

THE BRIDGETOWN READER

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FREE

**Dec. 12
2025**

**VOL. 17
Issue 49**



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An Open Letter Regarding Our Libraries

It is our understanding that our library system is facing some serious cutbacks which could result in:

- Reduced service hours
- Fewer new books and resources
- Program and service reductions

Books are important. Books make a difference. A child that has learned to love books will grow into an adult who loves to read books. Books educate; books lift us up; books give us peace; books open our eyes to other people who share our world and their way of living; their beliefs; their struggles and successes; books teach us that we have more in common than ways we differ. A child that has learned to love books will grow into an adult who can still escape into another world, be calmed by beautiful words, moved by passionate words and motivated by inspiring words. But books do more than educate; books can entertain us, inspire us and make us use our imaginations in wonderful ways.

Without libraries many children will have no way to enter this wonderful world. Our libraries and the knowledgeable, caring people who staff them provide a service that is priceless.

Our children and our grandchildren have been avid readers for years and continue to be into adulthood. We as seniors have also been avid readers since we were children and libraries have played a huge role in this.

Computers and the internet can not replace books and libraries.

Making cutbacks that diminish our library system in any way is a first step on a slippery slope that we should not be taking.

Please speak up for all of the faithful library supporters in our area.

Thank you, Lynn & Jon Main, Bridgetown

This letter was sent to our MLA, Mr. Bowlby and Deputy Warden, Dustin Onslow.



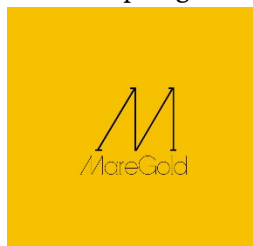
Auction Success

Thank You to Everyone Who Attended the November 30th Auction at the Annapolis Royal Fire Hall. A heartfelt thank you to all who joined us for our Fine Art & Antique Auction. We truly appreciate your support — and your patience — as we worked through a few small glitches. Thanks to you, the auction was a great success.

We're now planning our next Spring Auction, and we're excited to make it even better. If you would like to consign antiques for the spring sale, please contact Russell at: russell@maregold.com or 709-689-2794.

Wishing you a warm and happy holiday season, and again, thank you for your continued support.

We look forward to seeing you in the spring — or at the MareGold Bookstore before then!



Christmas Bird Count 2025

Volunteers Needed. If you live anywhere from Aylesford to Middleton and like to watch birds at your bird feeders, please help us count birds on December 30! Your help would be greatly appreciated. For more information contact: Sheila Hulford (902) 765-4023 or at hulfords@eastlink.ca

Free Christmas Day Dinner at the Bridgetown Fire Hall

Once again this year there will be a great opportunity to meet up with old friends and meet new folks at the Bridgetown Fire Hall on Christmas Day 1:00pm.

Come join us for a great home cooked meal, some carolling and perhaps a surprise guest. To put your name on our guest list please call Maureen and Jerry Publow at 902-840-3559 before Dec 22. If you would like to volunteer for either Christmas Eve at 11:00 am for vegetable preparation or Christmas Day to help serve or put the firehall back together we would love to see you. So remember Christmas Day at 1:00pm for a great Christmas Dinner with lots of fun and laughter and give us a call if you would like to volunteer. Everyone is welcome. Looking forward to seeing everyone. Maureen and Jerry Publow and our slew of elves.

NEW BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT & Exhibition of paintings We, the Ancestors stories, paintings and songs from a heritage village by Geoff Butler



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Butler Gallery / Maregold Bookstore
212 St. George St., Annapolis Royal
(opposite King's Theatre) 902-526-2223
Wed.- Sat. 10-5. Other days by chance
geoffbutlerartstudio@gmail.com



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Paradise Community Hall

Online Auction (January 5-19, 2026) – Donations Welcome! We're hosting a Facebook auction fundraiser to help cover operating expenses, and we'd love your support. To donate items or services, please send photos to paradisecommunityhall@gmail.com by January 16, 2026. Bidding begins on January 5th in the 'Paradise Community Hall Online Auction' Facebook group. Please join the group to stay connected with key information, place your bids, and support the hall's future.

Offering



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The Bridgetown Reader is published weekly on Friday by TAR Publishing. The deadline for submissions to our next issue is noon Mon. Dec. 15. Note, Dec. 19 will be the last issue of The Reader for 2025.

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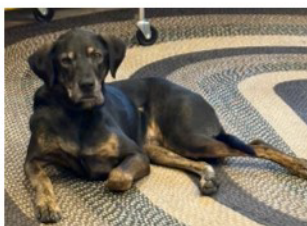


Merry Christmas

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Community Calendar

Thur. Dec. 11, 7:00pm Baby It's Cold Outside: The Annapolis Basin Community Band Holiday Concert at King's Theatre, Annapolis Royal. The Annapolis Basin Community Band invites you to join them for a fun evening of holiday music! The ABCB is a group of community musicians who meet weekly under the direction of Jolene Buchholz. They will be joined for a guest performance by the recently revived Annapolis West Education Centre Concert Band, who will be making their debut performance. This small, yet mighty group of students began learning their instruments in September under the leadership of Jolene Buchholz. Tickets: Adults \$20, Youth \$5, available at the King's Theatre Box Office, 902-532-7704 or www.kingstheatre.ca. Donations of cash and non-perishable food items for the Annapolis Area Food Bank will be collected.

Thur. Dec. 11, 7:00pm 'Twas the Night Before Christmas Carol Concert at All Saints Church, 521 Pleasant St., Kingston. Frank Dobbin from Country Generations, organist Cheryl Van Der Pryt and SANTA will hold an evening of Christmas Carols & Songs and enact "'Twas the Night Before Christmas".

Please join in the fun of Christmas! Bring the children! Free Will Offering

Fri. Dec. 12, 10:00am Weekly Tai Chi classes at the Centrelea Community Hall, 3495 Highway 201. Bring indoor slippers or shoes. Drop ins welcome. Good for balance, posture and relieving stress. Instructor Jamie Edwards of Empty Hand Martial Arts. \$75 for 10 week pass that does not expire. More info @ 902-448-2483 *

Fri. Dec. 12, 7:00pm Jam Session every Friday Evening at the Youngs Cove Community Hall, 5407 Shore Rd. *

Fri. Dec. 12, 7-9:00pm or later! Weekly Music – The Annapolis Royal Legion, Branch #21 will host **Hourglass**. Join us for some great music weekly with no cover charge! Don't forget that we have Happy Hour each Friday from 5:30-7:00pm and cocktail specials each Friday and Saturday!

The Chase the Ace Draw on behalf of the Annapolis Royal Community Centre will be held each week at 8pm. Please check the Annapolis Royal Legion Facebook site for updated. All members and guests are welcome

Sat. Dec. 13, 9am-1:00pm Annapolis Royal Winter Farmers Market indoors at St. Luke's Parish Hall (340 St. George St, Annapolis Royal, accessible from both St George St and Victoria St)!

Sat. Dec. 13, 12:30pm T & D Kitchen Jam Saturdays, 1407 Inglisville Road, Lawrencetown at the Community Hall. All are welcome! Doors open 12:30, music from 1:30-4:30. \$2 for entry. Snacks, tea /coffee are included in the price. *

Sat. Dec. 13, 1-1:45pm Monthly Death Cafe in the Dugua Room at the Annapolis Royal Library. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Come to One or Come to All. *

Sat. Dec. 13, 1-4:00pm Printmaking for Everyone Join Elephant Grass Printmakers, for 3 hours of free printmaking demonstrations and activities. Create your own prints celebrating the coming of winter using letterpress, plasticine and snowflakes. All materials are supplied, along with encouragement, guidance and a great deal of laughter. Everyone is welcome. No Registration required. Drop in for a few minutes or stay for the entire time. 240 St George Street, Annapolis Royal.

Sat. Dec. 13, 3:00pm A Service of Lessons & Carols, at St. Mark's Church, Perotte.

Sat. Dec. 13, 3:00pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, St. Mark's Anglican Church, 2553 Perotte Road.

Sat. Dec. 13, 3-5:00pm Legion Kitchen Party - Theresa Porter will host some of her musical friends every 2 weeks at the Annapolis Royal Legion from 3-5pm. Join us for some great live music and remember that the Legion Members' "Toonie" Draw is held at 5pm each Saturday. You never know who will show up to play! Something new each week! Attendance is FREE!

Sat. Dec. 13 West Paradise Community Hall Annual Potluck Christmas Supper. Come at 5:30 to eat at 6pm. Bring dish to share plus your own plate and silverware Always a good time. Celebrate with your neighbours.

Sat. Dec. 13, 7:00pm Paradise Community Hall Christmas Party Join us at the Paradise Community Hall (10300 Hwy #1) for a festive evening of holiday cheer! This year's celebration will be a potluck of hors d'oeuvres and nibbles, so bring along your favorite treats to share. Feel free to show off your festive or ugly Christmas sweater or holiday hat to add to the fun. The hall will be providing hot drinks to keep everyone cozy. All are welcome. Come enjoy the season with neighbours and friends!

Branch 33 Bridgetown Legion
Cribbage Tournament.
Sunday December 14th

Doubles
\$24 per team
\$2 High Hand , \$2 Kitty Buy In

Game play will commence at 1.30pm sharp in the main hall
Pre registration preferred
Walk ins welcome
Open to members & non members
Bar and Kitchen Open at 12.45pm
Contact Jim via email or text message
Jim Macneill 902-309-1136
jimmacneill1965@gmail.com



John H. Armstrong, B.A., LL.B.
Jordan D. Armstrong, B.Sc.(Hons), B.A., J.D.
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www.armstronglawoffice.ca

Sat. Dec. 13, 7:30pm Middleton Choral Society presents Sing Noel! at Middleton Baptist Church, with special Guests Conduit Chamber Choir. Tickets \$15, youth 12 and under FREE. Tickets are available from members or by calling 902-825-9433. Learn more or connect with us at facebook.com/MiddletonChoral or email MiddletonChoral@gmail.com.

Sun. Dec. 14, 11:00am Bridgetown Baptist continues to worship weekly. Join us on Sundays at the Royal Canadian Legion, 20 Jeffery St., for a joyful time of worship. 902-665-2506. 10:30 for prayer and 11am for worship! bridgetownbaptist@gmail.com.

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December 12th to December 18th

**Hours: Mon. to Fri. 9 am - 7 pm Sat. 9 am - 5 pm
Sun. and Holidays 12 noon - 5 pm**

TIME TO *Renew*

Attention SOOF Voting Members!



Don't forget that your annual membership will be expiring on December 31! You will have until March 31, 2026 to renew your Voting Membership with Save Our Old Forests Association.

But why wait? Get this off your "to-do list" now so you don't have to worry about it!



PAY WHAT YOU CAN

Suggested pricing:
\$20 Adults
\$10 Students & Seniors
saveourol forests.ca/get-involved



SOOF Memberships make
great stocking stuffers!



Join Joerg, Barbara & friends to enjoy food, friendship, song & celebrate the holidays

Christmas Dinner
December 24th at 4:00 & 6:30
 with guitarist Danny Szauter
December 25th at 2:00, **4:00*** & 6:30
 with pianist Wendy*
 Set menu only - same on both 24th & 25th
 See menu details and reserve at
 EdelweissInnNovaScotia.com

Open December 26th-29th regular hours 4:00-8:00
 with open menu based on availability.
 Closed December 30th

New Years Eve December 31st
 Seatings at 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 with set menu only.
 See menu details and reserve at EdelweissInnNovaScotia.com

New Years Day January 1st
 Open 4:00-8:00
 with open menu based on availability.

Edelweiss restaurant winter schedule
 Open Thursday - Monday from 4:00-8:00 (closed Tuesday and Wednesday)
 or open by special event group bookings.

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January 2nd to February 11th – Closed for Renovations
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Sun. Dec. 14, 11am-2:00pm Farmers and Crafters Market, every Sunday at the Lions Club at 948 Hwy 1, Deep Brook. Local vendors and farmers. New vendors always welcome.

Sun. Dec. 14, 2:00pm Worship and Potluck Centrelea Baptist Church 3495 Highway 201. Our 2 PM worship service will be followed by a time of fellowship and celebration at the Centrelea Community Hall. God's children of all ages are invited to come and celebrate Jesus' Birthday, join in singing Christmas carols and share a potluck dinner.

Sun. Dec 14, 3:00pm Family Christmas Singalong at Aylesford United Church, 2414 Hwy 1. Wheelchair accessible. Free will offering.

Sun. Dec. 14, 4-7:00pm Olde Fashioned Winter Wonderland Join us for our first Olde Fashioned Winter Wonderland. Hayrides, local vendors, light displays, music, lots of cool photo ops, Santa and more! Family friendly & entry is Free. Non-perishable food items will be collected for Lawrencetown Food Pantry.

**340 St. George St.
Annapolis Royal**

**Wednesday, December 17
10:00 AM
Sunday, December 21
10:00 AM**
St. Luke's Anglican Church
Holy Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher
Father Jordan Draper
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**The Anglican Church of Canada
Parish of Wilmot**

All Saints - 521 Pleasant St. Kingston, NS Sun. 9:30am
 Holy Trinity - 45 Main St. Middleton, NS Sun. 11:00am
 Website: <https://parishofwilmot.ca>

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sun. Dec. 14, 7-9:00pm Fun Darts, every Sunday evening at the Bridgetown Legion, 20 Jeffery Street. \$3 entry returned in prizes.

Mon. Dec. 15, 10-11:00am Indoor Fitness Walking @ Lower Granville Hall (3551 Granville Rd., Port Royal). Drop in every Monday and/or Thursday for an indoor walk. These basic low-impact cardio walking videos exercise the whole body (We usually walk 2-3 miles which is 30 or 45 minutes). These videos incorporate walking in place, knee raises, kicks, side and back steps, arm movements and so much more. \$2 Donation Suggested. *

Mon. Dec. 15, 10am-12:00pm Memoir Writing Group meets every Monday morning in the music room at the Annapolis Library to share chapters of their memoirs for friendly discussion. No workshops. Everyone welcome. No class held on Dec 29.

Mon. Dec. 15, 1:30-3pm Care Givers Support Group (for people who care for loved ones with dementia) The group meets the 3rd Monday of the month, except July and August, from 1:30 – 3:00pm, at St George & St Andrew United Church, 393 St George St, Annapolis Royal, (at the lights), Office Door, side entry. Contacts: Art Jones – 902-532-0784; Lou Fletcher – 902-532-2377.

Mon. Dec. 15, 7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study, weekly, at Salvation Army Church, Bridgetown. Are you a young adult (age 18-40ish) interested in meeting other young adults in the area and studying God's word together? This is the group for you! Light refreshments will be provided. All are welcome! Bring a friend! Please email Carrie at bridgetownbaptistyoungadults@gmail.com with any questions. *

Mon. Dec. 15, 7:00pm Valley Lions Radio Bingo (VLRB) is a Media Bingo broadcast on Annapolis Valley Radio, AVR 97.7FM and other AVR stations from Digby to Windsor, every Monday night from 7- 8pm. Bingo Cards are sold through valley retail locations. Info at www.vlrb.ca *

Mon. Dec. 15, 7-9:00pm Craft Club @ Lower Granville Hall (3551 Granville Rd., Port Royal). Now EVERY Monday night! Calling all Fibre artists. Join us at the Hall for a Stitch'n'Bi*ch. All skill levels welcome. Knit, crochet, embroider, felt, mend, sew, quilt, spin, weave, needlepoint, rug hooking... We will put the kettle on. Bring your project and \$2 Hall donation. *

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WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY - 7PM

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FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON... JN. 3:16

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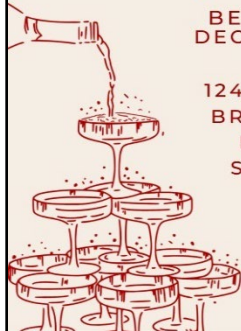
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The Bridgetown Reader will publish
our final issue of 2025 on December
18. We take a two-week break and
return on January 9th.
Happy Holidays, everyone!

Sat. Dec. 20, 1-3:00pm Closing Day

A Mull-titude of Thanks to Our
Community and Volunteers.
ARTSPLACE is so grateful to everyone
for your participation and support this
year. Drop by for a cup of hot, mulled
cider and seasonal treats, as we
celebrate the final day of another year
together. Everyone is welcome,
whether it's your first visit or you've
been with the Annapolis Region
Community Arts Council for each of
our 43 years! ARTSPLACE Gallery, 396
St. George Street, Annapolis Royal /
www.arcac.ca

Sat. Dec. 20, 1-4:00pm Christmas at

the Station Open House at the
Middleton Railway Museum. Tour the
Station and view the displays and
model railway layout. There will be
model trains and accessories for sale
also. Plus, we also have a huge
Victorian Christmas display this year.
61 School St., Middleton.

Sat. Dec. 20, 3:00pm Raffle Draw for a 4 person 72-hr Emergency Kit

@ Lower Granville Hall (3551
Granville Rd., Port Royal). Our 72-hour
emergency kit raffle is a chance to
take one step toward peace of mind.
Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5 and are
on sale now. You can grab them at all
our upcoming events, The Red Onion
Market, Weasy's Hair Salon, and we
will be at several Holiday Markets
around the area. We will announce
those on our Facebook page as details
get finalised. The draw will take place
on December 20th at 3 PM (you do not
need to be present to win). Don't miss
your chance to be ready for anything!
Questions? Email
LowerGranvilleHall@gmail.com

**Sat. Dec. 20, 3:00pm Yuletide Carol
Concert,** A Musique Royale Concert at
St. Luke's Anglican Church, Annapolis
Royal. Free Will Offering.

Sat. Dec. 20, 7-9:00pm Music Bingo

- The Annapolis Royal Legion will host
Belinda Atwell for a fun evening of
Christmas Themed Music Bingo. Prizes
for 1 line, 4 corners, corner stamp,
around the free, around outside and
full card. Bingo cards are \$2 each and
you can purchase as many as you like.
Everyone is welcome to play, members
and guests!

Sat. Dec. 20, 8:00pm Reeny's Family

Christmas at Evergreen Theatre
Experience reimagined classics,
stirring originals, and the kind of
festive energy that only Reeny can
deliver. With elements of gospel, R&B,
roots, folk, and jazz, the Smith family
will deliver soul-stirring and room-
silencing renditions of seasonal
favourites and will share their joy of
the Christmas season. Tickets: Adults
\$35, Members \$25, Military \$30, and
Students \$20, available at
www.evergreentheatre.ca 1941
Stronach Mtn Rd., Margaretsville.

Sun. Dec. 21, 1-4:00pm Christmas at

the Station Open House at the
Middleton Railway Museum. Tour the
Station and view the displays and
model railway layout. There will be
model trains and accessories for sale
also. Plus, we also have a huge
Victorian Christmas display this year.
61 School St., Middleton.

Tues. Dec. 23, 1:30-4pm Jam

Session at Parker Hall, Victoria Vale,
across from the church, every 2nd
Tuesday. Doors open at 1:00. Come out
for an afternoon of music, fun and
refreshment and support the Hall.
Next Jam Jan. 6 *

Wed. Dec. 24, 2:00pm Christmas

Eve Service at Inglisville Baptist
Church with the musical group TWO
PLUS ONE - Jackie, Daniel, Brian and
Mike.

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Christmas is for fun, laughter,
caring and sharing

Enjoy good company and home cooked food

**FREE
Sit Down
Christmas Dinner**

Bridgetown Fire Hall, 31 Bay Road
Thursday, December 25th
Dinner Served at 1:00pm Sharp!

**Turkey
With All of the Trimmings**

Please call Maureen & Jerry Publow
by December 22nd, at 902-840-3559
to have your name added to our
guest list.

To volunteer to help with either vegetable
preparation on December 24th in the morning or
in any capacity on Christmas Day, call Maureen &
Jerry Publow at 902-840-3559

Come and Enjoy - Everyone Welcome

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Sat, Dec. 29, 6:00pm Sixth Annual Annapolis Valley Folk School's In Between Time Potluck at 1963 Clarence Road, Clarence. Come for an evening of food and fun! Bring your favorite foods to share with everyone, as well as a favorite memory or two for sharing, and if any of you loves to make music do bring your instrument to share as well! You can get your tickets here: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/sixth-annual-in-between-potluck-tickets-1975251102219> Please bring some food for the community pantry, it has been in very high demand as of late and anything is appreciated to help keep the shelves stocked! If you have any questions please reach out to avfolkschool@gmail.com or call 902 309 0224.

Wed. Dec. 31, 1-3:00pm New Year's Eve Courtyard Bonfire Gather 'round the Courtyard Bonfire (if conditions permit) at the Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens on Wednesday afternoon to celebrate New Year's Eve with us. 441 St. George Street, Annapolis Royal.

Thur. Jan. 1, 12-4:00pm New Year's Levee Join us at the Annapolis Royal for our Annual New Year's Levee, hosted in conjunction with the Town of Annapolis Royal. Ring in the New Year with friends both new and old, and enjoy some great buffet, prepared by our awesome Legion volunteers! Everyone is welcome.

Sat. Jan. 3, 8-10:00am Bridgetown Lions Big Breakfast at the Legion, 20 Jeffery Street, Bridgetown. Come join us to welcome in the New Year. Free will offering as always

Wed. Jan. 14, 1-3:00pm Senior's Day at the Bear River & Area Community Health Clinic, 1112 River Rd. This recurring monthly event falls on the second Wednesday of each month and is intended as a time to catch up with old friends and meet new ones! Enjoy light refreshments and rotating activities through the year. Free will donation at the door. *

Sun Jan 18 SOOF Soup Sunday Join Save Our Old Forests at the Centrelea Community Hall (3495 Highway 201) for our first SOOF Soup Sunday of 2026! SOOF will be dishing out a free lunch of homemade soup and bread, with tasty treats and coffee and tea. Lunch is served starting at 12pm with a presentation/talk to follow starting around 1pm. Guest Speaker & Topic - to be announced. If you missed the pottery before Christmas, we'll have more of Ray Mackie's "Seconds" available for Pay What You Can (proceeds to SOOF). Free lunch. All Welcome. Donations to the Hall appreciated. saveouroldforests.ca/event/20260118-soupsunday/

Mon. Jan. 19, 10:00am The Bridgetown and Area Community Fund members will hold their **annual meeting** in the Britespan Atlantic building at 441 Granville St., #1, Bridgetown. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend to learn about their local Community Fund.

A Christmas PRESENTATION

SON IS GIVEN

December 20th @ 7pm / December 21st @ 5pm



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Sun Feb 15 SOOF Soup Sunday Join Save Our Old Forests at the Centrelea Community Hall (3495 Highway 201) for our February SOOF Soup Sunday! We will be offering a delicious free lunch of homemade soup and bread, with tasty treats and coffee and tea. Lunch is served starting at 12pm with a presentation/talk to follow starting around 1pm. Guest Speaker & Topic - to be announced. You can also pick up a belated Valentine for the pottery lover in your life; Ray Mackie's "Second" will be available for Pay What You Can (proceeds to SOOF). Free lunch. All Welcome. Donations to the Hall appreciated. saveouroldforests.ca/event/20260215-soupsunday/

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Hall Potluck
Nov 29th 5 - 7 pm

Holiday Centerpiece Workshop
Dec 7th 1 - 3 pm (See website for registration)

72-hr Emergency Kit Draw
Dec 20th 3 pm (Tickets available at The Red Onion, Weasy's Hair Salon, our events, and a few upcoming Holiday Markets)

Yoga Tuesdays Drop-ins Welcome!

- Floor Flow 10 am
- Chair Yoga 11 am
- Standing Hatha 12pm

Craft Club Mondays, 7-9 pm

Indoor Fitness Walking Mon/Thur 10-11 am

Book Club 3rd Monday, 7 pm

Community Coffee Fridays, 10-11:30 am

Later this Month
Cats for Keeps Raffle Draw - November 30th 12 pm
Check the events page on our website for more info.

Felker Hall Community Center Regular Weekly Activities

734 Broadway Ave, Cornwallis Park. Email address: cornwallispark@outlook.com
Sunday - Darts - 2:00-4:00
Jim 902-638-3175 or Marty 902-638-3164

Monday - Keep Fit and Healthy Classes
8:45 - 9:45am
Carole 902-376-2055
Line Dancing Intermediate 10:00 - 11:00am To preregister, please contact Durline at 902-532-3035 or email dance.canada@explorerguide.ca
Hatha Yoga
11:30am - 12:45pm
Sridhara 250-228-3848
Tuesday - Library open 1-3pm Jackie 902-340-0007
Zumba 6:30 - 7:30pm \$7 per session Wendy 902-532-7736

Wednesday - Keep Fit and Healthy Classes
8:45-9:45am
Carole 902-376-2055
Thursday - TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 8am weigh in and 8:30 meeting. Contact Maritza 902-247-1473
Cribbage 1pm-3:00
Pete 902-376-2007

Friday - Keep Fit and Healthy Classes
8:45-9:45am
Carole 902-376-2055
Line Dancing Intermediate 10:00-11:00am To preregister, please contact Durline at 902-532-3035 or email dance.canada@explorerguide.ca
Chair Yoga
11:30am - 12:45pm
Sridhara 250-228-3848
Meat Bingo - 7pm, Doors open @ 6pm
Gina 902-526-2694 or ontheshore4@outlook.com
For information on CORAH presentations and sessions please contact Gail gailrogw@gmail.com
For Hall Rental contact Marty @ 902-638-3164

Bridgetown Royal Canadian Legion DECEMBER 2025

Fri 5

Thurs 11

Fri 12

Sun 14

FRI 19

SAT 20

Wed 24

CLOSED

BRITISH MUSIC DANCE
KITCHEN 5.30-8PM \$5 8.30PM

THURSDAY SUPPER
CHINESE MENU 5.30 7.30PM \$22

CHRISTMAS KARAOKE 7PM
KITCHEN & BAR OPEN

CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT NOON
KITCHEN & BAR OPEN

PUB NIGHT 5.30PM
LIVE MUSIC, KITCHEN & BAR OPEN
RACHEL, NOAH & MARK

MEMBERS POTLUCK 4PM - 7PM
SIGN UP IN THE LOUNGE

LOUNGE BAR OPEN 3PM - 6PM

CHRISTMAS DAY & BOXING DAY



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HOLIDAY

Municipal Office Hours

DEC 24	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM
DEC 25	CLOSED
DEC 26	CLOSED
DEC 27	CLOSED
DEC 28	CLOSED
DEC 29	CLOSED
DEC 30	CLOSED
DEC 31	CLOSED
JAN 1	CLOSED
JAN 2	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

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NOTICE

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VWRM 2026 Calendars are now
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picked up at Town Hall between the
hours of 10:00am-4:00pm, Monday-
Friday.

Year End 2025 Thank You

The Directors of Soldiers Memorial Hospital Foundation wish you a Happy Holiday Season and all the best for 2026 ! Your Foundation has been very busy again this year. We purchased several pieces of vital equipment for Soldiers Memorial Hospital’s Emergency Department, Lab, and the Veterans’ Unit—totaling more than \$113,000. Also, our fundraising for three major projects—Diagnostic Imaging Equipment, Veterans’ Patio, and the Annapolis County Seniors’ Safety Program—continues.

Perhaps the most significant advancement we made this year was to change our focus from relying on the proceeds of our investments to fund equipment purchases and programs. We have now become primarily a fundraising Foundation. Yes, we have always been active in fundraising in our hospital’s service area—Bridgetown to Aylesford—to buy equipment for the hospital; but there are other opportunities to raise funds as well.

In Canada, there are several thousand family and charitable foundations devoted to providing funding to healthcare charities such as ours. We have been successful in sourcing almost \$400,000 in funding for the Diagnostic Imaging equipment and Veterans’ Patio from these foundations. This allows us to preserve the endowment funds we have raised over the past 53 years since Soldiers Memorial Hospital Foundation was established and ensures that we can invest more money in hospital equipment purchases.

Also, of note this past year is that the Mid Valley Region Physician Recruitment & Retention Committee continues to work hard to help bring new doctors to our area and make sure they and their families feel welcome. It has had great success by bringing in several new physicians in 2025 and there will be more in the new year. In fact, 11 family physicians have started their practice here in the past four years since the Committee was formed. The ‘Need a Family Physician’ wait list is getting shorter!

We are determined to see Soldiers Memorial Hospital once again fully serve our community, but we can’t do it without your help. As the December 31st deadline for income tax deductions for 2025 fast approaches we would ask that you consider making a donation to our Foundation. You can earmark your donation for the Diagnostic Imaging Equipment, Veterans’ Patio, or Annapolis County Seniors’ Safety Program campaigns or for our other programs: Physician Recruitment, Palliative Care, or Priority Needs.

To donate, please go to our website: middletonsmhf.ca and click on Donate Now or you may mail your donation to: SMH Foundation, PO Box 730, Middleton, NS B0S 1P0 Also, you can e-transfer your donation to officeadministrator@middletonsmhf.ca

Are you aware of the tremendous tax advantages of donating securities (i.e., publicly traded stocks, bonds, ETF’s, or mutual fund units) to a registered charity in Canada? Here’s how it works and why it is beneficial:

- It eliminates Capital Gains Tax. Normally, when you sell securities that have gone up in value, you must pay capital gains tax on 50% of the increase in value. But if you donate the securities directly to a registered charity, the capital gains tax is eliminated — you pay 0% on the gain.



- Plus you get a Charitable Donation Tax Credit. You receive a charitable donation receipt for the full market value of the securities at the time of donation (not the original cost). That credit can be applied against your income tax. The federal and provincial tax credits combined can range from 40% to over 50% of the donation value.

To qualify for the current tax year, the transfer of ownership to the charity must be completed, not just initiated, by December 31 so please reply immediately if you wish to take advantage of this opportunity. Phone Michael Fairn at 902 825 9011 or email him at fundraising@middletonsmhf.ca to complete the paperwork.

We thank you for your continued support and wish all the best to you in the coming year! With appreciation, on behalf of Soldiers Memorial Hospital Foundation Board of Directors, Don Hyslop, Chair





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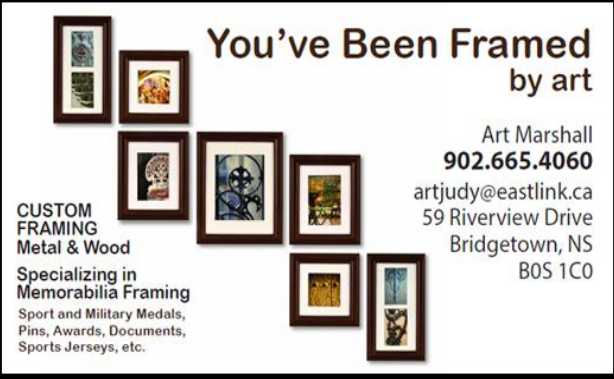


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Community Calendar and Bulletin Board items, News, Business Notes, & Rentals, are all FREE.

Looking for Christmas gift ideas? What about a CARP membership!

Clean Annapolis River Project has been working actively in your community for 35 years. How would your membership help? Membership fees are used to support CARP's conservation and stewardship initiatives, such as monitoring the quality of water, restoring fish habitat, protecting species at risk and much more. In addition, 20% of membership fees goes to the Hawboldt Environment Studies bursary, awarded annually to a graduating high school student who is entering a university environmental studies program.

Membership includes:

- Subscription to the Waterstrider newsletter
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- Student... \$15.00
- Institutional... \$50.00
- Lifetime... \$250.00

You can purchase a membership on our website at: www.annapolisriver.ca/membership

Community Grant In-Person Sessions

Want to learn more about funding opportunities for your community? Join us as we share information about Annapolis County municipal grant program, how you can apply and answer your questions.

Thurs. Dec 11, 3-4:00pm - Annapolis Royal Legion, 66 Victoria St, Annapolis Royal

Mon. Dec 15, 3-4:00pm - Lawrencetown Legion, 490 Main St, Lawrencetown

Wed. Dec 17, 7-8:00pm - Felker Hall 734 South Broadway Avenue, Cornwallis Park
To register for online sessions go to www.annapoliscounty.ca

Soldiers Memorial Hospital emergency department will be open each Saturday in December 2025, from 7:30am to 1:30pm. The emergency department is regularly open Monday to Friday, 7:30am to 1:30pm. Virtual Urgent Care is open every day. Mon-Sat 8am-7pm and Sunday from 8am-3:30pm.



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Page 9

“The quiet transition from autumn to winter is not a bad time at all. It's a time for protecting and securing things and for making sure you've got in as many supplies as you can. It's nice to gather together everything you possess as close to you as possible, to store up your warmth and your thoughts and burrow yourself into a deep hole inside, a core of safety where you can defend what is important and precious and your very own. Then the cold and the storms and the darkness can do their worst. They can grope their way up the walls looking for a way in, but they won't find one, everything is shut, and you sit inside, laughing in your warmth and your solitude, for you have had foresight.”

— Tove Jansson, from Moominvalley in November

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CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 13th, 2025 at 7:00 PM

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The Paradise Community Hall will be sparkling with holiday spirit.


It's a potluck party - please bring hors d'oeuvres or nibbles to share.

Feel free to wear your favourite festive/ugly Christmas sweater or best holiday hat.

The Hall will provide hot chocolate, tea, and coffee.

Come celebrate the season with old (and new!) friends, food, and festive cheer.

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OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, December 14th | 4pm - 7pm

LAWRENCETOWN YOUTH ARENA

Coming to King’s Theatre

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Fri. Dec. 12, 7:30pm Jenn Grant (live performance) We are excited to welcome Jenn Grant back to the King’s Theatre stage with her trio. Jenn Grant’s music is deeply empathetic and generous of heart, so of course one day she would invite the whole country to make it with her. Champagne Problems, her eighth album and first in the producer’s chair alongside partner Daniel Ledwell, gathers 13 musicians from coast to territory to coast in a series of collaborative Canadian magic tricks spun into classic country, lost disco hits, and ruminative folk fables. Tickets: Adults \$40, Supported \$20, Youth: \$15.

Sun. Dec. 14, 3:00pm André Rieu’s Merry Christmas, a Stage to Screen Presentation This holiday season, the magic begins on the big screen. Join André Rieu for his 2025 Christmas Concert – “Merry Christmas” and experience joyful carols, beautiful waltzes, and plenty of surprises – it’s the ultimate Christmas cinema event! With his fabulous Johann Strauss Orchestra, and special guests including the sensational Emma Kok and over 400 brass players bringing the majestic sound of Christmas, André’s concert is bursting with warmth, laughter, and holiday cheer. Christmas is André’s favourite time of year – and he can’t wait to share this spectacular concert with you, only in cinemas! Tickets: Adult \$16.95, Youth: \$7.95.Fri.

Fri. Dec. 19, 7:00pm Now You See Me: Now You Don’t (film, PG) The Four Horsemen return along with a new generation of illusionists performing mind-melding twists, turns, surprises, and magic unlike anything ever captured on film. Tickets \$11.95 Adult, \$7.95 Youth.

Sat. Dec. 20, 7:30pm Ashley MacIsaac Celtic Christmas Ceilidh (live performance) Join Ashley MacIsaac and friends for a wonderful evening of tunes that are bound to get you in the holiday spirit! Tickets: Adults \$50, Supported \$30, Youth \$15.

Sun. Dec. 21, 2:00pm The Royal Ballet: The Nutcracker, a Stage to Screen presentation. Peter Wright’s much-loved production for The Royal Ballet, with gorgeous period designs by Julia Trevelyan Oman, keeps true to the spirit of this festive ballet classic, combining the thrill of the fairy tale with spectacular dancing. It is the perfect Christmas treat for all the family. Tickets: Adult \$16.95, Youth \$7.95.

Sat. Dec. 27, 12:00pm Zootopia 2 (film) Detectives Judy Hopps (voiced by Ginnifer Goodwin) and Nick Wilde (voiced by Jason Bateman) find themselves on the twisting trail of a mysterious reptile who arrives in Zootopia and turns the mammal metropolis upside down. To crack the case, Judy and Nick must go undercover to unexpected new parts of town, where their growing partnership is tested like never before. Tickets \$11.95 Adult, \$7.95 Youth.

Tues. Dec. 30, 2:00pm Dufflebag Theatre’s Cinderella (live performance) Poor Cinderella. All she wants to do is go to the Royal Ball to meet Prince Charming. But her mean stepmother and stepsisters won’t let her go, so they ruin her dress and leave without her. With the help of her Fairy Godmother, Cinderella gets to go to the castle after all and make the grand entrance she’s always dreamed about. The only catch is that Cinderella must be back by midnight when the spell is broken! The comedic timing is bang on as curfews, lost footwear, and giant pumpkins abound in this fun-filled version of the classic fairy tale from DuffleBag Theatre, especially when members of the audience are invited to star in the show! Suitable for all ages. Tickets: Adults \$20, Youth: \$10.

Tues. Dec. 30, 5:00pm Rental Family (film, PG) Set in modern-day Tokyo, Rental Family follows an American actor (Brendan Fraser) who struggles to find purpose until he lands an unusual gig: working for a Japanese “rental family” agency, playing stand-in roles for strangers. As he immerses himself in his clients’ worlds, he begins to form genuine bonds that blur the lines between performance and reality. Confronting the moral complexities of his work, he rediscovers purpose, belonging, and the quiet beauty of human connection. Tickets \$11.95 Adult, \$7.95 Youth.



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Winter 2026

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Current and recent issues of The Reader are available night and day, 7 days a week at www.bridgetownreader.news

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Annapolis Royal Wharf

Closed for Winter due to no Winter Maintenance starting week of December 8, 2025 until Spring 2026.

Want us to run a display ad for you? You can pay for and upload your file at www.bridgetownreader.news. Click on “Shop” to get started. You can pay on our secure site and upload your graphic file--- quick and easy. Or give us a shout at 902-824-0412. We offer a 15% discount for 8 or more ads paid in advance and can help you design your ad.

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You could be a winner during our two Gift Certificate Days! Join us on Thursday, Dec. 18 (9 AM–8 PM) and Saturday, Dec. 20 (9 AM–12 PM) for your chance to enter a draw to WIN a Gift Certificate. There will be winners on both days, so don’t miss out! Holiday Hours are Mon Dec 22nd 9 - 8pm for all your last-minute shopping. Tuesday Dec 23rd 9 - 6 pm. Wed Dec 24th 9 - 1:00. Closed for that big vacation y’all feel I need, Back open on Mon Dec 29th 9 - 5, Tues Dec 30 9 - 5, Wed Dec 31st 9 - 1, open Fri, Jan 2nd, 2026.

The final 2025 issue of the *Bridgetown Reader* comes out on December 19th. We’ll be taking a short break and returning in January 2026. Hope you’ll join me with a HUGE shout-out to Lewis, the creator of the *Bridgetown Reader*.

We have lots of Fundraiser Tickets for the Lower Granville Hall on a 4- person/72-hour Emergency Kit , \$2 each or 3 for \$5, Cash Please. Draw date Dec 20th.

Anna Royal Vol Fire Dept- will be doing Letters to Santa, Drop off Dec 1 - 13th. ARVF Dept. Toy Drive held at Anna/Royal Home Hardware Sat Dec 13th 1-3pm.

Anna/Royal - AWEC SR. Girls Basketball Home Tournament, Fri Dec 12 @ 4 pm is YCMHS JV vs AWEC, 5:45- BRCS vs DRHS. Sat Dec 13 @ 9am AWEC vs DRHS, 10:45- BRCS vs YCMHSJv, 12:30 pm DRHSvs YCMHSJv. then at 2:15 pm AWEC vs BRCS. Come support our team.

Anna/Royal- Annapolis Family Practice- Dec 12th closed at noon, Dec 19th closed at noon, Dec 23- 28 Holiday/closed, Dec 30 closed at noon, Dec 31 closed. January 1- 2 Holiday/closed

Anna/Royal- Loose Ends has a Food Drive on the go until Dec 20. Open Sundays.

Anna/Royal- Variety Show & Student Fair Fundraiser Thursday Dec 18 @ 6:30 held at AWEC Highschool (Champlain Drive).From music to magic, dancing to drama, much more. Browse student-made artwork, crafts and creations perfect for gift giving (Cash Only) Everyone is invited to attend. Free Will Offering. Canteen with delicious treats. All proceeds supporting AWEC Travel Club. Anna/Royal- Memorial Angel Tree at the Annapolis Community Health Centre is in support of furniture in the palliative care family room. You can get an ‘Angel’ for your donation at the front desk at Anna Com Health Centre (ACHC) until Christmas.

Anna/Royal - Christmas Music Bingo at the Legion Saturday Dec 20th @ 7 pm. \$2 a card

Anna/Royal- At King’s Theatre, for every \$50 Gift Card purchased you get 2 Free Movie passes. Offer is good for Gift Cards purchased between 3 - 23rd, 2025

Anna/Royal - The Potting Shed Flowers and Plants - location is at 27 Church Street, Mon - Fri 10 am - 4 pm.

Anna/Royal - ‘Buy Local Raffle’ of Gift Cards and handmade items for Cats For Keeps Tickets available at The Red Onion Market, Tickets are \$4 ea or 3 for \$10 Draw Dec15 @1

Anna/Royal - King’s Theatre has a Gallery FULL of paintings for sale until Dec 30th.

Anna/Royal – Annapolis Basin Community Band Winter Concert is at King’s Theatre Thurs Dec 11th @ 7 pm. Special Guests: AWEC Concert Band.

Brickton- Winter Wonderland A Youth Semi-formal at Com/Hall Fri Dec 19th 6:30 - 8 pm @12062 Hwy #1 \$4 at the door. Snacks & refreshments available to purchase.

Bridgetown- FREE Sit-down Christmas Dinner- at the B’Town Firehall, 31 Bay Rd, Thurs. Dec 25th, Dinner served at 1 :00 SHARP! Call Maureen & Jerry to be added to the guest list Turkey & all trimmings by Dec 22 at 902-840-3559. To VOLUNTEER to help with either vegetable preparation on Dec 24th in the morning OR in any capacity on Christmas Day, Call Maureen at 902-840-3559. Come and enjoy- Everyone Welcome.

Bridgetown Fire Dept- letters to Santa until Dec 14. Delivery 17th & 18th @ 6:30.

Bridgetown- V & S is open until 6 pm. Thanks for such a neat little store.

Digby - Christmas Parade (6 pm) and Lobster Trap Tree Lighting 6:45 Fireworks @ 7 pm.

Granville Ferry- The Wooden Spool Fabric Shop Christmas Hours: Closing at 5:00 pm December 20th, and Re-opening January 5th , 2026

King’s Transit bus service. www.kbus.ca

Know Before You Go-Check out the roads 511.novascotia.ca. Ice & Snow take it Slow.

Lawrencetown- The Exhibition Grounds Winter Wonderland on Sun Dec 14th from 4 - 7 pm .Its FREE! Hayrides, Santa, Light display, photo ops, cider, music and more

Lequille - Pizza Shop notice, they are closing early on Dec 24 at 7 pm. Closed Dec 25th, 26th and 29th. Open for the 30th & 31st. In the New Year, it will be open Fri, Sat and Sun 11 - 7 pm (or 8 depending on business) We will return to the 6-day week schedule on April 1st. Special orders can be made with a week’s notice.

Provincial Mental Health & Addictions Crisis 1-888-429-8167

Kids Help Line 1-800-668-6868 Text connect to 686868

Good News Story After the devastating wildfire in West Dalhousie, the community faced many challenges—among them, the need for new civic signs. Thanks to the generosity of several donors, the entire project was fully funded, ensuring no cost to residents and preserving all funds donated to the West Dalhousie Community Hall. This project came together through the hard work and goodwill of countless volunteers and supporters. The list of helping hands is simply too long to name individually, and we don’t want to risk missing anyone. Instead, we invite you to read the full story and see the impact of this incredible community effort in *The Valley Eve*.



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Bulletin Board

Looking for something? Buying, selling, giving away, renting? Listings are free. Email readerpublishing@outlook.com call or text 902-824-0412 or use the contact forms at www.bridgetownreader.news

Wanted: Used KitchenAid stand mixer in good/excellent condition with working attachments and, if possible, a grain mill. Call or text 902-532-0604 and please leave a message.

For Sale: Yamaha PSR 299 full keyboard with stand. Great condition. Paid \$800, asking \$500 or best offer. Three pairs men's cowboy boots, size 7. 902-825-4523

For Sale: Utility trailer. 4'2" x 8' New tires wheels, and bearings. Also has a loading ramp and is in good condition. Asking \$1400 obo. Call 902-526-0455

For Sale: Stuffed animals, 6 to 8 inches high, great stocking stuffers. New with original tags. Squirrel, two dinosaurs, three pandas, lion, owl, mammoth, snow leopard, bear, elephant, one elephant laying down about a foot long. Mostly WWF collection, a few Gund. \$5 each or \$50 for all. Call 902-955-0535.

For Sale: Ink cartridges, new 2 black and 1 colour will fit HP Deskjet printers. These are large capacity cartridges, 65XL colour and 65XL black. Cost \$158. First \$20 OBO. Call 902-955-0535.

Seeking Estates & Quality Items for Our Spring Antique Auction

Auction: We are now accepting estates, partial estates, and individual quality items for our upcoming Spring Auction at the Annapolis Royal Firehall. If you have antiques or collectibles you're considering selling, we can help.

We handle everything — professional photography, cataloguing, advertising, and a full auction service — ensuring your items reach motivated buyers.

We are currently looking for: Fine furniture; Artwork, Paintings and prints; Decorative items; Clocks, glassware, china & unique curiosities; Collections of all kinds.

No obligation consultations. No reserves — everything will sell to the highest bidder. To discuss consigning your items or estate, please contact: Russell — 709-689-2794, russell@maregold.com

Trudi Inglis Home Knitting. Call 902-665-2376

For Sale: Deer Apples \$10 per bag or 5 bags for \$45. Text 902-824-1849.

Wanted: Small (appr. 9" x 5") DVD player which opens up to a screen and DVD placement. You might have one in a closet? Call Sarah Pavia at 902-532-0370 in Annapolis Royal & hope it won't be too difficult to get to where you are.

Sports Cards and Collectibles For Sale: All sports cards, signed collectibles, figurines, magazines, jerseys and tons more. Located in Port Wade- ten mins up Granville Road from Annapolis Royal. Contact John/Rebekka at 604-809-2201. Call or text anytime to arrange to come up.

For Sale: Moss. 500 20ga., good shape. \$350. Text 902-824-1849.

For Sale: Savage 24 series "S", 22LR/20ga. \$750. Text 902-824-1849.

Lost: Pair of prescription sunglasses in a hard, orange Joe Fresh case. Annapolis Royal, Granville Ferry area. If found, please call 902-532-2485 or 902-955-1188.

Looking to Buy: Mobile home in good condition that can be moved. Larger the better. 902-309-1299.

For Sale: 4 Firestone mud & snow winter tires, 245/70 17. \$500. VG condition. 902-532-2044.

Wanted: House-sitting position for the winter months in the Annapolis Valley area, Kingston to Annapolis Royal. Experienced in looking after animals. References available. Call 902-665-2321 and leave message.

Contractor Available: New builds, renos, roofing, siding, etc. Call 902-532-5228 or 902-526-0888.

For Sale: An Evolution Rollator with 8" wheels and a foam-covered steel backrest.. Basket under seat with bag inside. Brand new October 16, 2025, for \$450. It is Black in colour. Handle in seat to fold to fit in a vehicle. \$250 firm. Please call Pat at 902-584-3377 or 902-824-3313.

For Sale: Rocking chair, perfect condition. Wonderful for living room or nursery. Quilt rack, also like new condition. Computer chair with rollers, good condition. Best offers. Please call 902 824-2120 All items would make great Christmas gifts.

For Sale: Middleton area. Medium size propane BBQ w/tank. Used very little. For wood burning BBQ, dry apple tree kindling gives the meat a great taste. Fitted double pair and single double sheets, cotton flannel, like new. Call 902-824-3440.

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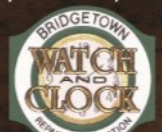
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For Sale: 1 MainStays brand white window blind purchased at Walmart, venetian style with slats size 36" wide and 48" long, never used. Purchased too short length, needed 60" length. Box, instructions and hardware included. Original price \$ 29.79 before taxes, asking \$ 25.00 - no tax. Phone: 902-665-4372

Free Piano! Classic Upright Kingston Wormwith Piano (built circa 1907-1919) Piano needs tuning. In private home in Annapolis Royal. Must come to pick up. Please call 902-340-1849.

Services Offered: Will do grocery shopping and/or pick up services as well as house cleaning- laundry, dishes, sweeping, mopping, cleaning kitchens, bathrooms etc. Willing to travel to Greenwood, Bridgetown, Annapolis Royal and up Granville road. \$ Charge will depend on distance and services needed. Contact Rebekka Sabean, 604-809-2201, text or call.

Community of Clarence Bottle

Drive: The Community of Clarence continues to ask people to donate their refundable bottles behind the Meeting House, 2659 Clarence Road or in front of the barn across from 2847 Clarence Road. All proceeds go towards continued restoration of community buildings and community activities For inquiries please email - inquiries.clarencecommunity@gmail.com or call 902-824-3181.

For Sale: 4 winter tires mounted on rims with low mileage. Includes the sensors. They fit a Ford Ecosport car. I would like \$500 for them. (902) 824-0089.

For Sale: ATV SNOWTRACKS Commoplast T4S System. 3 mounting kits for various ATV's included. Rarely used, no visible wear. \$2500. No tax. Contact 902-638-3376 or email.marilynruth52@gmail.com

Wanted: We are buying scrap gold, silver, old coins and collections. Top dollar paid. Over 40 years' experience and professional testing equipment. Please call to set up an appointment at our shop or always happy to do house calls. Call Stephen or Jacqueline at 902-308-0594

Wanted: We are accepting quality consignments for our upcoming antique and collectible auctions. We do house calls or accept drop offs at our shop. Please call Stephen at 902-308-0594 or check our website at harrisandsonsauctions.com

For Sale: Deer hunting scope, IOR Bucuresty. 2.5 x10-42 mm with 30mm tube. European style focus on eye piece & fixed parallax at 100 yds. Reticule ,7A & adj, MOA. \$450. Target scope, Leupold Vari-x3. 6.5 x 20 -40 mm, one inch tube. Forward parallax adjustment & Target Knobs with plex cross hair. \$450. If interested contact, bloegler@outlook.com or Ph. 902 825-1545.



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For Rent: Storage lockers available in Annapolis Royal. Secure. Easy access. Call 902-521-4986.

Apartment for Rent: Clarence East, 1-2-bedroom apartment, dining room, living room, 1 1/2 bath, kitchen and pantry. Upstairs bathroom, closet and storage room. Spacious front deck. The house is split between 2 households. Non-working fireplace, hardwood floors, fridge, stove, washer and dryer included. Some furniture included. Heat by an oil furnace and an airtight wood stove in kitchen. Oil tank is full when you arrive and must be filled if you decide to leave. 3 cords of wood in woodshed for \$500. 2 parking spaces available. No outdoor dogs. Must have references, please. \$1000, available immediately. 902-584-3081

Condo Available for Rental: 2-bedroom, 2 bath condo at the Academy in Annapolis Royal, large deck, 6 appliances. Available Dec. 1st, \$1,600 per month plus power. Phone 902-532-8337.

For Rent: Annapolis Royal, large 2-bedroom + dining room (or office, den) apartment; bright and cheery with windows on 3 sides, built-in bookshelves, non-working but handsome fireplace & mantel, real wood floors, wide centre hall; off-street parking, free laundry facilities, LED pot lights on dimmers; heat & hot water included, 2nd floor. Spacious living room and bedrooms. On bus line, handy to downtown stores. Must have employment and rental references. \$1700, available Oct 1st. 902-531-2662



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\$11 WINGS EVERY WEDNESDAY EAT IN ONLY 4-9PM

TRIVIA NIGHT W/DOUG HINES TEAMS OF 6 PRIZES FOR WINNERS 6PM-8PM

THU DEC 4TH

UGLY SWEATER KARAOKE PARTY W/ ALEXANDRA DAWN RODGERSON PRIZES FOR BEST SWEATER 7PM-10PM

FRI DEC 5TH

BEER CLUB EXCLUSIVE EVENT 6PM-8PM

THU DEC 11TH

PICTURES WITH SANTA BRING YOUR CAMERA OR PHONE & FOOD OR CASH DONATION FOR THE BRIDGETOWN& AREA FOOD BANK 12PM-3PM

SUN DEC 13TH

NEW NEIGHBOURS ANNAPOLIS VALLEY MEET NEW FRIENDS RESERVE A SEAT RSVP ROB: ROB@ROBSCHELLENBERGER.CA 530PM - 9PM

THU DEC 18TH

HOLIDAY HOURS

MON DEC 22ND 4-9PM

TUE DEC 23RD 4-9PM

WED DEC 24TH 12-4PM RETAIL & PINTS ONLY

CLOSED DEC 25TH & 26TH

SAT DEC 27TH 12-9PM

SUN DEC 28TH 12-5PM

MON DEC 29TH 4-9PM

TUE DEC 30TH 4-9

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Finding safety, belonging and new beginnings: Florida nurses Steve and Matt choose Nova Scotia

(Not specifically a local story, but there were just so many reasons to share it. Article courtesy NS Health)

Two nurses from Florida now call Pictou County home, and they couldn't be more thankful for the local support they've received along the way.

Steve Ortiz is an ICU registered nurse and his husband Matt Ortiz is a medical-surgical RN. Their move from the sunny south to Nova Scotia marks a major life change driven by hope, safety and the desire for a better quality of life.

For more than a year, Steve and Matt had been considering leaving Florida. They explored options across the United States, especially New England, looking for a sense of community and a slower pace. But the day after the 2025 U.S. federal election, they felt an urgency to take action. They expanded their search to Canada, initially focusing on Alberta, but then they saw a Nova Scotia Health recruitment campaign on social media.

Everything changed when they connected with a member of the Nova Scotia Health Recruitment Team, Maha Ajjour. "Within a week, we had interviews, and a week later, job offers," Matt explains. "She completely changed the trajectory for us."

When they drove to Nova Scotia this fall, the transition felt seamless. Immigration consultant Kenny Akinsanya had their paperwork ready and within 45 minutes of arriving, they had their work permits. Community partners in Pictou County picked them up at a coffee shop, showed them around, and helped them get settled. "It was surreal. Clean air, friendly people, no traffic. It felt like the New England coastal vibe we had always wanted," Matt says.

Both nurses say the slower pace of life is refreshing. Coming from Florida's heat, frequent hurricanes, high insurance costs, and traffic, their first Nova Scotia fall felt like relief. "We're learning to slow down, to enjoy not always rushing," Matt adds.

At work, the change has been just as meaningful. "We're still adjusting to having a nursing union that supports us," Steve says. "Nurses here are treated more humanely." The pair has been impressed by the support from leaders and colleagues as they navigate new systems and workflows. "Aberdeen Hospital has been incredibly welcoming," Matt says. "Everyone takes the time to teach and guide us."

One of the most profound differences for Steve and Matt has been the sense of safety and acceptance they feel living openly as a married gay couple. In Florida, visible 2SLGBTQIA+ expressions often felt unsafe. Here, they immediately noticed pride flags in the community. "It lifted a huge weight off my shoulders," Steve says. For Matt, it was emotional: "In Florida, having a pride flag could make you a target. Here, it is a non-issue. I don't have to be afraid anymore."

The community's warmth has made a lasting impression. Neighbours greet them, people offer recommendations and colleagues patiently guide them through Canada's healthcare system. "We feel genuinely supported," Steve says.

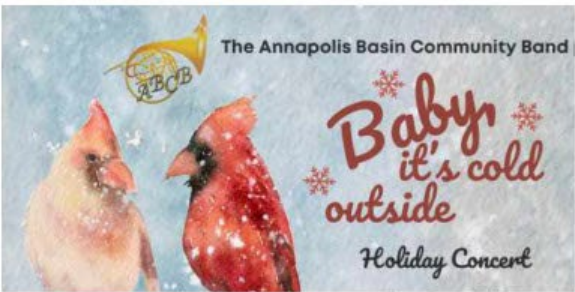
For U.S. healthcare workers considering the move, their message is simple: "Don't give up. Connect with the recruitment team, prepare your documents, and be open to a lifestyle switch. Nova Scotia has been really good to us."

They summarize their journey in once sentence. "No regrets, we are so happy here."

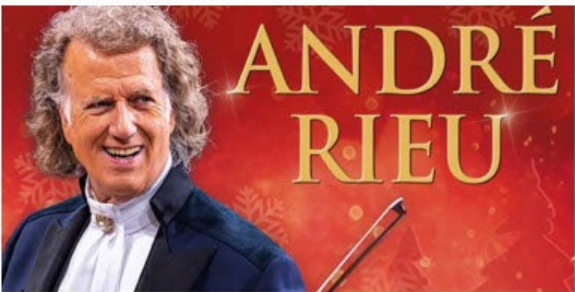
To learn more about career opportunities with Nova Scotia Health, visit <https://www.nshealth.ca/careers/>



COMING EVENTS



BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE
The Annapolis Community Band with special performance by the AVEC concert band
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11th @ 7:00 PM



ANDRÉ RIEU MERRY CHRISTMAS 2025
STAGE TO SCREEN
With his Johann Strauss Orchestra
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th @ 3:00 PM



THE ROYAL BALLET: THE NUTCRACKER
STAGE TO SCREEN
The perfect Christmas show for the entire family
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21st @ 2:00 PM



DUFFLEBAG THEATRE'S CINDERELLA
All-ages fun where members of the audience are invited to star in the show!
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30th @ 2:00 PM



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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12th @ 7:30 PM



NOW YOU SEE ME: NOW YOU DON'T
The Four Horsemen return. Jesse Eisenberg, Woody Harrelson, Dave Franco, Isla Fisher
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19th @ 7:00 PM

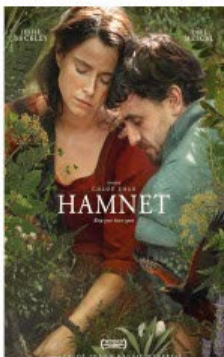
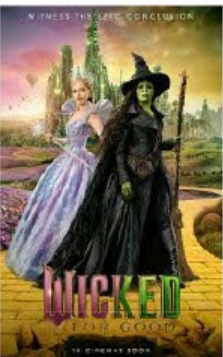


ZOOTOPIA 2
Judy and Nick go undercover to new parts of town, where their partnership is tested
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27th @ 12:00 PM



RENTAL FAMILY
Phillip (Brendan Fraser) rediscovers purpose, belonging and the beauty of human connection.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30th @ 5:00 PM

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Options for New Farmers

The Province is launching a new program to help new farmers and growing agricultural producers access the farmland they need to start or grow their business. The Program for Accessing Agricultural Land will be delivered by the Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board.

Agriculture Minister Greg Morrow made the announcement Thursday, December 4, at the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture’s Farmers’ Forum in Truro. “Young farmers and growing family operations often struggle to find affordable farmland to expand their business. This program gives them a practical way to grow their farms and secure their future,” said Minister Morrow. “Thank you to the Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board for listening to farmers’ needs in designing this program, and to the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture for their advocacy for new and growing farmers.”

The three-year pilot program includes four streams to address diverse challenges:

- a low-cost land leasing option to support new farmers and farmers who want to expand their farms
- a second land leasing option that allows farmers to build equity for a future purchase
- deferred financing to support farm growth in the early years
- startup loans for land, equipment and livestock to help new farmers.

More information on the program is available at:

<https://nsfarmloan.ca/program-for-accessing-agricultural-land/>.
Guidelines and applications will be available on the site in mid-January.

“Synonyms For Tired”
Word Search Answer



“Reassuring Thought”
Cryptoquote
Answer:

I heard a bird sing
in the dark of
December.
A magical thing.
And sweet to
remember.
We are nearer to
Spring than we
were in September.
I heard a bird sing
in the dark of
December.

Oliver Herford

Anagrams Answers
Puzzle 48

Rearrange all the
letters of each word
to form another
common English word.

Afield - Failed
Alpines - Spaniel
Braille - Liberal
Canoes - Oceans
Chopin - Phonic
Defiant - Fainted
Feasts - Safest
Hassles - Slashes
Misread - Admires
Ringless - Slingers

What If I’m Not Tired?
Word Search Puzzle

Animated
Dynamic
Forceful
Hardy
Lusty
Snappy
Spry
Vigorous

Brisk
Energetic
Fresh
Lively
Peppy
Spirited
Tireless
Vital

Find the word or phrase in the
puzzle. Words can share
letters as they cross over each
other. Answer next week.



Anagrams Puzzle 49

Rearrange all the letters of
each word to form another
common English word.
Answers next week.

Cutlery - _____
Damsel - _____
Dumpier - _____
Grieved - _____
Lenses - _____
Manticore - _____
Minutely - _____
Postman- _____
Proselyte - _____
Reposts - _____

“Joy of Movement” Cryptoquote: Each letter in the phrase has been replaced with a random
letter. Answer next week.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
						18			8				14		24					2					

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A brand-new recycling program is here, and it’s going to make a big difference for our communities and the environment.

What’s changing?

More items can now be recycled, helping keep waste out of landfills. Recycling will be consistent across all waste regions in the province. Producers of packaging will take responsibility for recycling their products, which means cost savings for municipalities.

What does this mean for you?

Residents can now put unlimited blue recycling bags and cardboard curbside for collection.

- Businesses will have a limit of six bags, including cardboard.

But does recycling really work?

Yes! Items collected are sorted into categories and sent to be recycled into new products or used for energy recovery—not just dumped in landfills.

Why not use bins instead of bags?

Adding bins would mean expensive truck upgrades, distribution, and maintenance costs, which could raise taxes. Blue bags are made from recyclable film and remain the most effective option.

Want to learn more or check sorting guides?

👉 Visit www.vwrm.com

👉 Learn about the program at www.circularmaterials.ca

The Valley Waste calendars are now available at local businesses throughout the Valley. Keep up with pickup dates and have all the information you need to sort and dispose of household waste. Calendars can also be downloaded at www.vwrm.com

While the sorting and bag limit changes are effective now, more change is on the way beginning April 1, 2026. Rather than one truck for all curbside pickups each week there will be two. One will deal with the recyclable waste and the other will collect garbage and compost. At that time, residents will be able to leave out two bulky items per household for the bi-weekly collection.

BRIDGETOWN ARENA

Free Admission!

2025

Date	Events	Time
Saturday Dec. 20th	Kinder Pre-Skate Public Skate	9:00 - 10:00 am 10:00 - 11:00 am
Sunday Dec. 21st	Public Skate	4:00 - 5:00 pm
Monday Dec. 22nd	Adult Skate Public Skate	3:00 - 4:00 pm 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Tuesday Dec. 23rd	Kinder Pre-Skate Public Skate	3:00 - 4:00 pm 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Wednesday Dec. 24th	Kinder Pre-Skate Public Skate	3:00 - 4:00 pm 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Thursday Dec. 25th	Christmas Day	CLOSED
Friday Dec. 26th	Boxing Day Adult Skate Public Skate	3:00 - 4:00 pm 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Saturday Dec. 27th	Kinder Pre-Skate Public Skate Adult Skate	9:00 - 10:00 am 10:00 - 11:00 am 11:15 - 12:15 pm
Sunday Dec. 28th	Public Skate	4:00 - 5:00 pm
Monday Dec. 29th	Adult Skate Public Skate	3:00 - 4:00 pm 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Tuesday Dec. 30th	Kinder Pre-Skate Public Skate	3:00 - 4:00 pm 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Wednesday Dec. 31st	Kinder Pre-Skate Public Skate	3:00 - 4:00 pm 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Thursday Jan. 1st	New Years Day	CLOSED
Friday Jan. 2nd	Public Skate	4:00 - 5:00 pm
Saturday Jan. 3rd	Kinder Pre-Skate Public Skate	9:00 - 10:00 am 10:00 - 11:00 am




XMAS BREAK SKATING

Bridgetown Arena




902.665.2767





















































WASTE SORTING GUIDE

Visit www.vwrm.com to access Recycle Coach for waste sorting and reminders. The app is available for **FREE** download from Google and Apple stores!



GREEN CART Organics/ Compost	BLUE BAG 1 Recyclable Containers	BLUE BAG 2 Recyclable Paper	GARBAGE Clear Bags	HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
<div> All food waste</div> <div> Sugar and flour bags</div> <div> Leaves, brush and plants</div> <div> Coffee filters, tea bags (no coffee pods)</div> <div> Soiled napkins/paper towels/facial tissues</div> <div> Cat litter (preferably in paper or compostable bags)</div> <div> Pizza boxes</div> <div> Residential cooking fat or fat</div> <div> Pine needles, pine cones, and tree nuts</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• NO plastic bags. Only use bags labelled Certified Compostable• NO ashes (when cold put in clear garbage bag)• NO plastics or milk cartons• NO diapers, wipes or personal hygiene products• NO disposable cups/coffee pods• Bag powdery items if possible• NO dog waste</div>	<div> All plastic bags and containers</div> <div> Aluminum foil and plates</div> <div> Empty milk and juice containers</div> <div> Glass bottles and jars</div> <div> Empty detergent jugs, body care containers</div> <div> Tin cans</div> <div> Frozen food bags</div> <div> Disposable cups</div> <div> Coffee & nut cans</div> <div> Empty Plastic tubes, deodorant</div> <div> Cardboard and frozen juice cans</div> <div> Ice cream tubs</div> <div></div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• NO paper• NO oil jugs• NO food waste• ALL containers must be emptied and rinsed clean</div>	<div> Boxboard (cereal and cracker boxes)</div> <div> Paper egg cartons & coffee trays</div> <div> Newsprint, flyers, magazines, and paper gift wrap (no foil gift wrap)</div> <div> Paper and Envelopes not bubble mailers (clean and dry)</div> <div> Potato and Pet food Bags</div> <div> Clothing hang tags</div> <div> Rolls from toilet paper, tin foil and toweling</div> <div> Cardboard (flattened) and bundled</div> <div> Take-out bags, paper gift bags and tissue paper</div> <div><p>Do not mix container items and paper items in the same bag.</p><ul style="list-style-type: none">• NO plastics or containers• MUST be clean and dry</div>	<div> Plastic cutlery and straws</div> <div> Foil gift wrap and ribbon</div> <div> Disposable wipes</div> <div> Diapers and personal hygiene products</div> <div> Coffee pods</div> <div> Broken toys not containing batteries</div> <div> Pots and pans</div> <div> Clothes lint and floor dust</div> <div> Brushes</div> <div> Pens and markers</div> <div> Dog Waste</div> <div></div> <div><p>Use the Recycle Coach app to help with sorting and reminders</p></div>	<div><p>HHW materials can be taken to the Management Centres during regular hours</p><div></div><p>EMPTY OIL, DEF AND ANTIFREEZE CONTAINERS Accepted for FREE at participating locations and our sites. www.uoma-atlantic.com</p></div> <div><h3>OTHER</h3><div><p>ELECTRONICS Electronics can be dropped off for recycling. See locations and accepted items at recycleMYelectronics.ca/ns</p><p>BATTERIES FREE to drop-off at our Management Centres or participating locations. recyclemybatteries.ca</p><p>CLOTHING/TEXTILES Donate usable clothing, shoes and textiles. Unusable items are garbage. Use clear bags.</p><p>MEDICATIONS/SHARPS Pick up a safe sharps container at a pharmacy. For more info visit pans.ns.ca</p></div></div>