

Black River News

• Together • We • Can • Accomplish • Great • Things

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 7

JULY 2021

An Adventure in Nature June 19, 2021

Today I told Darcy and grandson Owen to go have an adventure and make it a good long one (get out of the house - it's a nice day - a 1970's message prettied up).

About 15 minutes later ... not long enough ... they burst back into the house.

"We need you to come to the woods with us because we found 2 baby owls on the ground and the mother was swooping and whooo'ing!!"

Coincidentally, we had finished reading *Owls in the Family* by Farley Mowat and Darcy gave her book report presentation to her class yesterday. I wasn't convinced but after some assurance there were white fluffy babies on the ground that they thought were owlets I joined them in the adventure but not before contacting Bernard Forsythe and his partner Pauline Meldrum.

Bernard is a Canadian renowned bird aficionado and has a permit to band baby owls. I know him because he was my postal carrier for more than 30 years and I went to school with his daughter.

Wow, is all I can say! Until you have gone on a hike with an extension ladder, seen what turned out to be 3 owlets get ankle banded, seen some nest renovations at the extreme top of said extension ladder, seen father Owl come home with supper, heard mother Owl suggest in no uncertain terms that she was not amused and then seen

the owlet foreheads over the securely attached "baby gate" you ain't seen nothing!!!

Get out to nature folks. You never know what you are going to see! Happy News. - Leisa McNeil



Photos by Leisa McNeil: top left - Darcy McNeil and Owen Milligan, top right - owlets and bottom - father Owl with supper.

Hello, Neighbour!

SKYLIT, formerly Nova Solar Capital, was founded in 2016 by Canning residents Andrew Bagley and Christine Heap. At the time, solar was in its infancy in Nova Scotia and there were no government incentives for



homeowners to go solar and a gap existed in financing for these kinds of projects. Andrew and Christine's vision was to create a company that could identify opportunities in Solar PV and bring together the resources, including materials, expertise, project management, and financing, to realize these opportunities, while creating good jobs in the Annapolis Valley in an emerging industry.

The first project SKYLIT undertook with the launch of a Community Economic Development Investment Fund (CEDIF) is called Solar Scotia Energy. Solar Scotia Energy uses funds invested by Nova Scotians to finance solar on primarily residential properties throughout the province. To date, Solar Scotia Energy has raised over \$3.8 million and financed solar for more than 100 homes in Nova Scotia.

SKYLIT, which is the installation and project management company, continues to install systems financed by Solar Scotia Energy as well as for customers looking to purchase a solar installation without financing, and has also gone on to do other projects including putting nearly 300 solar panels on the Old Orchard Inn in June of 2020.

In March of 2021, SKYLIT purchased the former Long's Mill on Deep Hollow Road and immediately got to work refitting the building for use as warehouse space. SKYLIT's office is currently in downtown Kentville, but the plan is to build office space inside the building in White Rock and move the entire operation there in the next 12 to 18 months. This is a very exciting endeavour, SKYLIT is thrilled to bring the former Long's Mill property back into use, and are planning to retrofit the building in a way to reduce the carbon footprint and, of course, offset the energy usage with solar.

SKYLIT currently employs 9 people full-time, including 2 red-seal electricians, and 6 full-time seasonal employees on the installation crew. To date, they have completed more than 150 solar installations and are expanding their services to include the installation of electric vehicle chargers. In 2017 they were named Outstanding New Business of the Year, and in 2019 Outstanding Small Business of the Year by the Annapolis Valley Chamber of Commerce. They are members of CanREA (the Canadian Renewable Energy Association) and part of the Efficiency NS Preferred Partner Network.

For more information on SKYLIT, visit www.skylit.ca Ed Schofield

Hello, Neighbour! is a new column by Ed Schofield. Look for more next month as Ed introduces us to another business that has a connection in and around our community.

Black River

... from the Wolfville Acadian

This column was originally printed in the Wolfville Acadian and was printed without the wife's name, as was the practice of the time. Where it is known we have included it in brackets.

June 24, 1948

The Community Club met at Mrs. Ian (Hazel) Long's home on Thursday evening with Mrs. Percy (Mildred) Atwell as assistant hostess. There was the usual business meeting and then club members spent the evening working on quilts. A delicious lunch was served at the close of the meeting by the hostesses.

Mrs. Donald (?) Northrup has returned to her home in New Brunswick, after a short visit with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John (?) Schofield.

Mrs. Gerald (Phyllis) Henderson and little son Timmy have been spending a few days with her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie (Mae) Ells. They also visited with Mrs. Henderson's sister, Mrs. Hartley (Hazel) Smith for two days.

Sympathy of the Community is extended to Mrs. Clifford (Ada) Long whose mother, Mrs. Hugh (Arabella) Taylor, passed away Thursday, at her home in Truro. Mr. and Mrs. Long drove to Truro, Saturday to attend the funeral.

Gerald Spinney, of Halifax, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emery (Bessie) Spinney.

Mr. and Mrs. Waldo (Dorothy) Long and Mr. and Mrs. Allison (Verna) Chute were Sunday visitors at Mr. and Mrs. Rupert (Inez) Long's home.

Percy Atwell has started work on his new home to be built in this community.

Miss Isabelle Atwell, of Kentville, was a weekend guest of Mr. and Mrs. Rupert (Inez) Long.

A Father's Day service was held in the church Sunday and was largely attended. An announcement of the coming Sunday School picnic was made. It is to be July first, and parents are invited.

Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar (Aggie) Weir were their sons Victor and Gordon, and another son Ellis Weir.

July 1, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Willie (?) Smith and little son Lindsay, from Port Williams visited recently with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph (Blanche) Smith.

Little Bruce and Larry Long have returned to their home after having been patients in the hospital following tonsil operations.

Mrs. Arthur (?) Buckley and two sons Ronnie and Dale, Lumsden, called on Mrs. Lawson (Bessie) Atwell, Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Stanley (Elsie) Levy is a patient at E.K.M. Hospital where she had a tonsil operation Monday.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5 Ways & Means 8:00-9 pm	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Cold Cut Take Out Supper 4-6 pm See Ad below	17
18 Monthly & Directors Meeting 7:00-8 pm	19 Book Club 7-8 pm	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Heritage Meeting 7-8 pm	27	28	29	30	31

What Is It?

It is an antique fire starter. Kerosene or lamp oil only, is poured over the ceramic ball and is absorbed. When the wand has absorbed the kerosene and small to larger pieces of wood have been placed in the stove the ceramic ball is lit. It is placed near the wood in the stove to start the fire. No paper necessary. After about ten minutes when the fire is going nicely the ceramic ball is extracted from the fire and stored in the cast iron pot with the cover on to smother any flames.

Take Out Cold Plate Supper

Black River Community Hall, 989 Deep Hollow Road

Friday, July 16, 2021

\$10/plate

Pick up between 4 & 6 pm

Cold Plate includes salads, cold cuts, roll, bag of chips and cold drink

Pre-order Recommended

To pre-order please call 902 542 5125 or 902 542 7913
or email: sharonlake07@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER *The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month.*

Contacts: sharonlake07@gmail.com 902 542 5125 • gladys.zanelong@xplornet.com 902 542 1994

LIVE LINKS TO OUR FACEBOOK, NEWSLETTER & PODCASTS

<https://www.facebook.com/blackrivercommunityhall/>

<http://blackrivercommunityhall.weebly.com/>

<https://anchor.fm/storiesfromblackriver>

<https://open.spotify.com/show/1zMHYxDMwQ9uUjCNQSmN7U?si=m5N2VSsQQZufzbSNR96dyQ>

CONTACTS

Quilting & Crafts: levy.judy3@gmail.com, 902 542 5182

Book Club: mary.tanner.long@hotmail.com

Password for internet: communitycenter

Classifieds...

PORCUPINE CREEK PRODUCTIONS - handcrafted by Nellie Schofield - nellieed.schofield@gmail.com. Tel: 902.542.5134

JESSICA MYRA - NATURAL FIBRE CREATIONS-mothermuse@outlook.com

JACK SPINNEY BRAIDED RUGS - local and handmade, 85 Upper Sunken Lake Road, Sunken Lake B4P 2R2 Tel: 902.542.1552

Looking for KINDLING for the winter season? Look no further. **Jack Spinney is offering QUALITY, DRY KINDLING** at the great price of \$5 for a full feed bag. Call Jack at 902 542 1552.

Birthdays

Belated Birthday Wishes	
Tasha O'Reilly	June 10
Leander Clancey	July 1
Zelma Long	July 2
Keigan Levy	July 2
Emily Levy	July 6
Charlene Davies	July 7
Dian Ells	July 9
Don Feltmate	July 12
Glenn Hawkesworth	July 15
Lucie Levy	July 16
Philip Pick	July 17
Gladys Long	July 21
Victoria Tait	July 23
Abby Davies	July 25
Shawn Murno	July 26
Morris Ells	July 27
Paul Russell	July 29
Cohen Munro	July 29
Justin Davies	July 30

Anniversaries

Jack & Rita Spinney	July 14
Leonard & Mildred Levy	July 23

EXECUTIVE ...

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Congratulations



To **Brody Russell** and **Rebecca Collings** on their marriage which took place May 30.



To **Evan Sheffield**, who graduated from Horton High School. He is heading to NSCC Akerley campus to study heavy Mechanics.

Condolences

We extend our sympathy to the friends and family of **Doreen Arnborg** who passed away in May.

necrocanada.com/obituaries-2021/

doreen-alice-arnborg-19442021/

Condolences to the family of **Eldon Spinney**. Eldon, the brother of Harlan and Blake Spinney, lived in Hamilton Ontario. He was 88.

necrocanada.com/decies-2021/spinney-eldon-clarence-jun-8-2021/.

Sunken Lake and Area Journal of Wildlife Observations recorded by Clara Spinney

May 28- Saw a couple of barn swallows; the first I've seen in a couple of years .

Lots of hummingbirds - have put out four feeders now.

Jun. 2- Bernard Forsythe phoned to report on his owl box on the Miner Meadow Rd.- three baby chicks. He banded the two largest on May 20 and went back to band the third on May 28. On investigation of the nest he found a weasel stored in a corner of the nest to feed the chicks. Thank you, Bernard.

Jun. 2 - Baby ducks are busy calling this a good feeding station. The first was a family of four, next a family of nine, so cute. I enjoy their antics so much.

Robyn Armitage has a woodpecker that spends its time hammering on anything metal. Real rap music.

Shawn Levy says he now has a pair of cardinals. So many of us would like them at our feeders.

Lots of reports of woodchucks. Seems an over abundance of them this year. Watch your gardens!

Jun. 11 - Have a new family of 11 baby ducks.

Jun. 14 - Still waiting for the loons to produce babies. Don't know where she is nesting, been told several places but that can not be so.

The hummingbird population has dropped to almost none. Hope it is because there are so many blossoms now.

Jun. 16 - Forgot to say we have a nest of hairy woodpeckers in a hole of an old tree close by. Well hidden. Wouldn't have known about it if the babies weren't so noisy.

Haven't seen any beavers but a muskrat swam by this morning.

Jun. 17 - Sighting of a sandhill crane on Davison St. There were many birders there to see it.



Sandhill crane

Telephone Clara 902.542.3180 with any of your wildlife observations and she will add them to her own or email: claraspinnney123@gmail.com