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THIS WEEK

NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE

Vol. 10 - DECEMBER 9th - 2020



Please donate to your Local Food Bank as they are all especially busy this year because of COVID



RALPH IVEY'S

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\$**69**.95

MON. - FRI. 8:00 - 5:00 PM & SATURDAY 8:00 - 1:00 PH: 794-4947

North Sydney Fire Hall

NOW OPEN - 10 - 2 MONDAY - SATURDAY SUNDAY - 12 - 12

Thursday 5:00 - 8:00

Music - Ernie, Todd & Wade

Kitchen open from 4 - 9

Fish & Chips \$10.25

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 24th - Wade, Todd & Ernie from 2 - 5 pm, Customer Appreciation Day Finger Foods

December 26th - Community Christmas Dinner 12 - 6:00 pm all are welcome

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 83 - Florence

NOW OPEN

12-12 DAILY Closed on Sunday

THE CIRCLE

Saturday 7:00 - 10:00

Mixed Dart League 7:00 pm MEN'S DART LEAGUE STARTING SOON



FRIDAY NIGHT 736-6313



BRANCH 008 LEGION NEWS

POPPY CAMPAIGN -

Make sure you support this year's Poppy Drive as it is our major fundraiser for Veterans Programs all year long.

DUES for 2021 has started.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday to Thursday 11:00 - 9:00 pm

FRIDAY - 11:00 - 12:00 pm SATURDAY - 11:00 - 12:00 pm.

Ladies Auxliary Meeting and Election Of Officers - will be held on Dec. 6th at 8:00 pm.

Check out our new Christmas Page - music, stories, crafts,

Bingo, Christmas music | Podcasts - Logon to -

www.kleeradio.com

The North Sydney Minor
Hockey 50/50 Draw the Last week's winner was Craig Ivey
and the amount
was \$17,144.
Thank you for your support.

Check website for Christmas Music Podcast www..kleeradio.com

NORTH SYDNEY FIRE and RESCUE

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday

CHRISTMAS TREES

Water your tree daily

Place trees away from heating source

Dispose tree after the holiday when needles are starting to fall off

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Check lights for frayed or exposed wires

Never run electrical cords under carpets or on the floor

could cause a fire hazard or tripping hazard

Don't overload outlet could cause a fire

Turn Christmas tree light off before bed

Don't leave cooking in the kitchen unattended, it is a busy place during the holidays. Be Save and have a Happy Holiday, from your Fire Prevention team

CHRISTMAS PODCASTS

For your upcoming Christmas celebrations, K-LEE RADIO has recorded two Christmas Podcasts with many

traditional Christmas carols and local performers.

Logon www.kleeradio.com and click the Podcast link and download your feee copy.



Keith Bain

MLA -Victoria-The Lakes

1415 Highway 105, Bras d'Or, NS, B1Y 2NS 902-736-0301 (Office) 902-736-0411 (Fax)

keithbainmla@bellaliant.com

NEW DECOMPRESSION TABLE RELIEVES PAIN

Darren Strong from Strong Chiropractic, announces a new, sophisticated computerized decompression table that allows the spine to be gently stretched and relaxed for spinal decompression therapy.

The pattern of alternating pulling and relaxing creates vacuum-like pressure which allows disc material that was herniated or protruded to be pulled back in the disc over time.

Patients will notice a reduction of their pain during these treatment sessions. Stop in today and ask about the new table and how you can benefit.

eir dop

793 Mahon St., New Waterford - 862-9444 224 Commercial St. North Sydney - 241-9444

TRIVIA OUESTIONS

Below are some excerpts from the new Trivia Game Book on sale for Christmas.

- 1 Where is the smallest bone in your body located?
- 2 Who gave his name to the month of July?
- **3** A carp is a type of what?
- 4 Mary Westamacott is better known as?
- 5 This Latin word means "elsewhere"

idilA 2 sar, 3 fish, 4 Agatha Christie, ANSWERS - 1 ear, 2 Julius Cae-

?? TRIVIA ??

If you like Trivia, download the Trivia Podcast from our website - it has 20 General knowledge questions, a Cape Breton question and a music question - Use the PODCAST LINK



WISHES

Please send out Birthday Wishes to my grandson, Jeremy Boutilier, who will be celebrating his 10th birthday on December 11th - Nannie & Poppy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Willie Forrest, December 13th from the boys at the Fire Hall.

Warming Centers

A reminder that Big Bras d'Or Fire Hall, Ross Ferry Fire Hall and the Southside OD 0 Boularderie Fire Hall have all WARMING CENTER been designated as community warming centres in the event of a prolonged power outage.

Visit these centres to stay warm in an emergency

northside 1 CHANGEMAKERS NORTHSIDE RISING

Do you have a community action project idea and need support bringing it to life??

Are you looking for ways to get involved in your community??

The Northside Changemakers Program may be for you!! This program will allow you to grow your skills, connections and hope for the change you want to see and be part of creating!!!!

THE DEADLINE TO APPLY IS **DECEMBER 16TH**

For an application form, and more information please contact inelson@northsiderising.ca

COMMUNITY NEWS ITEMS

JAIME BATTISTE

Member of Parliament SYDNEY - VICTORIA

jaimebattiste.ca jaime.battiste@parl.gc.ca 207A-201 Churchill Dr. Membertou, NS B1S 0H1

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STAGG'S TAXI ΓEWAY TAXI

Christmas Page - www.kleeradio.com

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PHONE

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mla@murrayryan.ca







Official Province of **Nova Scotia information**



visit https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus



Please support the Poppy Campaign **LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

December 6th - 8:00 pm

PHONE - (902) 736-3206



With Christmas rapidly approaching, it's time to re-visit Christmas Safety and the North Sydney Fire & Rescue team have sent us a timey reminder which appears on page 2 of this edition - take the time and read some of the often overlooked saftey concerns regarding Christmas - we all want a Safe and Happy Christmas.... K-LEE RADIO has provided Christmas music for its listeners since December 1st and we also have Christmas music podcasts you can download and listen to at home or work - www.kleeradio.com - check out the Christmas page for additional free Christmas items.... I was speaking with Coastal Radio Manager Bill MacNeil this past week and he was enthused about the move of Coastal Radio to the former Holy Angels Convent in Sydney sometiime in the new year - many logistical equipment moves need to be completed but they have a fine new suite of offices and they are in the building along with oher community partners and it makes a good fit - Congratulations to Bill and all the staff on their upcoming move.... One of our advertisers, The Lemon Tree in Sydney Mines, is having a Tax Free Sale this week just in time for your Christmas shopping - see the ad opposite this column.... Paul Power is starting his seasonal review of Christmas movies and you can see his latest on page 7 of this edition..... We have another installment from the "Cape Breton Christmas Memories" Book on page 8 - a true story from the early days of my youth DJ Jack Cool has an interview with Coastal Radio's Phil Thompson in his column this week.... FREE PUBLICITY - If your group or organization is planning an upcoming community event and want some free publicity, simply email us with your information and we'll publish it free of charge - just send your information to us at thisweek@kleeradio.com - Until Next week, drive carefully and stay safe - GLEN

Great Stocking Stuffers

Just In Time For your Christmas Wish List!!! We have 7 titles of local Cape Breton books for Christmas giving

- * Da Mudder Tung
- * Anudder Mudder
- * Tall Tales
- * C.B. Joke Book
- * C. B. Recipe Book
- * Christmas Book and our newest
- * Trivia Game Book



Roadside Bake Sale

Boularderie Mammo

Warriors will hold a Roadside Bake Sale on Saturday, December 12 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm at Fitzgerald's Parkng Lot, Bularderie, Trans Canada Highway.

Gift Boxed Christmas treats for \$10.00 a box.

Limited amount of Gluten Free boxes.

Curbside (no contact) delivery to your vehicle

Local Artisans Set Up

Diane, at the Den of Antiquity, 12254 Kempt Head Road, has opened her doors to local artisans.

The current regulars include: REN'S BAGELS - fresh, homemade bagels and the "Sweet Treat of The Week". Pre-order by Saturday at 10 am email them at - rensbagels@gmail.com.

DIANE'S MASKS - Lots of patterns to choose from, adult and child sizes available.

LORRIE'S FUDGE AND EMBROIDERY

MERMAID TEARS - beautiful handcrafted jewelery creations made from locally sourced sea glass.

SUSAN'S KNITTING

SEAWEED & SOD FARM - your local Just Us Coffee distributor. Rustic seasonal home decor including wreaths and signs. (will do custom work) - Terri's original photography captured on blank note card sets.

ML CREATIONS - Lovingly handcrafted jewelery and garden bling.

MARION WALTERS - Quilting and Sewing.



GIFTS AND ACCESSORIES

SHOP TAX FREE

Christmas continues at The Lemon Tree Gifts and Accessories and we would like to take this opportunity to invite you to celebrate the season with us.

As our way of saying thank you for your support, on Thursday, December 10th we will pay the tax on all purchases from 11 am until 7 pm. Includes all jewelry, fashion, home decor and accessories.

Happy Holidays

from The Lemon Tree 6 Fraser Avenue Sydney Mines



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Hard Candy Christmas... everybody remembers that time

Normally this week the Mayflower Mall Merchants would celebrate "Shop of the Class". This event, which is well over a decade old, is put on by the management, and merchants, of the Mayflower Mall who provide \$100 gift certificate to every child participant. Each child, grades Primary to Gr 8, or so, would be then paired with a uniformed Cape Breton Regional Police officer, usually on their own time, who would escort the child for a three, or so, hour shopping spree in the mall. Each participant would don a custom "Shop of the Class" T shirt before getting under way. For over a decade some other generous business people, from outside the mall, would arrive with additional money which one year brought the total to over \$350 for each child to spend on themselves It starts out around eleven in the morning at the mall's food court. Here the child/children, who are selected by virtually all the schools in the Cape Breton-Victoria School District would start with hot chocolate, pizza, have their coat hung up, meet their personal police officer and of course Santa would say hello. [By the way the kids come from most CBRM schools, Eskasoni, Cape North, all over, all brought by a school representative. Each school picks a child, or two due to amalgamated schools, based on a number of criteria ~ most often based upon the childs current financial situation at home, or sometimes the selected child had a traumatic incident in their life that year... like the passing of an important family member..the child really needs a "win" in their year] Now the 30-45 children, depending on the year, would walk to the other end of the mall, allowing them to see the various stores, often for the first time, to have a photo taken, hear a story read by our police chief, and then complete a small Christmas themed craft to take home to impress mom.

Then the shopping began...out of the mouth of babes \sim hard candy....

Regardless of what year, the age, gender or background of child I can honestly say the every year "my" child's first priority was a present for their mom... usually something sparkly or shiny, which was followed by "something for my baby brother/sister"... and then the battle began to get the child to spend their money. Early on we realized that this money was likely the most the child ever had touched...and they had a difficult time spending it... especially on themselves.[once uncorked some could spend tho lo!!]

After a several hour shopping spree how could this day get any better? When the shopping was done, around two thirty, all the kiddies, and their police escort, would return to the food court. Here they were met by more volunteers who had cake and pop set up. On one long wall, in plain sight, was table upon table of "often-hard-tofind" toys/electronics that were popular that year. Seemingly every year there is the 'must-have-impossible-to get' gifts and this year being no exception the mall had two "impossible- to- get- brandnew- out" video game systems & it came with a new large flat screen tv!!!!! ... this competed with the also the "impossible- to- get- LOLdolls' and every imaginable toy in between. The idea now was that each childs name would be randomly drawn, one after the other, which allowed them to go over to the tables to select whatever item they wanted. Next they received a huge 'stocking' full of treats, tickets, gift cards, surprises, and along with a new winter jacket. [jackets donated by a local business woman] Every adult there has seen the toys on display, when they took their child shopping buddy up to the tables, and of course every officer has chosen, in their mind, what they would want for themselves lol, and especially their own child. Now, fueled by hot chocolate, cake, adrenalin, & after a day long shopping, " just when you thought this day couldn't get any better / one more surprise gift for me gift before we go..." The excitement

level, for all attending, even the adult chaperones/teachers, was through the roof & over the moon.... It began....

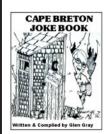
The first name drawn was a grade 6, or so, boy who, upon hearing his name, ran, full tilt, to the closest table and selected the 'only-one-on-Cape-Breton' video gaming system/tv. You could feel the energy change when that item went...all the other kids were officially worried...[that was the "it" item that year for sure/now there is only one more left] then the next name was drawn...sigh..."it wasn't me" from every child.... She was a grade two student, quiet 7 shy, [and maybe overwhelmed by the day] who slowly made her way through the crowd to the tables. We, all adults & kids, were watching her as she deliberately walked past the dream video system, heading to the middle table,! [Although it wasn't spoken the entire room went 'whew', one more chance!, then the room went silent ~ what could she want?] This quiet little girl was determined! She knew what she wanted! What could it be?

There are so many other cool toys & electronics! She stopped at the middle table where, closest to her, was an 8x8 plastic bag from McDonald Nissan. Inside this non descript bag was an eight dollar "car emergency blanket", she had selected it... hugged it...smiling at her treasure... now total silence is in the room... one adult at the table said "here honey don't you want that? [pointing at the video game/tv combo] with this determined innocent little girl looking way up at the towering adult then softly saying "I don't need that... I need a blanket 'cause I don't have one at home...." Silence... Everyone took a deep breath... silence again... An eight year old just reminded 100 people the true meaning of Christmas ~ hard candy education.

The silence continued for a what seemed like an hour...as adults turned their heads, coughed... until an officer, said "honey, you can have that too, but pick whatever else you want...." Everyone there had their priorities realigned.... hesitantly she chose another modest item... she had lots of time to look around as all the adults were hiding their sheepish faces.. wiping the "dust in their eyes"... hard hard candy indeed ~

Remember, be grateful, be kind, be generous, smiles are free! Merry Christmas from the kids, and volunteers, at Clifford Street Youth Centre....

Cape Breton Humour Books



For Fall Reading or for sending to "friends & family away"

\$4.95 per copy





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NORTHSIDE NEWS



NORTH SYDNEY LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK SALE - Now ongoing - get your Fall Reading books now at low prices.

We still have some masks available. Curbside Service is now Available.



FIBRE LUNCH

At The Library - 794-3272

Thursday from 1:00 - 3:00 **NOTE:** Due to COVID restrictions, no food can be taken to the Library



NOTE - Christmas Crafts will be starting shortly at the Library - watch for announcement on date and times



The Sydney Mines Community Heritage Society is hosting a Drive Thru visit with Santa.

WHERE: Cape Breton Fossil Discovery Center (159 Legatto Street, Sydney Mines.

WHEN: December 12th, 2020 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

For pre-school and elementary school children.

DIRECTIONS: drive thru only, everyone is to remain in their vehicle and traffic will be directed at the site to Santa and a treat bag.



I had the great pleasure last week of interviewing the Program Director and mid host of the Coast 89.7 home of the VIPs, Phil Thompson. Phil has been with the Coast since 2016. Phil certainly isn't new to the radio industry he was on 1270 CJCB from 1976 till 2016 hired at the time by the Nathanson family. We talked about the Coast and what they



do at the Coast and its Radio format. It's a 6,000-watt station, we also acknowledge the great staff and team at the station. We talked about the history of radio and how it has come a long ways.

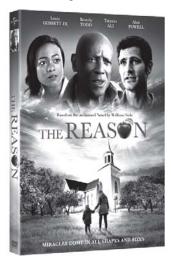
Phil stated to me that his older brother Jack who was in radio now-retired pretty much, got him into the business. Jack Thompson was in radio back in the 60s and he used to take young Phil around to other radio stations. His brother started CKEC n New Glasgow back in 62 or 63, who is now retired from radio. Thompson also stated that in our conversation back in the day radio announcers moved around a lot. not so much today but back in the day yes. The Coast will be moving to the convent - at the present time they are located 106 Reserve St, Glace Bay, NS and they been there for almost ten years. The coast 89.7 has been on the air for 15 years, started December 3, 2007. What can I say, Phil and I

covered a lot of great things in our great conversation so many we can't fit it all in the paper. However if you click on this link you can listen to my interview with Phil . please go to https://www.mixcloud.com/jack_cool/my-interview-with-phil-thompsondec-4-2020/.

If you would like me to send you a copy of my interview with Phil please email me at djjack@gmail.com

Special thanks to Phil Thompson of the Coast 89.7 for allowing me his time to interview him. It is appreciated - **Jack Cool**

Coming out December 15th 2020 "The Reason" with Academy Award Winning Actor Lou Gossett Jr., who I had the pleasure of interviewing. It also Stars Tatyana Ali and Alan Powell and many more great cast members. Its Based on William Sirls best selling novel "The Reason". Here's the great news-it will



be available on digital and DVD December 15, 2020 from Unversa Pictures Home Entertainment.

Each time this film is purchased or rented, it will feed a hungry child in the U.S. andgobaly through Covoy of Good Hope. The movie is very touching and to make a long story short, it asks us the question "where is God when you need him?" Special thanks to Roger Neal for arrranging my interview with Louis Gossett Jr. Have a great week everyone and please witch this movie you will be glad you did - Jack Cool



SYDNEY MINES LIBRARY NEWS

Beginning this week we will be offering a take home paper chain Countdown to Christmas craft for children.

Christmas Holiday SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 24th - Closed at 1:00 pm DECEMBER 25 th - CLOSED December 26th Closed DECEMBER 31st - Closed at 1: 00 pm JANUARY 1st - CLOSED

BOULARDERIE FOOD BANK - With Christmas coming, donations of non perishable food items would be appreciated.

Items can be dropped off at the churches or the school.

Next Food Bank Day is December 16th. We try to give extra this month. -

Some News items courtesy of Swing Over The Mountain News

logon to website
www.sotmnews.weebly.com
monthly newsletter



Tues. & Wed. 9 - 5 Thurs. 9 - 7 - Fri. 9 - 5 - Sat. 9 - 4

Gift Certificates Available

T-Zone Vibration Available

363 Main St. Florence

736-7777

Bells Of Care Christmas Celebration Slated For Northside Guest Home

A Bells of Care Christmas Celebration will be live on "Northside Community Guest Home Foundation's" FaceBook page on Thursday, December 10th from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.

This year their residents and staff will help place donated bells on the Christmas tree to honor and remember their loved ones. They would like to encourage all members of the community to purchase a bell, all money raised from this event is used to enrich the lives of the residents.

The Northside Community Guest Home Foundation would like to thank the community members for their continued support.

FREE CHRISTMAS TAGS

This year if you run out of Christmas tags, just logon to our Website and click on then Christmas Page.

You'll see two files with several Christmas Tags you can print on your home printer.

We also have Christmas stories, musical podcasts, kids

projects and a 2021 calendar inlcuded in the free downloads. logon to our website -

www.kleeradio.com



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Take 2 with PAUL POWER

So, as we inch closer to that day after Christmas Eve I figured this would be a good time to take an early peek at some festive viewing options that are a departure from all those sickeningly-sweet Hallmark type Christmas movies; you know-the ones with B, C and D list actors who find their careers well past their 'best before' dates, and are relegated to doing such movies (sorry, sounded a bit Scrooge-y there). Don't get me wrong-if you like those movies that's fine, but I would suggest checking a glucose meter afterwards. Up first is "My Dad's Christmas Date" starring Jeremy Piven as a widowed American father living in York, England who's struggling to overcome his grief and loneliness-all the while dealing with his somewhat estranged 16 year old daughter. She wants her dad to be happy again, and to move on-so she sets up a secret dating profile for him and comes up with a pretty clever way for her dad to unknowingly meet the potential suitors. The movie has a 13+ rating and I think that's accurate as there are some curses, and situations that teenagers deal with every day. Of course the movie has a happy ending, but



its a believable and subtle one that would warm even the Grinch's cold heart. Now to go in the totally opposite direction; "Fatman" stars Mel Gibson as the crustiest, toughest and meanest Santa Claus I have ever seen. Here's where this movie gets super dark; Walton Goggins plays the hitman who is hired by a spoiled rotten rich kid to whack Santa. This kid's selfishness and cold heart would make the Grinch envious, and as crazy as the plot sounds this movie is excellent. However, not to mislead you, Gibson's Santa Claus is kindhearted and generous to those who deserve it-for everyone else. look out. He's like an Old Testament version of Kris Kringle, and being on his naughty list could be deadly. This IS NOT a flick for the kiddies. Next week I'll look at some more great yuletide picks. Take care, stay safeand wear a mask!



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NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY NEWS ITEMS



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Carol of the Bells from St. Andrew's Church

In previous years the congregation of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church has always done something special for the community of Sydney Mines during the holiday season. About ten years ago the late Charles Holmes came up with an idea of "Christmas at St. Andrew's where the whole community of Sydney Mines was invited in to our beautiful church for a magical evening with carols, hot cider and cookies and tea. And in recent years Bob Quinn has performed several "Miners' First Noel" concerts with a variety of special guests which everyone enjoyed. This year because of Covid times, the church was not able to open the doors this year to do any of these things. Knowing this, Fred Johnston and Bob Quinn wanted to do something to brighten the holiday season for the town of Sydney Mines.

The idea they came up with was to pipe Christmas music out through the bell tower onto Main and Queen Street during the afternoon and early evening. When asked where the idea came from Johnston replied "Well each Sunday there is a selection of hymns on cassette tape that is piped outside just before church service begins, so I thought it would be nice to do this for Christmas with a selection of nice carols". But the challenge was they wanted carols to play for 3 hours at a time, so a cassette tape wasn't the equipment they needed. So Bob then put together a collection of favorite Christmas Carols on cd's that would please everyone. The two wanted the music to be timed for specific times during the day and early evening and to be heard on both Queen Street and Main Street, so the equipment had to be set up in the bell tower. After a few days the two had a five disc cd player on timers rigged up in the bell tower and ready to go.

So if you are walking by St. Andrew's in the afternoon or early evening and you happen to hear beautiful Christmas carols playing, just look up and you will immediately know it's coming from the church tower. In the evening you will also notice that the Nativity Scene window on the Queen Street side is all aglow. The Nativity window is usually lit up around the 15th of December but it was decided to have it lit up when we started playing the Christmas carols.

At this time, the congregation of St. Andrew's would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and we hope if you happened to pass by our church you will enjoy this gift of music with our sincere thanks to Fred Johnston and Bob Quinn. Let us all rejoice this Christmas season.