

Black River News

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

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2023

My Dad – Lester Dimock McLearn

Just before I woke up this morning, I was having a very nice dream about my Dad's home place in South Rawdon. My Uncle Clyde lived there until about ten years ago, and he only left because of health issues. It's funny how, in a dream, one can see the exact details of the way things used to be. The old garage where Uncle Clyde kept his lawn tractor and the old Farmall Tractor out back of that under a lean to. The spot where the ice house used to be. The white rock on the lawn, wooden creatures, painted up, nailed to trees and on the lawn. The small garage with the old GMC in it. And the lake - a small piece of what everyone wishes they could have on their property. I have a lot of great memories there with my wife and sons.

It just so happens, that twelve years ago today my Dad passed away. I remember Dad telling me about his days on the home place, being raised without his father after he was nine years old. Dad would talk about the chores that had to be done morning and night. The gathering of maple sap was a must because sugar was rationed in the war years. My Dad and my Uncle Duncan were great pals and a crosscut saw team in the winters. Dad told me many times the thousands of feet of timber they had cut together. No chainsaw involved then. Lots of stories that I would love to hear again.

The year of 1976 I would have been fifteen years old in April. Dad would let me take the car out to Sunken Lake to swim, and to the farm to pick up milk. But I was doing this at twelve as well. During the ground hog day storm in February we lost the old barn. Levy's lost a silo. Dad started to clean up the fallen barn, and salvage the lumber. In the Spring, he started the prep work for a new garage/barn which was in operation by 1977.

The last year of Dad's life is extremely tough on my memory today. I worked shift work - once working eight twelve hour night shifts in a row. My head felt like a pumpkin that had fallen off a moving truck. Dad's health was failing, and my patience was probably short. Dad loved to talk, and I sure wish that I could have been there more for him. I always spell Dad with a capital "D". He deserves it.



Lester with grandsons Joel (4) and Josh (7)

I loved my Dad dearly, even though at times I didn't show it. I'm not a religious person, but I do know for a fact, that wherever my Dad is, if there is a Massey Harris and a Jonsered chainsaw handy, there is a windrow of pulp or stud wood down and he is waiting for me to help him get it to the field.

Lester Dimock McLearn April 7, 1930-March 9, 2007

Francis McLearn

Ethan and the Bear

Ethan [Levy] was super appreciative today. A few weeks ago he went to a ticket auction at the Black River Hall. A local man, Perry Munro, made a chainsaw carving with a fish jumping from a log. Ethan had such high hopes of winning it. Unfortunately he didn't win that one. He was so disappointed. However that's how draws work.

Perry Munro was so kind to reach out to let me know he would make Ethan his own bear. Well, today we received the message, his bear was going to be dropped off.

Ethan was over the moon. He is so grateful. He can't wait to paint his bear and put a clear coat on him.

Perry, he will remember this act of kindness for a lifetime. Thank you very much.



Tammy Levy

W•O•W

DURING THE WEEKEND OF APRIL 21 AND 22 FIVE people from our community participated in the **WOW** (Women of Wolfville) 2023 Production entitled "This One's For Linda".

The production included skits, poems, singing and dancing. All a tribute performance for the late Linda Wheeldon, a long time **WOW** member who passed away in 2022.

Jayn Kenny, Lydia Coyle-Kenny, Nora Coyle-Kenny, Amber Hermie-Long and Mary Tanner-Long all agree that it was a very memorable experience, meeting lots of talented, energetic, caring women. The group started working together in January and were happy to perform three shows to enthusiastic crowds. Keep an eye out next April for the 2024 production and maybe you'll see these ladies on stage again!

Mary Tanner-Long



In the pic opposite is the Black River contingent of the WOW entertainers - l-r: Nora Coyle-Kenny, Jayn Kenny, Lydia Coyle-Kenny, Amber Hermie-Long, Mary Tanner-Long



WOW is a community theatre group whose goal is to raise money for charities. They have raised over \$200,000 since their first show in 2002. Linda Wheeldon photo opposite.

Pic opposite:
WOW Production crew for 2023:
Director- Wendy Elliott & Signing Instructor- Wendy Stubbert



Annapolis Valley High Speed Internet

We thank the AVHS for the complimentary internet at our community hall. CONTACT them at 902-692-9100 or annapolisvalleyhighspeed.com. LOCAL BUSINESS • NO CONTRACT • UNLIMITED TRANSFER

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.

May 25, 1950

There will be slides on missionary work in India shown in Black River Baptist Church on Sunday evening, June 4th at 7:00 pm.

The Community Club met at the home of Mrs Clifford (Ada) Long with roll call answered with a joke and a ten cent tea served. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Ian (Hazel) Long.

Mrs. Ben (Eunice) Stultz and Margie spent Tuesday with Mrs. William (?) Pineo and called on Mrs. Morley (Hilda) Nowlin, all of Wolfville.

Clyde McInnis and family called on friends in Avonport on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward (Pearl) McInnis spent Sunday afternoon with Mrs. Francis (?) Dewolfe, Mr. DeWolfe and Mrs. Mary Schofield, Avonport.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben (Eunice) Stultz and family spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Ralph (?) Boyd, Avonport.

Palmer Schofield, White Rock, called on relatives here one day this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett (?) Hiltz, West Brooklyn, were Sunday visitors with their daughter, Mrs. Wesley (Roxie) Levy and Mr. Levy.

Arnel Levy, Wolfville, spent the week end at his home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis (?) Weir, Greenwich, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Edgar (Aggie) Weir.

Mr. and Mrs. Mack (Dorothy) McInnis and family called on Mrs. Harvey (?) Coldwell, Davidson St., Monday night.

Mrs. and Mr. Reg (?) Schofield, Newtonville, called on the former's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John (?) Schofield. Mr. Schofield is in poor health.

Leslie Ells, a patient at E.K.M. Hospital, is much improved.

Mrs. and Mr. Arnel (?) Davidson and little son, Forest Hill, spent Sunday with the latter's mother, Mrs. Leslie (Mae) Ells. They also called on Mr. Ells at E.K.M. Hospital when they were accompanied by Mrs. Ells and Maurice.

Miss Fernie Nowlin is spending a few days with her brother, Morley, and Mrs. Hilda Nowlin, Wolfville.

JUNE events ●●●

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5 Sewing/Crafts Meeting 11 am Ways/Means & Maintenance 7pm	6 45's Card Game 7-9 Adm: \$4 50/50	7	8	9	10
11 Stories from Black River 7-9pm (see below)	12	13 45's Card Game 7-9 Adm: \$4 50/50	14	15	16 Take-Out Cold Plate with Ham & dessert Pick up 4-6 pm	17
18 Monthly Meeting 7 pm Directors Meeting 7pm-	19 Sewing/Crafts Meeting 11 am Book Club 7pm-	20 45's Card Game 7-9 Adm: \$4 50/50	21	22	23	24
25	26 Heritage Meeting 7 pm	27 45's Card Game 7-9 Adm: \$4 50/50	28	29	30	

• **45's card Games 7-9 pm.** Come out and enjoy the fun. Tickets are \$4 for the game. 50/50 Tickets Available and a light lunch included. All are welcome. Contact Zelma Long 902 542 2842 or sunkenhaven@gmail.com for further information.

• TAKE-OUT COLD PLATE \$12

includes Ham, Variety of Salads, Dessert & Roll



Black River Community Hall

989 Deep Hollow Rd

Friday, June 16, 2023

Pre-Order Recommended

PICK UP between 4 and 6 pm.

Please pre-order by calling 902 542 5125 or 902 542 7913 or email: sharonlake07@gmail.com

Tired of Preparing a Meal!

Let us make your Friday Night supper or picnic!

• **Newsletter.** The current newsletter can be picked up at the little Library at the front entrance to the Hall. If you are unable to pick it up at the Hall please let us know and we will find a way to deliver it to you. Contact: sharonlake07@gmail.com. or 902 542 5125 **Note: Our newsletter will be available at select places in the Valley area (eg. White Rock Hall, Gaspereau Corner Store and Dabro's Farm Market).** Some back issues are available.

Stories from Black River

• **Sunday June 11 7-9 pm** It was great fun in April, hearing about times gone by from some great Black River storytellers. We decided we would like to do it again! Do you have stories of growing up in Black River? Did you do to the schoolhouse? Or maybe you have stories of your ancestors? We would love to see you on **Sunday, June 11, 7-9 pm, Black River Community Hall.** Refreshments will be served. Free will offering for the upkeep of our sweet Hall.

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

Contacts: • sharonlake07@gmail.com • 902 542 5125

• gladyslong67@gmail.com • 902 542 1994

LIVE LINKS TO OUR FACEBOOK, NEWSLETTER & PODCASTS below:

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

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

<https://anchor.fm/storiesfromblackriver>

<https://open.spotify.com/show/1zMHYxDMwQ9uUjCNQSmN7U?si=m5N2VSSQQZufzbSNR96dyQ>

• **CONTACTS: Hall Rental/Events Booking: Daily Rental-\$100,**

Damage Deposit \$50 Contact: Jayn Kenny 902 542 0002

jayneileenkenny@msn.com

• **Quilting & Crafts:**

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

• **Card Games:** Zelma Long 902 542 2842 or

sunkenhaven@gmail.com

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 is offering QUALITY, DRY KINDLING \$6** for a full feed bag. **DROP INTO THE HOUSE AT 85 UPPER SUNKEN LAKE RD or CALL 902.713.5094.**
- **HUMBLE HILL HOMESTEAD** offering: farm fresh eggs in a variety of colours, frozen-fresh rabbit, veggies and transplants seasonally. Contact via Facebook Farm Page or call/text 902.300.5482
- **FOR SALE: Locally grown lean ground beef \$6/lb.** Custom beef orders for sides and quarters \$5/lb. Call Shawn Levy 902 300 4432
- **Need a little help around the house or yard? Some cleaning, organizing or light yard work? If so, call Amber Hermie-Long at 1 (506) 280-1568. She can help you out!!**

Birthdays

Zane Long	June 2
Adam Schofield	June 3
Tammy MacLellan	June 6
Pat Levy	June 8
Rick Tait	June 8
Leslie Ann Levy	June 9
Tasha O'Reilly	June 10
Nadia Levy	June 11
Dylan Schofield	June 12
Perry Munro	June 16
Leonard Levy	June 19
Keifer Levy	June 19
Jacob Long	June 29
Cameron Hoyt	June 29
Nicholas Ells	June 30

Anniversary

Gordon & Kathy Berry	June 2
Hank & Donna Levy (52)	June 5
Paul & Sherry Spinney	June 15
Shane & Jenna Kaizer	June 17
Ken & Brenda Byland (49)	June 22
Rick & Lynda King	June 26
Adam & Natasha Schofield	June 28

EXECUTIVE ...

Black River Community Hall
989 Deep Hollow Road
Black River, NS B4P 2R2
902 542 7913
President - Clayton Pick
clayton-765@hotmail.com
902 698 1629
Vice-President - Ed Schofield
nellieed.schofield@gmail.com
902 542 5134
Secretary - Jayn Kenny
jayneileenkenny@msn.com
902 542 0002
Treasurer - Tara Lee McLearn
mclearn4@yahoo.ca
902 542 4548

With Appreciation

- Thank you to **Paul and Brodie Russell of High Valley Excavating** for the donation of topsoil to the Black River Cemetery.
- The Black River Cemetery is a well-maintained and attractive cemetery due to the hard work, dedication, timely intervention and care of Jeff Long, Bryce Ells & associates. On behalf of the community we express our thanks for your years of work.

Volunteers Wanted

Gaspereau Valley Elementary School is seeking volunteers. If you'd love to share your skills and interests with students, there is a place for **you!** We are looking for cooks and bakers, shoppers, gardeners and landscapers, drivers and chaperones for school trips, and more. **Contact Louise at 902 697 2025 or gvesvolunteers@gmail.com**

Births

Congratulations to Jacob & Alyssa Long on the birth of their daughter Grace Mary Anne. A second grand-daughter for Jeff Long and Mary Tanner-Long.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ...

Clara Spinney
claraspinnney123@gmail.com
902 542 3180
Joe McInnis
902 542 2558
Sharon Lake
sharonlake07@gmail.com
902 542 5125
Don Feltmate
donjfeltmate@gmail.com
902 542 2798
Donna (Hank) Levy
902 542 5419
donna_hank@hotmail.com

Sunken Lake and Area Journal of Wildlife Observations

recorded by Clara Spinney

• I have hummingbirds at last, they seemed to be later this year. Zelma Long told me of having one. I watched my feeder closely but it took five days before I saw one.



Black Bear

• Bears seem to be a main topic here. I saw two on the north Sunken Lake Rd. So excited, love seeing them. This was approximately two weeks ago then last weekend Levi and Lorna Pick with their partners got to see one. Lorna was able to film it on her telephone.

• The first of the baby ducks arrived. Mother duck brought her family of seven up on the lawn this week. Sweet balls of yellow.

• There have been many, many sightings of deer enjoying the new green grass. Zelma Long has deer enjoying her lawn often.

• I was fortunate to see two porcupines, that is such a rarity these days. I was excited, hope to see them again soon.



Porcupine

• Gordie and Kathy Berry have rose-breasted grosbeaks at their feeder enjoying sunflower seeds. All

the years I've had feeders out I have never had a visit from them.

• The beavers were here constantly for a couple of weeks. They fed on the small clover that we have growing on the lawn but have since moved on. I never knew beavers ate grass.

• Another couple on the lake say the beavers show up at their place every morning just to graze on their lawn. These beaver never cease to surprise me.

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



Rose-breasted Grosbeak

HALL RENTAL:

• Daily Rental \$100 • Damage deposit \$50
Effective January 1, 2022

Hall Rental/Events Booking: Jayn Kenny
jayneileenkenny@msn.com, 902 542 0002
Accepting bookings for Hall Rental Now