



The Tributary

House of the Month

Known locally as the Edgar MacKay house on Peck Hill, this is one of the older houses in the village, built before 1852, and believed to be originally settled in by one of the first black families of Bear River. A lack of recorded deeds makes it impossible to establish ownership. It was owned by Silas and Israel Rice from

1852 to 1863, and Asaph Rice from 1863 to 1875 when Edward Potter



owned it until 1878. It was then the home of Joseph Langley who is listed in occupation as a master mariner. Alice B. Peck, later Alice MacKay, bought the property in 1896, however she mortgaged the property and her son Edgar eventually paid off the mortgage in 1953. The ell addition on the east end of the house was formerly an ell on the Joshua Peck house located further up the hill. The house is vernacular in style and features a small enclosed central entrance on the three bay facade.

Board of Trade News

A group of interested residents gathered at the Oakdene Center on May 14th to participate in a workshop identifying Bear River as a tourism destination area. Many positive and some negative aspects were discussed.

The first annual Perennial Sale and Flea Market event will be held May 22, 1-4 pm at the waterfront, or Green lantern, depending on the weather.

This is going to be a not-to-be missed, be-there-or-be-square happening, so don't get left out. All proceeds to go to the upkeep of

the waterfront park.

Watch for the Bear River Brochure that should be out and about in mid June.

The date for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Bear River Board of Trade is August 13, and will be a day of festivities including entertainment, games and refreshments, with the emphasis on "old-fashioned".

Watch for details!

Also, the Bear River Board of Trade website is almost completed, thanks to the creative diligence of Andrew Riddles. You will find the web at www.bearriver.ca. If you have any

comments suggestions information or event you want included, please contact Andrew at info@houseofleaves.ca. The Tributary can now be read on the website, so if you have any out of town relatives who want to get caught up on the NEWS then pass the address along!

The Board of Trade would appreciate any information about the missing waterfront park sign.

The Bear River **Legion Ladies Auxiliary card parties**, are Tuesdays, upstairs starting at 7pm.

The Bear River **Legion Ladies' Auxiliary weekday coffee get-togethers** 9 to 11 am.

Bear River Fire Department all you can eat breakfasts, the first Saturday of the month, 7-10 am.

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets every Wednesday morning at 9:30 at the New Horizons. Everyone is welcome.

The **Amnesty International** meeting is the second Tues. of the month in the United Church Vestry, 7pm

Bear River Economic Development Society - first Wednesday of the month, 7:30 pm at the Legion.

Bear River Board of Trade - second Thursday of the month, 7:30 pm at the second floor of Windmill.

Oakdene's CAP site - The Oakdene Cap site is now open 8:15 to 12:15 Monday through Saturday. Check out the other great happenings going on at your community center: 467-3939.



Social News

A very happy birthday wishes to Barbara Helmsley who celebrated a big one this May 16th. Congratulations to Cindy Marcotte who became a grandmother this spring, and traveled to Peterborough to make sure it was not a hoax.

We all wish a speedy recovery to Norma Terry who is convalescing from recent brain surgery.

Two new studios are now opened in Bear River; the Malmstrom studio, in the former Simpson home, with artists Susan and John Malmstrom, creating hooked rugs and fine art, open daily 9-5, and Chris Hutchins, maker of beautiful Windsor chairs, on the Sissiboo Road, in the former home of Louise Williams.

A new brochure and map of the village studios is now in circulation.

Rebeckah Hornung is home for the summer and working as events co-coordinator at the Mountain Gap Inn.

Sharon and Elford Norton and Sharon's mother Marion, have returned from Ontario to spend the summer months in the their home here in Bear River. Welcome back!

Carolyn Wagner will be celebrating her 57th birthday on May 31st. Don Rice also has a birthday in May but won't say when. Sharon Trueman recently visited

family and friends in Cape Breton.

Look for her special art event in early June.

Nathan Waterman recently traveled to Japan where he visited friends and spent some time in karate training. He also ate a lot of sushi.

A very special tribute is planned for Harry Hill, in the form of a monument which will be erected on the waterfront park property on Cherry Carnival Day at 1 pm. The monument is being donated by DeMone Monuments and was organized by Diane Milbury and Linda Milbury.

To celebrate Annapolis Royal's 400th Anniversary, eighteen paddlers left Annapolis Royal's Fort Anne on April 30th and arrived at Liverpool May 8th. Paddlers included three from Bear River - George Chisholm, Darlene Ricker and Don Rice. The route retraced the first recorded canoe journey in Canada by Jacques De Meulles who also visited Bear River (River Imbert). The journey took nine days and included some very difficult passages.

More birthday wishes: Earl Porter turned 80 on May 12, Irene Harris turned 87 on May 14, and other birthdays were celebrated by Barb Longmire on May 1, Lorraine Hall May 20 and Eva Bell Tibbetts on May 20. Mary and Drowsy (Alton) Goodale celebrated an anniversary on May 17.

Welcome back to Barry and Sheila Cassidy from their winter in Florida.

The Municipality of Digby has just completed The Heritage Home CD. The CD contains 460 properties from the district that locals and visitors will find very interesting. Much of the

content on the CD is family oriented and can be is a good genealogy source. Many of the historic homes on the Digby side of Bear River are featured on this CD which is available through the Bear River Historical Society for \$20.

Other Happy birthday greetings to Jeff Knorek-Onysko, May 2, Teresa Henshaw, May 14, Suzanne Davis, May 22 and Justice Potter, Eric Cox and Carol White, all on May 27.

The Bear River Economic Development Society (B.R.E.D.S.) is organizing an ongoing, regular market event for the summer months to be held every Sunday afternoon throughout the summer, in the parking area behind the Legion. Hopefully this will develop into a smaller version of the Annapolis Saturday market and will attract visitors to the village on a regular basis. The proceeds raised this year will be put towards the building of permanent stalls for next summer. Anyone wishing to participate as a vendor please contact Geoff at the Trading Post Cafe.

It's nice to see the work going on in the Peace Garden again, although the gardeners would probably appreciate any help they can get. Call Wylie White at 467-0985.

You know it is spring when you hear the sound of hammers and power tools echoing through the hills. Spring gardens not to miss are Joan Smith on Upper River Road, Phyllis Varner, next to Oakdene and Max and Glendean Parker on the corner of Landsdowne and Sissiboo.



The Bear River Historical Society thanks the following sponsors for the month:
Bear River Legion and BRL Ladies Auxiliary
Cherry Brook Grocery
Viking Leather
Bear River Board of Trade
Bear River Fire Dept and
BRFD Ladies Auxiliary
Flight of Fancy
New Horizons
Oakdene Centre

Design by: Diana Wade

The Tributary is presented by the Bear River Historical Society, with the generous support of our sponsors. The deadline for news is the 10th of each month. Submissions may be made to Evelyn Henshaw, 467-3996 or Heather Charlton, 467-3269.

Pat on the Back

To all the community spirits who are working in the peace garden and to keep the waterfront park a place the village can be proud of. We should all take a walk through the garden and appreciate what loving one's neighbour is all about! Thanks to everyone who cares enough to share their time and energy in a way we can all enjoy.

