

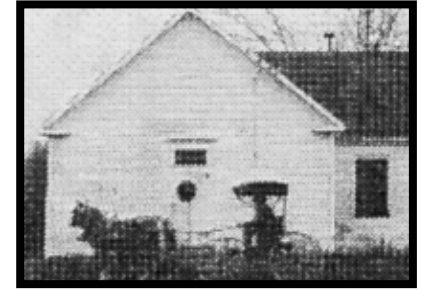
“Knowledge is power, community is strength and positive attitude is everything.”

-Lance Armstrong

# Black River COMMUNITY NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 1

January 2017



## Road Closure Lessons

By Laurie Levy

This last month has been quite an experience for those having to travel out of Black River during road closure hours. It became apparent for the second time (first when the bridge was renewed) that there needs to be better alternate exit and entry routes to Black River Community.

We sat on one side or the other waiting for the road to reopen in the afternoon and counted as many as sixteen vehicles making the exit or re-entry into the community this over a span of a

few minutes at the critical time juncture.

Posting Schofield Road...”unmaintained and use at own risk”...did not sit well with many in the community. Although we are not anxious to have a large increase of traffic past our residence, this route should be widened and improved to proper road standards. Corkum and Burns (East) hill (a.k.a. Weir Rd.) was treacherous through most of the road closure. Certainly having to travel Deep Hollow Road, Porcupine Hill to Davidson St., thus Hollow Bridge and Black River Road was not a pleasure either.

Some reasons for this upgrading: first responder vehicles could access Black River Road emergencies much faster; snow removal equipment need not be ‘land locked’ on one side or the other allowing easier maintenance and easier return to depot for these vehicles.

Additional service vehicles, like NS Power would find access advantageous as well. Perhaps this would be a good place for one dry stand - pipe for the fire department.

There are a growing number of permanent residencies on Lumsden, Black River Lake Rd., Davidson Street, and Newtonville Rd. that would like to use this exit to access New Minas and Kentville businesses if it were a properly upgraded and maintained road.

Additionally, several community residents perceive another desirable access road would be the extension of Highbury School Road south to join with the Miner Meadow Rd. This would forever change the dynamics of Black River changing it to a ‘bedroom’ community for the developing ‘city’ of New Minas.

Some thoughts for you to ponder?



Deep Hollow Road under construction.

## Christmas Bird Count 2016

By Bernard Forsythe

As usual, my part of the annual Wolfville Christmas Bird Count covered the Black River and Sunken Lake areas. This year the count took place on December 17<sup>th</sup> and the temperature was minus 15 degrees, luckily with very little wind. A bigger problem was trees covered with heavy snow plus hard walking through snow on woods trails. Could it be that at 75 years of age I am starting to prefer easier traveling conditions?

With Sunken Lake and other wet areas frozen over, no ducks were found this year. Starling numbers were down from past years but I doubt anyone will miss a few starlings. The snow caused ground feeding sparrows to head for open dykeland. A small corn crop this year resulted in the absence of many of our winter finches. There were a few

Goldfinches present that rely on bird feeders plus seeds in lower bushes. Red-breasted Nuthatches have been hard to find this year, however I did spot one.

I spent December 20 on Briar Island where the spruce trees were covered with cones and large numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches. They know how to find good feeding areas. Last winter I could not find any Evening Grosbeaks in Kings County. They have returned this winter. I was pleased when a flock of these colourful birds showed up when I was going over the many birds at Blake and Clara Spinney’s feeders. As usual, I enjoyed being out with our bird friends, but after 6.5 hours, it was time to head home and a warm fireplace.

Below is the list of birds recorded. It contains the Barred Owl that comes daily to my back yard owl feeder. Although he is

not in Black River, he wanted to be counted as well.

SPECIES	NUMBER
Ruffed Grouse	1
Ring-necked Pheasant	1
Bald Eagle	5
Rock Pigeon	25
Mourning Dove	14
Barred Owl	1
Downy Woodpecker	1
Hairy Woodpecker	3
Pileated Woodpecker	1
Blue Jay	14
American Crow	12
Common Raven	10
Black-capped Chickadee	44
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	3
Starling	61
Dark-eyed Junco	10
American Goldfinch	11
Evening Grosbeak	12

ON THE BACK...

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Chase the ACE



Black River Community Hall's JAM SESSION

MEET YOUR EDITOR...



WE ARE

ACTIVELY ONLINE

**BLACK RIVER EVENTS**

**Move-It Monday with Sharon**

Every Monday morning from 10-11am will be fitness classes with Sharon Lake.

**Quilts & Crafts – Monday afternoons**

1pm – 3pm at the Hall

\*In hopes of sharing the many talents and interests in our community we are making some changes to our usual format. Beginning on February 6, our sessions will be from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm. The quilt we are working on will be set up and anyone who would like to quilt or learn to quilt is invited to do so. We are also offering mini workshops, hopefully once a month, led by various members of the community. These workshops will be advertised closer to their dates. Also posted at the Hall is a list of possible topics for workshops which you are invited to add too if you have an interest that is not on the list. You are welcome to come for the whole day, bring a lunch and coffee and tea will be provided, or drop in anytime to work on your own craft project, or just to see what others are doing.

Our first project is sewing some easy potholders, sometimes called cross over potholders. You need to bring your own sewing machine as well as the basic sewing equipment i.e. scissors, seam ripper, etc. The material needed: cut six 9½ inch squares, one 9½ inch square of insulating fleece and cut one 1½ x 6 inch strip for a hanging loop. This will make one potholder, so bring more squares, etc. if you would like to make more. There will be kits available with enough materials to make two potholders. The cost of each kit is \$4.00.

Please remember if you are not interested in quilting or working on the potholders bring your knitting, crocheting or just drop in! For questions and/or suggestions contact Judy Levy at (902)542-5182 or [levy.judy3@gmail.com](mailto:levy.judy3@gmail.com)

**Directors' Meeting – Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

Meeting will begin at 7pm at the Hall.

**Chase the Ace–Saturday, Jan 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> / Feb 11<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>**

Tickets go on sale from 2:00-3:45pm with the draw taking place at 4pm sharp! You must be at the Hall at 4:00pm if your ticket is drawn in order to participate. While you are waiting, enjoy a Café featuring sandwiches, sweets, hot chocolate, tea and coffee. The Internet will be available as well as board games and decks of cards for people to enjoy while they wait for the draw.

**Bookmobile – Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**

The Bookmobile will be at the Hall from 10-11am

**Card-Making Class – Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>**

At the Hall from 7-9pm Fee: \$10.

**Jam Session – Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**

Jam will start at 7pm at the Black River Hall. Shortest month but let's make it ring!

**Bookmobile – Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**

The Bookmobile will be at the Hall from 10-11am.

**Directors Meeting – Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**

Will begin at 7pm at the Hall

**General Meeting (BRCC) – Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**

Will begin at 7pm at the Hall

**Friends and Neighbours**

**BIRTHDAYS**

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Cail Tait, Jan. 1        | Elaine Schofield, Jan. 15  |
| Lewis How, Jan. 6        | Amber Gertridge, Jan. 16   |
| Brad Schofield, Jan. 6   | Brandon Schofield, Jan. 17 |
| Holly Chappis, Jan. 7    | Sandra Cudmore, Jan. 19    |
| Darren Gertridge, Jan. 9 | Jayn Kenny, Jan. 25        |
| Tasia Schofield, Jan. 13 | Pauline Murray, Jan. 29    |
| Shawn Levy, Jan. 14      | Alyssa Cassie, Jan. 31     |

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

Mark Pennell & Kathleen Munro Pennell, Jan. 1 (10 years)

**GET WELL WISHES**

The community wishes a speedy and complete recovery to Rick Tait who spent the Christmas holiday in the Valley Regional.

**MEET YOUR EDITOR...**



The excitement I'm feeling as I introduce myself here is immeasurable! So let's begin simply with....

My name is Raye-Anne Levy. A.K.A. "Shawn's Wife!" I, like many from this community, was not born here. I was raised in a French Municipality south of here named, Clare. Clare will always be my first home. But I knew, many years ago, that Black River would be my forever home. It is where I fell in love with a Farmer, where I will raise my children and someday, hopefully, meet my grandchildren. As beautiful

as this country upon our small mountain is, it will never compare to the beauty of this community. The kindness and compassion of our neighbours is something I will forever try to encompass; however certain will never define.

It is an absolute honour to be stepping in as Editor of this cherished newsletter. My predecessors have left me with very large shoes to fill. As well as, wisdom and a forever bent ear. For that I thank them one thousand times.

My plans for this newsletter moving forward are simple...

- Listen. I believe that an open communication line is key in all successes. I will always have an open heart to your needs.

- Accessibility. No one shall be missed in its distribution, no matter how they receive it. Be it email, online or paper.

- Timeliness. I am not perfect, and human error is inevitable. However, I promise to forever strive to make this newsletter something you can count on.

At this point, I look to you. Your feedback is crucial to making this newsletter something you'll be proud of and want to read. What do you love about the Newsletter? Where can it be improved? Are there themes or specific topics that you would like me to cover? Or perhaps you'd like to contribute an article about which you feel passionately? All comments and suggestions are welcome, and I look forward to what we will create!

[brch989@gmail.com](mailto:brch989@gmail.com) ~ (902) 599-2474

Website - [www.blackrivercommunityhall.weebly.com](http://www.blackrivercommunityhall.weebly.com)

Facebook - [@blackrivercommunityhall](https://www.facebook.com/blackrivercommunityhall)

**BLACK RIVER COMMUNITY CLUB**

**2016-2017 Executive & Directors**

<p><b>PRESIDENT</b> Tina Gertridge 48 Miner Meadow Road Wolfville, N.S. B4P 2R2 (902) 542-4152 <a href="mailto:tinamgertridge@hotmail.com">tinamgertridge@hotmail.com</a></p>		<p><b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> Roswitha Spinney 45 Upper Sunken Lake Road Wolfville, N.S. B4P 2R2 (902) 542-1552</p>	
<p><b>SECRETARY</b> Mary Tanner-Long Upper Sunken Lake Road Wolfville, N.S. B4P 2R2 (902) 542-2511 <a href="mailto:mary.tanner.long@hotmail.com">mary.tanner.long@hotmail.com</a></p>		<p><b>TREASURER</b> Nancy Morse 1032 Rocky Road Wolfville, N.S. B4P 2R2 (902) 680-2095 <a href="mailto:nancymorse@hotmail.com">nancymorse@hotmail.com</a></p>	
<p><b>AUDITORS</b> Darlene Hennigar Roswitha Spinney</p>		<p><b>DIRECTORS</b> Sharon Lake Joe MacInnis Donna Levy Laurie Levy Ed Schofield Clara Spinney</p>	