAR HILL AND GREENWOOD
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– Please contact our office: 9 am - 4:30 pm weekdays for more details –
1650 Manawagonish Rd. Saint John, NB – 672-4309



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HELP STARTS HERE



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West Side
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Rose House under construction!



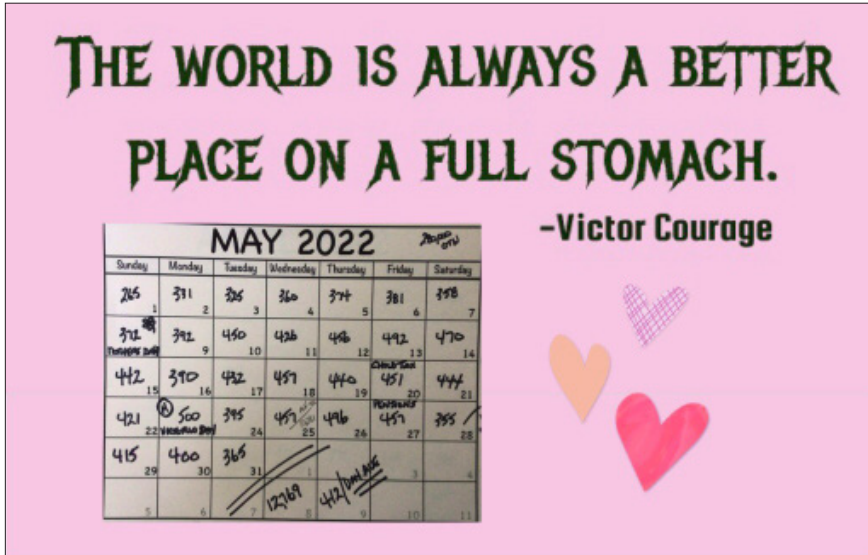
Rose House In July 2022

Story and photo by Coverdale Centre for Women Inc.

Coverdale is pleased to share that our transitional housing project, Rose House, is under construction! Footings are in place and walls are started as of the time of this writing, and we are ready for next steps. Seven of the units are already fully sponsored for all furnishings and materials to make them turn-key ready for women to move in. We are accepting sponsors for the remaining units as well as donations to add to what has been donated already to begin the garden in the back yard.

There has been such a wonderful response from the community to help us get this project off the ground. Thanks to all who have helped, either by donating or by spreading the word of the project.

The rising cost of survival



(Image: Romero House)

By Evelyn McNulty, Romero House

We have all passed a couple of very trying years with COVID-19 and now have the additional challenge added to our “plate” of rising costs of living and surviving in our community. The expense of food, shelter, and fuel has risen tremendously this year and as a result more people are struggling. Food insecurity is, I feel, becoming a new reality for many.

Here at Romero House, early in the month, when pension and assistance payments are out, we are serving around 300 meals a day, and then from mid-month on, 450+ daily. An average month sees us serving 11,000+ meals “out the window”. Astonishingly, May just past, at 12,769 meals, was the busiest month we have had in our 40 years of service. (See image above.)

While we are proud of the resiliency of the folks we see daily, we are also witness to much hurt and vulnerability and recognize that more are struggling. As always, we are doing our best to stay upbeat and to lift the spirits of the folks who come for help, many of whom are new to our service, while providing whatever comforts we can. I feel that we represent a very large, very vulnerable, and often very unseen community of people seeking most of all to be valued.

Should you be trained?

Story and photo by Diane Kerns, Harm Reduction Program Coordinator, Avenue B Harm Reduction Inc.

Have you been trained to use Naloxone, also known as Narcan, to reverse an opioid overdose? With the arrival of many dangerous and illegally made substances on our streets, being trained in how to use Naloxone can save someone's life! If you know someone who is using opioids recreationally, is prescribed an opioid (including Methadone) or is suffering with addiction to opioids, getting trained in Naloxone should be a priority.

Training is available at Avenue B Harm Reduction Inc., 62 Waterloo Street from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday. The training takes about 20 minutes and you will be provided with a kit at the same time. This is for family, friends, neighbours, co-workers, or other significant people in your life. A one-hour training session is also available for staff and volunteers of non-profit organizations. Book an appointment today by calling 652-2437. *Left: a life-saving Naxolone kit*



The Honorable Arlene Dunn
MLA Saint John Harbour

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Waterloo-Village Neighbourhood Contact

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647-8047



Thank you, PALS and Community Partners of Seaside Park Elementary!



K-Fox enjoying an ice cream treat from PALS (Photo: Krista Turnbull)

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

As we finish out another school year, we want to give thanks to our many PALS, Community Partners, and parent volunteers who made the year a memorable one. Despite the many changing restrictions around field trips, masking, and welcoming our beloved volunteers into the school, we were able to enjoy a memorable year. Many classes were able to get out on the Kids on the Go (KOTG) bus for spectacular field trips. Our PALS continued to support us with Holiday Hampers, co-curricular learning opportunities, as well as financial support and treats. Without the kindness of our PALS, Community Partners, and parents, our school environment would certainly not be the same. We think they are all Otterly Awesome!

School supply list, HWSF K-2

Submitted by Kate MacDonald, Community Schools Coordinator, Hazen White -St. Francis School (HWSF)

- 2 pkgs of white erasers
- 10 duotangs (red, blue, green, orange, yellow)
- 2 plastic duotangs (yellow)
- 2 exercise books (½ plain page and ½ lined page)
- 1 pkg of dry erase markers
- 1 hard covered journal book
- 1 large plastic envelope homework folder
- 1 pkg crayons
- 1 pkg coloured construction paper
- 2 boxes Kleenex
- 6 glue sticks
- 1 bottle of glue
- 1 pair of scissors
- Water Bottle
- Pencil case
- Over the ear headphones
- Indoor sneakers

In praise of Kids on the Go bus



Effervescent, ever-ready Paul! (Photo: Ben Gillcrist)

Kids on the Go grateful
By Ben Gillcrist, Community Schools Coordinator, Saint John the Baptist/King Edward School (SJBKE)

It's been a busy, one might even venture to say "crazy" year in schools. From lockdowns to online learning and so much in between before we finally emerged into the relative normalcy of this spring (and summer!), challenges certainly abounded. Throughout this maelstrom, though, we always felt supported by our many wonderful partners and friends, not a one of whom backed away from helping our children when they needed it most. This was strikingly evident with "the little bus that could," our PALS friend on wheels. For all the interruptions, cancellations, and other wrenches thrown into the works, the Kids on the Go Bus still got through, and we were so fortunate to benefit from many exciting trips. These were often drawn from an intensely packed schedule of stacked-up assignments as we emerged from the COVID 19 cloud. To PALS and Paul, and to all who stayed with us during these darkest times, we thank you as the sun now shines again!

The Little Bus That Could
By Partners Assisting Local Schools (PALS)

The PALS Kids on the Go bus is a familiar sight at local schools and on the streets of Saint John and surrounding communities! The KOTG bus and its driver Paul Dalton think they have the best job in the world! They get to spend their days with local school children and staff exploring everything our area has to offer: learning about the importance of Port Saint John; learning in great outside destinations like Rockwood Park and the Irving Nature Park; playing sports; travelling to work placements (PALS En Route to Success); giving back to the community; and so much more! Here's to a great new school year for 2022-2023. Please take time to wave to the KOTG bus and Paul when you see them!



School supply list, HWSF 3-5

Submitted by Kate MacDonald

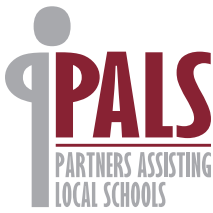
- 8 duotangs
- 6 glue sticks
- 4 packages of pencils
- Scissors
- Construction paper
- 3 boxes of Kleenex
- Crayons
- Markers
- 1 package of dry erase markers
- Pencil crayons
- Pencil case
- 4 packages of white erasers
- 2 hard cover composition journals
- Water bottle
- Box of large Ziploc bags
- A pair of over the ear headphones
- 8 Hilroy notebooks
- Indoor sneakers



Supporting our Neighbourhood Schools Kindergarten to Grade 12



- Partners
- Volunteers
- Role Models
- Coaches
- Literacy Supports
- Breakfast/Lunch Programs
- Enrichment Opportunities
- After School Programs
- Career Explorations
- PALS En Route to Success
- ... and so much more!



Deborah Fisher
Susan Tipper
Michael Whelton
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Help Make a Difference!

A TRC summer



TRC youth enjoying a hike at the Irving Nature Park and a tie-dye project
(Left photo: Laine Hurley; right photo: Rachelle Benoit)

By Letti Eastwood, Teen Resource Centre (TRC)

Summer has arrived at TRC! TRC and Pathways celebrated the end of the school year by cheering on over 40 high school students as they received their diplomas. Congratulations to all our graduates! Our amazing summer students have put together a fun-packed calendar of events and activities throughout the summer. So far we have already got crafty making tie-dye shirts, done techy stuff with our friends at Brilliant Labs, gone on hikes, had BBQs and picnics, gone swimming and of course put in lots of hours playing basketball right here at the centre. During the last two weeks of July we piled on a bus to explore the Moncton Boardwalk and got official light sabre training! It's been a great summer so far and we are not even halfway through!

Camp d'été 2022



Enfants en camp d'été : deux enfants qui s'amuse dans la salle de gym de l'école Samuel-de-Champlain. (Crédit: CNASJ)

Par Le Centre des nouveaux arrivants de Saint-Jean

Notre camp d'été 2022 a commencé le 4 juillet au Centre Scolaire Samuel de Champlain et durera 36 jours jusqu'au 24 août 2022. Il y a un total de 70 enfants de la maternelle à la 8e année repartis en deux groupes qui se réunissent tous les jours de la semaine pour participer à divers sports comme le soccer, le baseball, le pickleball, le baseball, le dodgeball et la course sur piste. En plus des divers sports mentionnés ci-dessus, les élèves participeront également à des excursions dans des endroits tel que le Park Tucker, le Park naturel Irving et le Canada Games Aquatic Center. Le temps passé au camp d'été aidera les élèves à développer des relations de qualité avec leurs amis et surtout leur permettra de pratiquer le français pendant la période des vacances scolaires, afin de consolider leur apprentissage de la langue et les rendre plus confortables. Ces expériences continueront d'enrichir leur vie quotidienne longtemps après cet évènement.

Graduation and Prom at Simonds!



The Class of '22! (Photo: Andrew Touchakis)

By Jennifer Carhart, Principal, Simonds High School

Well, 2022 wrapped up in the most magical way with Graduation and Prom. We kicked off the week on June 20th with the Roaring 20s-themed Prom that had our school gymnasium transformed into the most elegant event. The Grad Class, Prom Committee and staff came together to provide a night full of memories for all. June 22nd was graduation and it was an event to remember. Simonds High School held an outside graduation ceremony that was fit for royalty. There was a garden party to remember - photo stations, full class photos, speeches, and personalized attention for each graduate. The opportunity to recognize and celebrate our students was the absolute highlight of the year. Events like these are symbolic of so many things: student success, staff teamwork, hard work, dedication, and celebration. No better way to end a year than with a magical week of celebration like this!



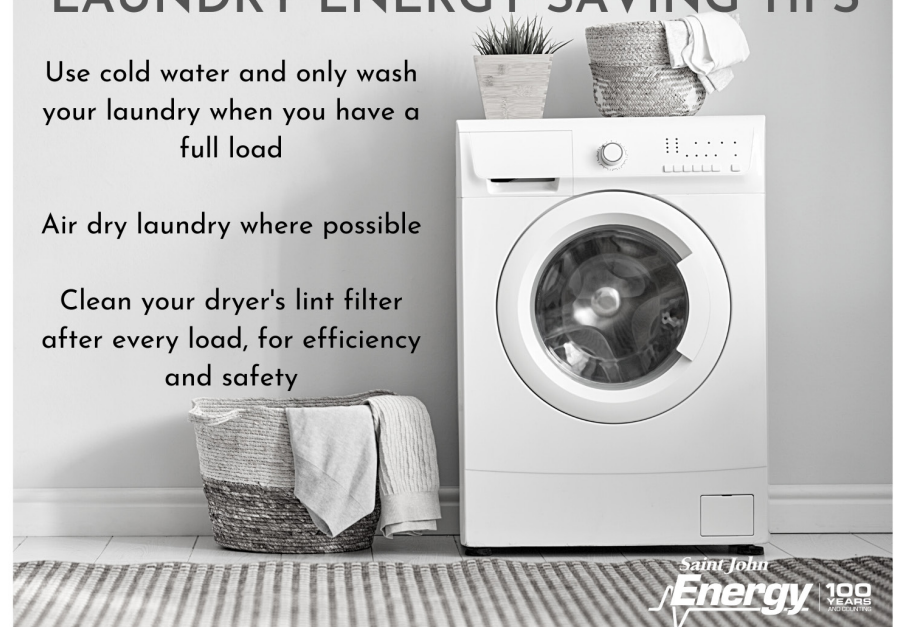
The Prom team (Photo: Andrew Touchakis)

LAUNDRY ENERGY SAVING TIPS

Use cold water and only wash your laundry when you have a full load

Air dry laundry where possible

Clean your dryer's lint filter after every load, for efficiency and safety



Intergenerational Day - June 1st, 2022



Above and below: seniors and kids from Centennial planting together
(Photos: Debbie McLeod)

By Debbie McLeod, Social Development

Wednesday, June 1st was a beautiful day. The skies were a brilliant blue and the sun was shining bright. Intergenerational Day began 13 years ago when a teacher, Sharon, from British Columbia brought younger children and older people together to bring awareness and prevention to elder abuse. Now it's in more than 100 cities! The day was filled with activities that connected our seniors and youth giving them a chance to understand each other. Intergenerational day is intended to celebrate the experience and knowledge of seniors which they can share with the youth, to learn from each other.

We ran three wonderful events which connected the children and seniors. We had grade 3 students from Centennial School joining our seniors planting flowers, painting rocks, and playing Bingo together. We partnered with Sistema NB who put on an outdoor concert with 60 young musicians behind 33 Smythe Street for the seniors living in the area. A sum of \$200 was given to the Sistema Children's Program from the Tenants Association and another \$300 collected from residents of 33 Smythe Street for a total of \$500. We were privileged to have two city counsellors, Gerry Lowe and David Hickey, to help celebrate and support the day. The last event took place in Crescent Valley. The older adults from the CV Tenant Association invited the neighbourhood children in to make Fathers' Day cards together.

It was a busy day but many wonderful connections and memories were made.



BGC Summer Slide - space adventures!



Curt from Saint John Astronomy showing our Summer Slide participants how to use the telescope (Photo: Rachel Murphy)

By Rachel Murphy, BGC Saint John

The South End Community Centre is having a fantastic time this summer! Our week 2 theme for our Summer Slide program was Space Adventures, and we had so much fun with it. We made galaxy slime, a UFO craft, our own planets made out of clay, and even watched a movie on a rainy afternoon, but our favourite part of the week was having Saint John Astronomy come by for a visit. They taught us so many cool things about the moon, planets, and our galaxy. They even let us get a little messy by showing us how craters are formed. We are so thankful for their time spent with us, and are looking forward to all the other cool activities we have planned this summer!

Brilliant Labs' summer STEAM Camps



Story and photos by Brilliant Labs

This summer, Brilliant Labs has partnered with the City of Saint John's Sunshine Program, community centres, public libraries, and youth-serving organizations across the City to provide free STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) Camps from July 4th to August 19th.

STEAM Camps are open for children from all walks of life (see above and below) to develop their digital knowledge and skills by having fun learning how to create and innovate with today's technology thanks to community partners and the Government of Canada's CanCode and Canada Summer Jobs programs, Port Saint John, and the Ted Rogers Community Grants. Thank you for your support!



Improved curbside garbage, recycling and compost collection services coming October 2022

Stay informed and up to date on the new Waste Wise program by visiting www.shapeyourcitysaintjohn.ca.

THE NEW WASTE WISE PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE:

- Curbside recycling for all current City of Saint John customers.
- A free green and blue tote for separation and collection of recycling.
- A free garbage cart for the majority of households for safe, clean storage and collection.

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE GARBAGE:

- Limit of one full garbage cart (approximately two large garbage bags).
- For households that will continue to receive bag collection, there will be a limit of two bags per bi-weekly collection and one bag per weekly collection.
- Additional amounts will require the purchase of bag tags available at locations throughout the City.
- Curbside compost will continue to be offered under the new program.



Amélioration des services de collecte des ordures, du recyclage et du compost en bordure de rue en octobre 2022

Restez informé et à jour en ce qui concerne tous les changements en consultant www.faconnezvotrevillesaintjohn.ca.

LE NOUVEAU PROGRAMME WASTE WISE COMPRENDRA :

- Le ramassage en bordure de trottoir pour le recyclage.
- Des bacs verts et bleus gratuits pour la séparation et la collecte appropriées des produits de recyclage.
- Un bac à ordures gratuit pour la majorité des ménages pour un stockage et une collecte sûrs et propres.

DÉCHETS MAXIMUMS AUTORISÉS :

- Limite d'un bac à ordures plein (environ deux grands sacs à ordures);
- Limite de deux sacs par collecte bihebdomadaire et d'un sac par collecte hebdomadaire (pour les ménages qui continueront à bénéficier de la collecte en sacs).
- Des étiquettes seront exigées pour déposer des quantités supplémentaires. Disponible dans tous les points de la ville.
- Le compostage sur le trottoir continuera à être offert dans le cadre du nouveau programme.

Curbside recycling coming October 2022

Beginning this October
Saint John residents can sort
their recycling and place it
curbside for pickup



Collecte des matières recyclables en bordure de rue : À venir en octobre 2022

À compter du mois d'octobre, les
résidents peuvent trier leurs
matières recyclables et les placer au
bord de la rue pour la collecte.

BLUE TOTE:

Boxboard:
Cereal boxes, cracker
boxes, tissue boxes

Cardboard:
Flattened and placed
in the bin or bundled
beside

Paper:
Office paper,
newspaper,
magazines

BAC BLEU :

**Carton pour
boîtes :**
Boîtes de céréales,
boîtes de craquelins,
boîtes de mouchoirs

Carton ondulé :
Aplati et placé sur ou
dans le bac

Papier :
Papier de
bureau,
journal,
magazines

September 12 -
October 15
carts and totes will be
delivered

October 23
new collection begins

Du 12 septembre
au 15 octobre,
les chariots et les bacs
seront livrés

23 octobre, début de la
nouvelle collecte

GREEN TOTE:

Plastic containers: Look for
these symbols

**Tin cans, pop cans,
aluminum foil**

Milk cartons

Find full recycling, compost, and
garbage collection schedules at
www.saintjohn.ca/pickup

BAC VERT :

Contenants en plastique :
recherchez

**Boîtes de conserve, canettes
de boisson gazeuse, papier
d'aluminium**

Cartons de lait

Trouver votre programme complet de
recyclage, de compost et de collecte des
ordures, consultez le site
www.saintjohn.ca/pickup

New schedules and information will be
available beginning September 12, 2022.

De nouveaux horaires et renseignements
seront disponibles à compter du
12 septembre 2022.



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What is a portable rent subsidy?



Portable rent subsidies offer flexibility to move (Photo: Cecilia Asbridge)

By Cecilia Asbridge, Coordinated Access Facilitator, Human Development Council

When discussing affordable housing, people’s first thoughts may be of government-owned units or subsidies attached to private market housing. A newer less common form of affordable housing is the portable rent subsidy.

Unlike traditional subsidies, a portable rent subsidy is assigned to a person rather than a specific housing unit. The person who holds the subsidy can apply it to a market rental unit of their choice. The tenant pays 30% of their income towards their rent and Social Development pays the difference to the landlord. If the client moves to a new apartment in the future, the subsidy can move with them.

Recently, our homeless-serving sector received two portable rent subsidies to house individuals. The staff of Housing Alternatives credit the portable rent subsidy with helping to house a disabled client in an accessible home that would not have been readily available through the traditional subsidy route.

To end homelessness, there is no one-size-fits-all solution. Each person’s needs are unique and will not all be addressed by the same prescriptive process. Options like portable rent subsidies are vital to ending homelessness because they allow us to be creative and flexible in how we overcome barriers to housing.

ACAP Annual General Meeting



Current and past Executive Directors: Graeme Stewart-Robertson, Roxanne MacKinnon, Sean Brilliant, and Tim Vickers (Photo: Matthew Watson)

By Tina Lemieux, Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP)

On July 5th we celebrated our 30th Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Diamond Jubilee. We had a wonderful turnout of many current employees, past employees, Executive Directors, board members, and others connected to ACAP Saint John. We hosted a slideshow of past ACAP events and staff, food and beverages were served by the Saint John Ale House, copies of our Annual Report were printed for all to see, and there was a table set up with ACAP’s educational materials like a seal pelt and skulls; a bat wing, skull, and detector; along with some other fun things.

ACAP Saint John would like to thank all organizations and individuals that helped make our AGM and our past 30 years working in the community a success. Here’s to another 30 years!

Students speak out as Province cancels NB EI Connect



Sarah Durelle and Duncan Murray at one of three student protests in New Brunswick on July 15th (Photo: HDC)

By Human Development Council

The NB EI Connect program allowed eligible New Brunswick students to access Employment Insurance benefits while attending university. This program was used by more than 7000 students across the province. It was abruptly cancelled on June 23rd, 2022, with no consultation or warning for students.

Without it, students will miss out on thousands of dollars they had planned on receiving for their education. Students affected by this sudden decision are upset - as are their families and friends.

Two students working with the Human Development Council this summer collaborated with others across the province to organize protests in Moncton, Fredericton, and Saint John. These protests took place on July 15th.

“We’re just asking to be treated fairly,” said Sarah Durelle, a student at the University of New Brunswick in Saint John. “We would like more warning than two months to prepare and save up to \$10,000.”

Duncan Murray, who attends the University of Prince Edward Island, said that not receiving EI during the school year means he may have to take fewer courses in the upcoming fall semester.

While the Saint John event had a small turnout, Moncton saw over 100 participants. The students called on the government to step up and assist the students depending on EI Connect funding in the fall. While the cost of living is higher than ever and tuition rates continue to climb, the government is pulling crucial resources for post-secondary students.

University tuition across New Brunswick

University of New Brunswick
\$7089 - \$11,469

St. Thomas University
\$8739, not including residence fees

Mount Allison University
\$10, 990, not including residence fees



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Charting our path through post-secondary education



By Darlene Jones, Financial Literacy Coordinator, Kaleidoscope Social Impact

With the rising cost of everything these days it is difficult to stay grounded on the path we have for the future. Education is key to a better financial future and yet many feel it is out of reach for them. Here are a few tips for those entering into school for the fall.

1. Student loan - Applying now will ensure you know the amount you will receive. From there, list the school tuition costs and fees. Having concrete numbers will help you plan financially for the school year.
2. Canada Learning Bonds - The rules have changed for Learning Bonds in that if you are aged 18-20 and your parents have not applied for the bond on your behalf, you are allowed to do so. For more information, please go to <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/education-savings/learning-bond-18-20/apply.html>
3. Job - There are many retailers and restaurants looking for workers. Remember having time to study and pay attention to your studies takes priority, so be firm with working only the hours that you need. Know your limits.
4. Have fun - School days are some of the best days of your life. If possible, take a course “just ‘cause.” Learning new skills and about a new subject may energize you for the harder ones.

If you need assistance with budgeting for school or applying for the Canada Learning Bonds please reach out: darlene@kaleidoscopeimpact.com or (506) 652-5626. Remember, no matter how much or how little money you have, how you spend it matters.



Kaleidoscope’s awesome Summer Crew – all headed to post-secondary in the fall. From left to right: Matt Haravail, Muhammed Albeyab, Ahmed Mirwaq, Abduraham Gadoura (Photo: Nihma Hussain)

Food insecurity on the rise

By Human Development Council staff

Household food insecurity is the inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints.

As Statistics Canada reports record rates of inflation, food banks around the city are reporting more usage than ever.

“May of 2022 was the highest we’ve seen in 40 years,” says Evelyn McNulty, Executive Director of Romero House. Romero House is unique as they serve meals to any individual in need, and the number of folks coming to their take-out window has climbed 58 percent since the beginning of the pandemic. This growth equates to providing an average of over 400 meals a day.

According to Hazel Clarke, executive director of the North End food bank, usage of their services climbed by over 300 between March 2021 and March 2022. The North End food bank also serves those who are experiencing homelessness, and Hazel says the number of people accessing food who are sleeping rough or couch surfing is growing. She also reported that there are families who are working and are still experiencing food insecurity because the cost of commuting is too high. The Saint John Community Food Basket is also seeing growth in the number of people served. According to Executive Director John Buchanan, “There is mounting desperation among the people being served, especially those in deep poverty.”

Outflow is serving over 140 suppers each night, and the clientele is expanding from regulars to include more children and families, as well as working individuals unable to make ends meet. Wendy Pottle, Director of Operations and Outreach at Outflow says that they are seeing more clients in need of emergency shelters such as tents, tarps, and sleeping bags. Wendy remarked as well on the strain volunteers and employees on the front-line of non-profits: “It’s intense; there’s so much need in our community”.

In June the provincial government contributed an additional \$1 million to the province’s food banks. It also announced a new Emergency Fuel and Food Benefit - a one-time payment of \$225 for low income individuals or \$450 for families, including seniors. More than 75,000 people were eligible.

Did you qualify?

The New Brunswick Food and Fuel Benefit was a one-time supplement that applied to people who receive:

- social assistance
- housing support from Social Development
- the Low-Income Seniors’ Benefit
- a rent supplement program
- or who live in public housing

If you qualified you did not need to apply – you will have received the benefit automatically at the end of June, 2022.

Digital divide (continued from page 1)

More findings:

- 30% do not have a computer;
- 5% had no devices at all; and,
- 19% could face a digital literacy barrier even after the internet and device access were resolved.

“The survey will allow the neighbourhood centres to identify and direct residents to affordable internet options when the cost was an issue and will allow the agencies involved to plan future neighbourhood-specific programs that will truly benefit the communities we serve,” said Mary LeSage, Neighbourhood Developer.

The survey evidence will also allow multiple stakeholders to plan the best ways to systematically address Saint John’s digital divide. Civic Tech Saint John is also partnering with NBCC and UNBSJ. The partners will eventually source and restore used computers for the Neighbourhood centres to share with residents and community organizations as needed. It’s one more step towards a more inclusive city where no one is left behind.

Walks n' Talks: August 2022 (free)



By David Goss

Most walks are designed so that participants can do portions of the 2 kilometers. If the weather is questionable, a recorded message on line 672-8601 is placed one hour before the walk. For more information, email: gosswalk@nbnet.nb.ca. Selected walks:

-Tuesday, August 2nd, 7:15 p.m. at the grounds of St. Peter's Church off the Clarendon Street entrance. Meet Toronto storyteller Raymond Pierce, and St. Andrews author John G. Kelly, who both have close connections with St. Peter's parish and North End Saint John. Sponsored by Great Canadian Dollar Store.

-Tuesday, August 9th, 7:15 p.m. at the City Market, Germain Street entrance. Behind the scenes at the City Market with Belinda Balemans, who was a long-time tenant in the venerable structure, and has a collection of stories that will include seldom-heard tales. Sponsored by Envision Saint John: The Regional Growth Agency.

-Sunday, August 21st, 7:15 p.m. from the King's Square Bandstand. Stuart Trueman - his cartoonist career. Trueman began his career with the Telegraph Journal as a cartoonist in 1929. Sponsored by the Fundy Fringe Festival. Indoor location if it rains will be on 672-8601.

-Tuesday, August 23rd, 7:15 p.m. in Victoria Square on Holly at Victoria Street. The Indiantown Black community. Peter Little will share stories of Dolphus Carty, the Bohee Brothers and others who grew up in this section of the city. Sponsored by Great Canadian Dollar Store.

-Thursdays 10 a.m. to August 25th, North of Union walks, leaving from the Saint John Arts Centre, exploring Loyalist history. Followed at 11 a.m. by Georgian Serenade, a 45-minute concert of Loyalist-period music performed by pianist Tim Blackmore. Free. A program of the Saint John Early Music Festival & Saint John Arts Centre.

-Also CONCERTS, Thursdays in August at 7 p.m., Trinity Church, 115 Charlotte Street. Free will offering, shared with the presenters.
August 4th – Ron Maloney and Viktoriya Ezerskaya, a recent arrival from Ukraine with a great vocal gift. All donations go to her family.
August 11th – Soprano - Maureen Paras & Friends
August 18th – Vocalists - Mary Louise Belyea and Shane Scott
August 25th – Organist - Richard Kidd

Above: A North of Union walk in June, on Coburg Street (Photo: submitted)

Al-Anon meetings in Saint John

The Al-Anon Family Groups (AFGs) are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength and hope, in order to solve their common problems. There are no dues. Face-to-face meetings have resumed; masks are not required but feel free!

- Tuesday 7 p.m., Waterloo AFG
Stone Church, 87 Carleton Street

- Wednesday 7 p.m., Woolastook AFG
St. Mark's United Church, 50 Dexter Drive

- Thursday 7 p.m., Portland AFG
Sophia Recovery Centre, 83 Hazen Street

- Thursday and Sunday 7 p.m. Zoom Meetings
To attend, send an email to District15mprovinces@yahoo.com. You will receive an email from Ann Wilson with instructions approximately 15 minutes prior to the meeting.

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Contest

By Juanita Black, HDC and
Mary LeSage, PULSE

We are happy to partner with Saint John Energy for the seventh year! We offer two \$15 fresh fruit and produce orders for this August issue, one each to two winners. Throughout *Around the Block* there are three Saint John Energy logos that you cannot use for this contest: one in this article (see right), one in the ad on page 8, and one in the sponsor section on page 1.



To enter the draw you need to locate the other two Saint John Energy logos, hidden somewhere in the paper!

Send your answer to juanita@sjhdc.ca or call 651-3044 to speak to Juanita Black or leave a message.

You need to:

- identify the pages and locations of the two hidden logos;
- tell us your name, address, and phone number.

Only one entry per household. Your name will go into a draw for one of the two orders. The contest will end at noon on August 18th and orders, if possible, will be delivered on the 19th (or you might be asked to pick up your order). We will also list the winners on the Human Development Council Facebook page.

The Issue 83 winners were:
Kathy Hanna and Rebekah Pearce

St Luke's lunches restart Sept. 12th

By The Reverend Dr. Cole Hartin, Rector
St. Luke's Anglican Church, Parish of Portland, 369 Main St. N.

Our Monday take-out lunches will begin again on September 12th from 12-12:30 p.m. We have not made any formal plans for sit-down meals again but are hoping to start a breakfast at some point in the fall.





VOLUNTEER WITH THE YMCA

Scan the QR
Code for more!

Opportunities available
for all ages!

saintjohnny.ca



Maiden visits Saint John in August



All-female crew of the Maiden (Photo: The Maiden Factor)

By The Maiden Factor

Maiden, a 58-foot aluminum ocean racing yacht, and her all-female crew will visit Saint John in August of 2022. Maiden's mission is to work with, raise funds for, and support communities to enable girls into education and empower and support them to remain throughout their teenage years, to reach their full potential and create better futures for all.

Maiden will dock at Pugsley Slip in uptown Saint John, near the AREA506 Waterfront Container Village from August 3rd to August 13th with opportunities for the public to engage with the vessel and crew and also private events for local groups working with girls in STEAM. There will also be a free screening of the Maiden film at the AREA506 Container Village. A full list of public events can be found on: <https://www.maiden.sjport.com/>

Way to go, Nanda!



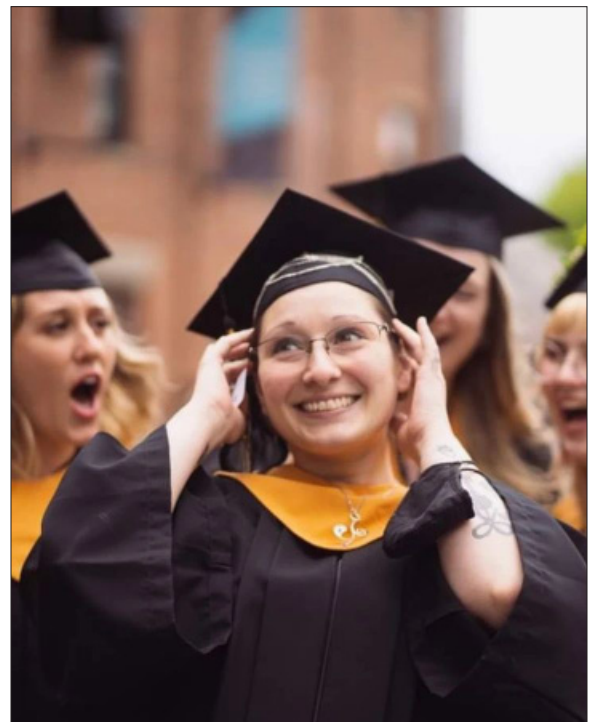
By Neha Sharma Mishra

Introducing the youngest emerging local artist from our community, Nanda Mishra, who loves to paint everyday. She experiments by mixing colours, and dipping different brushes, household items, toys, seeds into colours to check what textures they can make on canvas. Many techniques are involved in her artwork, which is not usual for her age. She says, "All colours are magical, and brushes are my magic wands." Nanda loves to display her paintings and interact with people to share her thoughts and feelings behind each artwork. She had her first solo exhibit at the Kent Theatre. She has also exhibited at Portland United Church and Art Warehouse, and on Canadian Multiculturalism Day in Saint John. She has participated in many fundraising events to support organisations and businesses, and is well appreciated.

Nanda is inspired by muddy puddles, nature, books, big brother Aarav, and many more things. She loves visiting the Saint John Free Public Library, Family Resource Centre Playgroups, and art galleries to explore and learn more.

Her upcoming exhibit is at the Saint John Exhibition from August 30th to September 3rd, 2022. For more info: nandamishra@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/acrylicnanda (Photo of Nanda: submitted)

Erica Thorne - powering up!



Erica at graduation (Photo: Kelly Baker)

By Victoria Cosgrove, Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour (PETL)

Erica Thorne is a recent graduate from the New Brunswick College of Craft and Design (NBCCD) in Fredericton. Erica started her journey as a POWER UP participant and went on to become an intern for the Women's Empowerment Network. She then became a casual employee there. It was always Erica's dream to be a working artist, so she set out to do just that. Recently Erica graduated from NBCCD, working on her dreams and accomplishing her goals. Erica is a great example of determination and perseverance. I wanted to share her story with *Around the Block* since Erica was part of the community and plans to reside in Saint John again. She is a great example of someone who took a chance on her future. The photo above shows how very happy Erica is - and how proud of her accomplishments!

Your neighbours since 1854

Sisters of Charity
of the Immaculate Conception
www.sistersofcharityic.com

Saint John’s LGBTQ2+ Night: inclusion, music, and entertainment



Alex Ash, president of Chroma (middle right) teaches the public how to make pin buttons

Story and photo by Daniel Meza,
Social Media and Marketing Coordinator, Chroma NB

Hundreds attended Saint John’s LGBTQ2+ Night, hosted by Chroma NB, in a festive week during the One for All District celebrations, part of the 2022 Memorial Cup.

Within walking distance of TD Station Arena, there was music, food, and entertainment brought by talents of Saint John’s Two Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual Plus (2SLGBTQIA+) community.

Alex Ash, Chroma NB’s president, opened the afternoon with a speech. Then the Fog City Rollers showed their roller derby demo, the talented duo Womb to Tomb played some sweet tunes, and a drag team led by Justin TooDeep made the crowd laugh and enjoy themselves. To close, DJ Randinger made everyone dance with pop, house, and R&B (rhythm and blues).

At Chroma’s booth, families could make their own pin buttons related to inclusion, love, and equality, and learn about Chroma’s mission. A big “thank you” goes out to our wonderful volunteers, performers, and vendors who all contributed to making the night a success.

Big Brothers Big Sisters’ (BBBS) 17th Annual BIG Book Sale



By Adam Robichaud, BBBS

We are back in Centre Court again this year to bring you the 17th Annual BIG Book Sale on the first level of Brunswick Square. We are excited to once again bring amazing reads to people at a great price! All funds raised from our sale go directly back into the community by providing life-changing developmental relationships between mentors and mentees. Our BIG Book Sale will take place from August 20th to August 27th (we are closed on Sunday the 21st as the mall is closed). If you would like to donate gently-used books, volunteer at our book sale, or have any questions, please reach out to us by calling (506) 635-1145. Above: Shoppers browsing at the BIG Book Sale in Brunswick Square (Photo: Laurie Collins)

Learn something new at your library

By S.D. Thompson, Saint John Free Public Library

The Saint John Free Public Library, Market Square, is happy to help you learn something new this summer.

Being a library, we’re full of how-to books that can teach you how to do anything from starting your own business to cooking just about anything. We can, however, also help you learn about your family history with our extensive genealogy and local history collection.

Twice weekly, we host E-Clinic drop-in sessions to help people with their gadgets and tech, and we’re also available for 1-on-1 tutorials by appointment.

If you’re already comfortable with a computer and have a library card, you can access our online library. It not only has access to tons of e-books, audiobooks, and magazines through services like Overdrive and PressReader, but it has some tools that can help you learn new skills.

If you want to learn a new language, you can access Rosetta Stone through the library. This acclaimed interactive program can teach you dozens of languages, including English and French.

ArtistWorks is a video database where award-winning instructors show you how to play over 30 musical instruments at your own pace. Career Cruising can help you discover what jobs you’re interested in holding and how you can acquire the skills and experience to get them.

Talk to the library at 643-7236, adult.sjtpl@gnb.ca, or on social media to find out more!



STANDING FOR YOU!



Wayne Long, MP

Saint John - Rothesay

(506) 657-2500

Wayne.Long@parl.gc.ca

Une communauté fière de la rivière à la mer



2900 personnes ont assisté à la cérémonie d'ouverture au QPlex de Quispamsis. (Crédit: Jonathan Poirier)

Par Jonathan Poirier, agent des communications, ARcf de Saint-Jean

Du 1er au 3 juillet dernier, près de 1000 jeunes francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick et de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard ont eu la chance de visiter notre région dans le cadre de la 41e Finale des Jeux de l'Acadie. Ceux-ci ont participé à des compétitions dans plusieurs disciplines sportives et culturelles pour représenter leurs régions respectives.

Un tel événement a été possible grâce à une équipe de plus de 250 bénévoles. Leur dévouement a donné un accueil des plus chaleureux aux familles venues visiter le grand Saint-Jean. Les éloges furent nombreux durant cette longue fin de semaine et les participants sont repartis à la maison avec des souvenirs inoubliables... et des médailles pour certains!

A proud community from the river to the sea
By Jonathan Poirier, agent des communications, ARcf de Saint-Jean

From July 1st to the 3rd, nearly 1,000 young francophones from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island had the opportunity to visit our region during the 41st Final of the Acadian Games. They competed in several sports and cultural disciplines to represent their respective regions.

Such an event was made possible thanks to a team of more than 250 volunteers. Their dedication gave a warm welcome to the families who came to visit Greater Saint John. There was a lot of praise over the long weekend, and participants went home with unforgettable memories... and medals for some!

Above: 2,900 people attended the opening ceremony at the Quispamsis QPlex (Photo: Jonathan Poirier)

SJNC: the go-to place for Ukrainian newcomers



Ukrainian fundraising fair and food tasting (Photo: SJNC)

By Saint John Newcomers Centre (SJNC)

As an immigrant settlement agency, SJNC is expanding our welcoming services for all Ukrainian newcomers so that they can have smooth experiences from arrival to settlement in Saint John. Key services that we offer to Ukrainians as soon as they approach us include:

- Pre-arrival consultations on travelling (flight schedule and safe landing in Canada)
 - Intake with assistance in necessary document applications such as Social Insurance Number (SIN), banking accounts, Medicare, driver's licence, child benefits, and referrals to services in the Saint John area
 - Information and guidance on accommodation (how to find and rent an apartment or house)
 - Public transportation support - free monthly bus passes supported by the City of Saint John
 - Pre-employment support – a workshop on employment-related skills (such as resume and cover letter writing, interview skills, soft-skills training), mentorship opportunities, an employability profile and connecting with partners (ex., Working NB) for job search support
- For more information on Ukrainian support, feel free to contact us by direct line (506) 214-0611 or through email:

zarui.larionova@sjnewcomers.ca

EFryNB's gardening space



By Judy Murphy (she/her), M/Ed., Executive Director, EFryNB

With help from Barry Ogden, Saint John City Councillor, and our EFryNB folks, we are extending our indoor Gathering Space to an outside Garden Space! Thank you, Barry, for planting marigolds, a hosta and spruce trees. We appreciate your turning over soil for ease of weeding and clearing. We loved seeing the delivery of a welcoming bench which has found a home in the garden area! We appreciate the fencing repairs, new panels to fill in gaps—all freshly painted. One of the My Place residents is creating designs for the fencing panels that EFryNB folks will paint. A huge shout out goes to our residents who helped plan, weed, plant, and mulch! This is the beginning of plans for creating gardening spaces to enhance our community and to support habitat for birds and butterflies in an urban setting. Our expansion plans would not be possible without a partnership with Hammond River Angling Association and Dykeman's Hardware!

Above: EFryNB folks hard at work (Photo: Elizabeth Clark)

JOHN HUTCHINSON
WAS IN IT, TO WIN IT
AND WON \$7305.00!

\$2 WEEKLY
50/50 DRAW

Winner announced
Fridays at NOON on air
on 96.1 Oldies96
Community Radio!

All proceeds go to BGC
Greater Saint John

ARE YOU IN IT, TO WIN IT?

Calling all volunteer prospects!



A Y volunteer with high school students in a youth program (Photo: Y staff)
By Shelagh Murphy, Child Care/Camps Communications Coordinator, YMCA of Greater Saint John

Volunteers are at the heart of the Y. That’s why the Y is at the heart of the community. There are opportunities for you to get involved. Regardless of age, experience or how much time you can commit, you can make a difference in the lives of others. As a Y volunteer, you might lead an exercise class, welcome new immigrants, mentor young people, produce a special event or advise on local issues. With an increase of new immigrants and refugees coming to our city, the need for volunteers continues to grow and there are opportunities for everyone. No matter how you get involved, you’ll make a big difference as you work with others. To find out more on the opportunities available and to apply for a volunteer role: <https://saintjohnny.ymca.ca/volunteer/>

Red Cross Connection NB program update

By Wanda Wilson (she/her), Community Coordinator, Connection NB, Canadian Red Cross / Croix-Rouge canadienne

Both summer and the Red Cross Connection NB program are in full swing, putting smiles on everyone’s faces! As volunteers continue regular visits with participating seniors, some common trends have emerged, both in our community and in other parts of the province.

Outside of social connection needs, reliable and affordable transportation, housekeeping assistance, and affordable nutritious meals are often brought up as challenges facing seniors, putting their ability to remain living safely and independently at home at risk. Our volunteers work hard to research and connect with local organizations to provide the services they need and improve their daily lives at home.

International Sculpture Symposium



By Jennifer Hallihan, Sculpture Saint John
We are gearing up for our fifth and final International Sculpture Symposium, August 11th to September 10th on Long Wharf. The Sculpture Saint John artists cannot wait to begin creating their sculptures for public art here in Saint John!
Volunteers have made this event so successful over the past years and we are once again recruiting volunteers for this year. Here are some of the areas where volunteers are needed: give tours around the symposium site; greet and count visitors; site support for the artists; and merchandise sales and cash. If you’re looking to volunteer this summer with us, contact: Jennifer@sculpturesaintjohn.com or <http://sculpturesaintjohn.com/volunteer/>
Above: Volunteers Frank and Emma (Photo: Sculpture Saint John)

(Red Cross continued)

Connection NB has proven to benefit both the older adults enrolled and the volunteers who socialize with them and help them find solutions to life’s challenges as they arise. If you or someone you know is interested in participating in Connection NB, visit connectionnb.redcross.ca/volunteer to apply, or contact Coordinator Wanda Wilson at 506 343-4339. You may also to get in touch by email at connectionNB@redcross.ca Enjoy the summer and stay connected!



Left: delivering a food basket
(Photo: Red Cross Communications)



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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 everyday. It is 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.

Kodie Holmes

Kate Lavhey

Doug Ells

Lethe Kerr

Karen Belyea

Nancy Matthews

Gabe White

Brenan’s
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORIUM

Castle Fallsview
FUNERAL HOME

Kennebecasis
COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME

The Canadian Way



Canadian Way students playing table hockey in Market Square
(Photo: John Aide Mouni)

By Lin Zhang, PRUDE (Pride of Race, Unity and Dignity through Education) Inc.

The Canadian Way program improves outcomes for newcomers in Saint John, and makes life easier. It helps integrate newcomers into the local community and provides some English language support. Here, they learn about a multitude of Canadian subjects in a casual environment, daily, all for free! This includes both outdoor activities and indoor classroom activities.

Our outdoor activities include tours around the local community, visits to businesses to learn how they operate, field trips to learn about the geology of the Saint John region, meetings to learn more about various initiatives in the city, and so much more.

With our indoor classroom activities, we provide English support and discuss various topics relating to Canadian culture and history.

Our doors are always open! We have morning class and afternoon class from Monday to Thursday. The Monday class is from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and the afternoon class is from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. We don't have afternoon class on Tuesday due to a staff meeting. If you would like to learn more, please email Robert Sancton at robert@prudeinc.org

Visit our website:

<https://www.prudeinc.org/language-practice-canadian-culture>



Around The Block Team (Issue 84)

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Councillors' Corner

We asked our Councillors, what was your biggest motivation for offering to serve the public? And why on council?

Barry Ogden, Ward 2: My love for Saint John, and I feel Saint John for the past 30 years has fallen far behind, especially losing the 5,000 Federal jobs. Also we raise enough in taxes but for 56 years the province has drained Saint John. We have the highest child poverty rate in Canada. We only have 2000 university students. Every city in Atlantic Canada has 8000-32,000 university students - that's our provincial tax dollars leaving Saint John. The municipal government is closest to the people but has to stand up for all causes as there is only one voter, one taxpayer. We don't have to do things that hurt Saint John just to follow a political party's orders. We do what is best for Saint John and "action speaks louder than words."

Brent Harris, Councillor At Large: I received a lot of encouragement from friends and neighbours to run for council. I had a lot of support on the issues that they connected me with including housing, climate action, and community development. I knew that the only way we would get better outcomes for Saint John is if there were people who wanted to do the work to push for changes and improvements in our city structure. Cities could push for better neighbourhood planning, development, housing policies, and can promote major climate action through their fleets and carbon footprint on several fronts.

John MacKenzie, Deputy Mayor: When I ran for council, it was because I believed I could help make Saint John a better place to live, work and play. I quickly realized that nothing would happen as fast, or just the way I hoped it would, and compromise became a reality of life at council. As I learned over time, there were many reasons for this; some could not be changed by the council team I was on, only by the Federal or Provincial Governments. Some would take changes in our municipal bylaws or policy, which takes time and agreement with at least a majority of council. By working together and understanding our roles and those of other levels of Government, I still believe we are making Saint John a greater place to live, work and play.

Paula Radwan, Ward 4: The reason why I ran for office is because I always have seen the potential that Saint John has and I wanted to optimize on it. I have always enjoyed doing strategic planning and setting policies. I have wanted to work in municipal politics for years as it is the closest to the people. I feel that it is the area where I may be able to make the biggest difference. I love the City of Saint John and our people are second to none.

Joanna Killen, Ward 1: My biggest motivation was the people of Saint John: the ones who already know and love it and the ones who will. Saint John is truly special and has so much potential to be a thriving, healthy community. I wanted to help with that vision on behalf of the West Side. I am often reminded of how much more I can help impact at the municipal level working with Provincial MLAs on tax reform and other issues. We can be more agile and creative with our solutions. The bigger the government, the slower the wheels turn. It's incredibly exciting when I can help get projects/initiatives off the ground and see them come to fruition. I am fortunate to serve to citizens at this level.

David Hickey, Ward 3: I ran for council because I am passionate about community. I felt that would be the best way to build change and support the city and my neighbourhood. We were also seeing more growth, but also more challenges. I wanted to be part of the solutions. I've always felt that municipal government is the closest to people and the best way to make real things happen for people quickly. Take a small example; I put a motion forward to council and now we no longer use plastic bags in Saint John. Our ability to act can be quick and effective. It also means that if you have real issues in your neighbourhood, reach out to your councillor. It's when we start to look to wider legislative change that municipal politics is limiting. Our community is desperate for affordable housing. But the city doesn't have the right tools, it's the Province. That means it becomes our job to advocate to the Province for support. It also means it leaves us with few powers to support people in our community that need it. I'm proud of the work we've accomplished on council. I'm confident there's a lot positive change coming to Saint John.

**Free
Admission
Everyday!**



**August 30—September 3
Tuesday to Thursday gates open 2pm
Friday & Saturday gates open 12noon**

Be sure to visit

**East Coast Amusements Midway
Horticultural & Handcraft Competitions
Llamazing Animal Adventures
Walk a Llama
Woodworking Competitions
Home Economics Competitions
Danielle's Party Pets
Swampbear Chainsaw Carvings
Raptors Conservancy Birds of Prey
Mechanical Bull
Climbing Wall
Mobile Maple Bush
Science East
Bldg 1 Vendors Village
Saint John Fire Dept—Fire House
Woodland Traditional Archers
Back River Farm Haskap Display
Toxic Meltdown
Lagoon Paddle Boats**

**Fireworks
Tuesday
Night!**

**Miniature
Horse
Rides**

**Artisans
Small
Business
Vendor
Village**

Free Daily Shows

**Ride the Vibe Motorcycle Show(3 shows daily)
Animation Alex Superheros (shows and strolls daily)
Miss T the Bubble Queen (3 strolls daily)
Birds of Prey (3 shows daily)
The Domino Man (2 topples daily)**

And More.....

**Fireworks—Tues. Aug 30 — dark (around 10pm)
Donnie and the Monarchs—Tues. Aug 30-7:30pm - Field House
Steve Lyons & Friends - Wed. Aug 31 - 7pm - Field House
Gary Morris & Friends with the Country Music Hall of Fame - Thurs. Sept. 1 - 7pm - Field House
Valley Cruisers Car Show - Wed. Aug 31 - 7pm
Fog City Rollers Derby & Skate - Fri. Sept. 2 - Dusk**

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sjexhibitionpark.com**