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FREE

THIS WEEK

NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE

Vol. 10, No. 7 - FEBRUARY 19th - 2020



This February we have an extra day - February 29th (just what we need for more snow!) - What activities will participate in with your extra day?



RALPH IVEY'S

Auto Repair Ltd. and Muffler Man

**BRING YOUR CAR IN FOR
FALL/WINTER SERVICING**

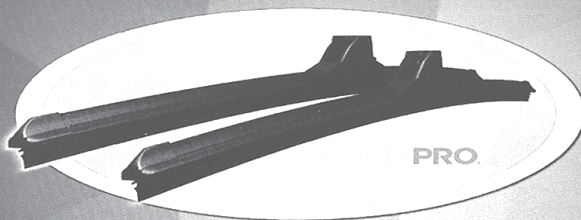


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*"Canada's #1 Automotive
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KROWN.COM

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2020FEBPOST

NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY NEWS ITEMS

SENIORS BINGO

The Regular SUNDAY afternoon Bingo resumes. There will be an Afternoon BINGO Game at the Sydney Mines Seniors & Pensioners Club, 6 Fraser Avenue, Sydney Mines.

WHEN: SUNDAY - 2:00 pm

COST: - \$2.00 entry card DAUBERS ONLY - MONEY GAMES Come out and spend a wonderful Saturday afternoon and maybe win some prizes. Hope to see you all there - Jackpot 48 #'s or less, Toonie Jackpot is building.

NOTE: - Management reserves the right to refuse admittance to the BINGO game.

Tune in on Sunday mornings at 9 am - host Pierre Chiasson presents a 1 hour show of traditional Gospel songs to listen to as you have your Sunday Brunch www.kleeradio.com

BINGO				
7	25	44	57	62
15	22	40	50	70
11	30	46	74	
2	28	37	55	68
10	27	39	59	75

North Sydney Fire Hall

THURSDAY NIGHT -

After Work Party
Kitchen open from
4:00 - 12:00 pm -
music from 6 - 10
by Ernie, Todd & Wade -
\$10.00 - **FREE ADMISSION.**
Bacon Cheeseburger - \$10.00
Kitchen will be open - Kitchen
phone 794-8119.

FEB. 21 - FUND RAISING DANCE for Memorial High School Band, music by Full Circle - 9:00 - 1:00 - Tickets on sale \$10.00 each.



Join us on March 17th for a St. Patrick's Day Ceilidh at Miners Daughter

Restaurant, 220 Memorial Drive, North Sydney - Great music and Trivia Prizes!

IONA LEGION SUPPER - Friday night - February 21st with Grilled Haddock - Supper is served from 6:00 - 7:00 pm - Adult \$15 (\$13 + tax) - Senior/Child \$12 (\$10.43 + tax). Coffee & Tea included.

BRAS d'OR SENIORS WEEKLY 45s GAME

The Bras d'Or Seniors Club are hosting weekly 45's game on Thursdays at 7:30 pm.

1st, 2nd and 3rd cash prizes are awarded. Also a chance to win the main Jackpot, mini Jackpot, and Loonie Jackpot and 50/50 draw. A total of 9 ways to win.

www.kleeradio.com



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HOURS - MONDAY - FRIDAY - 9:00 - 5:00

See **TAX TIPS** on page 8 and see how much you can save on this year's tax return
contact **H & R Block** today

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 83 - Florence



BINGO EVERY THURSDAY

DOORS OPEN 5 PM - CARDS ON SALE - 6:00 PM

7:00 pm - CASH PRIZES

EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT 7-10

Entertainment by
'THE CIRCLE'

Downstairs 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Happy Hour: 7:30 - 8:30 pm

BREAKFAST

SUNDAY - 9:00 - 12:00

Thursday - BINGO
Saturday - The CIRCLE
Sunday - BREAKFAST

736-6313



Keith Bain

MLA -Victoria-The Lakes

1415 Highway 105, Bras d'Or, NS, B1Y 2N5

902-736-0301 (Office)

902-736-0411 (Fax)

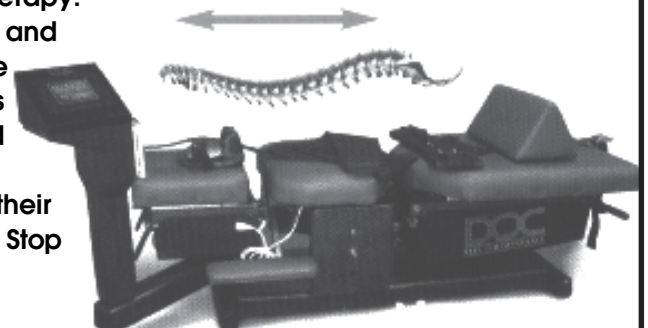
keithbainmla@bellaliant.com

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.



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

NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY NEWS/EVENTS

**ST PATRICK'S
VARIETY CONCERT**
at the
NORTHSIDE FIREMEN'S
CLUB

**Sunday, March 15,
2020**

Time: 2:00 pm

**ADMISSION: FREE WILL
OFFERING**

**50/50 Draw / Toonie Sweet
Bag - Loonie Bottled Water
Free Tea & Coffee**

**Featuring: Singers,
Dancers, Fiddlers &
Musicians Sponsored by**

ST JOSEPH'S CWL

**Phone: 902-794-3772 for
information**

Join K-LEE RADIO on March
17th at Miners Daughter Restau-
rant for a St. Paddys' Day Show

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The North Sydney Seniors
Club, Commercial Street, North
Sydney will sponsor Pancake
Breakfast on February 25.

Tickets are available at the
door. Cost \$8.00.



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LEPRECAUN**

Hidden in one of our
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picture of a Leprecaun.
Just tell us which advertiser
and send your guess and
your name to our email
contest@kleeradio.com
and we'll enter your name
for the draw for a Free Cape
Breton humour book. Good
Luck with the hunt for the
Lucky Leprecaun

Bras d'Or Seniors News

**PAN CAKES AND SAUSAGE
LUNCH**, Tuesday Feb 25 th .
Time , 11am - 2 pm . \$5.00 per
person . Bras d'Or Senior's &
Pensioners Club, 66 Main
Street , Bras d'Or .

COMMUNITY NEWS ITEMS

**JAIME
BATTISTE**

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SYDNEY - VICTORIA

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11 am - 11 pm

FRI. - SAT.
11 am - 12 am

SUNDAY
3 pm - 11 pm

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**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - SYDNEY MINES - 736-3206**

**TUESDAY BINGO
GAME**

NOW AT - 7:30 PM

Hall Rental Available - 736-3206

BINGO
Jackpot won
New Jackpot
\$925.00

BINGO Tues.
7:30 PM
**Bigger
Games &
Prizes**



AROUND THE TOWN

I want to extend Best Wishes to my fellow broadcaster **Robert O'Hearn** for a speedy recovery and hope to see you back very soon at **K-LEE RADIO**.... We will be broadcasting a **St. Patrick's Day Ceilidh** from the **Miners Daughter Restaurant** on March 17th, great Irish music and Free Trivia Giveaways.... we would like to welcome back our good friends at **A & K Lick A Chick** who are now open once again for great chicken meals in Bras d'Or.... Also, **Kitchen 1409 Restaurant** is now open to serve you for another season.... Friends of the Big Bras d'Or Fire Hall are hosting a **Breakfast Brunch** the last Sunday of every month - February 23rd from 9:00 m - 12 noon.... **FEB. 21 - FUND RAISING DANCE** for Memorial High School Band, music by **Full Circle** - 9:00 - 1:00 - Tickets on sale \$10.00 each at North Sydney Fire Hall.... something to help beat the Winter Blahs - a night of relaxation and **good music** - Friday, February 26th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 643 Main Street in Sydney Mines we will be having a Kitchen Ceilidh in our church hall featuring **CHAULKDUST.... PAN CAKES AND SAUSAGE LUNCH** Tuesday Feb 25th. Time, 11am - 2 pm. \$5.00 per person. Bras d'Or Senior's & Pensioners Club, 66 Main Street, Bras d'Or ... If you like good old fashioned **Country Music**, be sure to tune into **PHANTOM COUNTRY** with Kenny Walsh which airs on **K-LEE RADIO** on Sundays at 6:00 pm - the best in Classic Country Music - tune in to hear Kenny at www.kleeradio.com.... be sure to take a look at **TAX TIPS** on page 8 and see if you qualify for additional tax deductions.... **BRANCH 008 SYDNEY MINES LEGION NEWS - APRIL 25TH - ISLE AUX MORT BOYS** are playing at our Branch - tickets are going great, don't be late to get your tickets. or you will miss a great night 9 - 1, \$10.00 - If you are sponsoring a community event and are looking for some **FREE PUBLICITY** for your event, simply email us with your event information and we'll publish it free of charge - email us at - thisweek@kleeradio.com

NOW OPEN FOR ANOTHER GREAT DINING SEASON



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DAILY SPECIALS - SENIOR MENU
CHILDREN'S MENU - TAKE OUT

Mon., Tues., Wed 11 - 7 - Thurs./Fri. 11 - 8 - Sat 11 - 8 - Sun 11 - 7

NOW OPEN FOR ANOTHER SEASON
FLATBREADS - NEW BREAKFAST MENU ITEMS

BREAKFAST - SEAFOOD - TURKEY - PANINIS

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NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY NEWS/EVENTS

Spaghetti & Meatball Supper At Boisdale

A Spaghetti and Meatball supper to be held Saturday, Feb. 22/ at the Boisdale Fire Hall 6:00 - 9:00 pm.

Caesar salad, garlic bread, dessert, tea and coffee included For 10.00 - eat in or takeout.

FOOT CARE CLINIC

A Footcare Clinic will be held at Ross Ferry Fire Hall on February 22nd.

By appointment only. To book an appointment, please call 902-674-2873. Cost is \$25.00

BREAKFAST BRUNCH

Last Sunday of every month

Big Bras d'Or Fire Hall

FEBRUARY 23RD

9:00 - 12:00 pm

Sponsored By

Friends Of The Big Bras d'Or Fire Hall

1390 Old Route 5,

Big Bras d'Or

Adults \$10.00 - Children \$4.00

EAT IN or TAKE OUT



Traditional Music Night - every Thursday at the Blue Mist Beverage Room in Bras d'Or - The very best of Cape Breton fiddling. Stop by for great Cape Breton fiddling.

www.kleeradio.com

FLY TYING CLASSES

Fly Tying Classes Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.; - Minor Baseball Building, Pitt St Sydney Mines.

Give this fun hobby a try - there are no fees involved.

For additional information, phone 902- 5441073 or 902-595-4449.

A&K

LICK-A-CHICK



7 PIECE CHICKEN

Med. Fries, Medium Gravy, 3 rolls **\$26.59**
PLUS TAX



12 PIECE CHICKEN

Large Fries, Med. Gravy, Med. Salad, 4 rolls **\$37.59**
PLUS TAX



18 PIECE CHICKEN

Large Fries, Med. Gravy, 2 Med. Salad, 6 rolls **\$47.99**
PLUS TAX

Upsize Your Fries 99c

Located in Bras d'Or on Trans Canada Highway

- HOURS OF OPERATION -

11:00 AM - 10:00 pm

PHONE

902-736-9496

Sydney Mines Seniors & Pensioners Club, 6 Fraser Avenue, Sydney Mines - Last Friday of the month 45s Card Game starting at 7:30



Some News items courtesy of **Swing Over**

The Mountain News

logon to website

www.sotmnews.weebly.com

monthly newsletter

EXERCISE CLASS

Monday at 1:00 pm, at the Sydney Mines Seniors & Pensioners Club, 6 Fraser Avenue. Sydney Mines.

TAX TIPS - PAGE 8

AFTER THE STORM

I'm in a world of white today for nature had it's way
And flung a foot of fluffy white o'er hill and dale and Bay.
The trees bow low in honor their limbs are heavy lain.
The sky is clear and silver blue the storm has finally waned.

Soon I'll see the signs of life as gulls will seek for food.
They'll flit and turn they'll soar and dive they're in a hungry mood.
The crows will come they always do to fight for their own lot.
They'll tease the gulls unmercifully a battle will be fought.

And soon the motor sounds I'll hear the snow is being thrown.
The trucks and cars will crawl on by where they do go unknown.
Another day in Winter to shovel throw and clear.

Another day in Winter the beauty that is here.
But in my heart's confession though lovely Winter's own.
I long for sunny Summer days to warm my chilly bones.

- Sharon M. O'Quinn

INTERESTING TRIVIA

A 10 gallon hat holds only 6 pints of liquid.

A jiffy is actually a time measurement it's length is 1/100th of a second.

A jumbo jet uses 4000 gallons of fuel to take off.

A quarter has 119 groves along its edge while a dime has 118.

Dreamt is the only English word that ends in "mt".

Every time you lick a stamp , you are consuming 1/10th of a calorie.

And then there is this protocol

for statues which I never knew existed.

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle; if the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle; if the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes. Who knew?

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DRIVE - North
Sydney
Industrial Park**



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SATURDAY Your Favorite
11:00 - 8:00 Foods at**

**SUNDAY Reasonable Prices
11:00 - 8:00 Lots of Free Parking**

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Take 2 with PAUL POWER

A while ago a co-worker mentioned this film to me ("Dare To Be Different") and it turned out to be a fantastic 'rockumentary' (music documentary) that chronicled the rise-and-demise of FM radio station WLIR in Long Island, New York. The fact that a radio station closed in the U.S. during any decade is not that rare or noteworthy; what is noteworthy is WLIR's incredible and legendary legacy. It was the first radio station in North America to play the music of



U2, and music from the bands that defined the whole New Wave/post punk movement in the 1980's; bands such as Duran Duran, Ultravox, Madonna, George Michael, Depeche Mode, Billy Idol, Frankie Goes To Hollywood, any many more (some appear here) with all of them looking at the radio station as a home away from home-and honest fans of their music long before the bandwagon rolled into town. The station originally followed a Broadway tunes/classical format from 1959 to 1970 and then switched formats to progressive rock

(playing the music of the Doobie Brothers, Jackson Brown, Springsteen, etc) which ironically was despised by the punk rockers who paved the way for the New Wave artists to come. Also documented here is the fact that Program Director Denis McNamara hated the term "new wave" (although he's credited with actually coining the phrase) and preferred the term "new music", paving the way for the station to be the first to play hundreds of new songs from around the world-much to the chagrin of record

labels who had a planned publicity timeline for the new stuff. In the end a 15 year "temporary license" snafu that got bigger

as the station's reputation grew came into play and the idiots at the FCC (the American equivalent of our own branch of telecommunications idiots-the CRTC) rang the bells of doom for the station which went off the air in December of 1987. A reformatted station with different call letters was the replacement, and much of the same staff remained. Things however were never the same-which is why this rockumentary is such a valuable chronicle of a magical time when "the spirit of radio" was new, fresh and exciting.

"Stevie's Jamboree" TV Show

**For Sale: 9 different shows on
6 DVD's for only \$20**

*They are copied from the original
master TV tapes by the show
producer, not just off the TV so
they are the highest quality possible*

Call 736-9402 (Paul)



NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY NEWS



NORTH SYDNEY LIBRARY NEWS

FIBRE LUNCH - every Thursday from 1:00 - 3:00.

STORYTIME on Saturdays - 2:30 pm.

CBU SCIENCE CLUB - Feb. 19 - 6:30 - 8:00 - Driving Towards The Future With Coding.

MARCH 4th - Exploring The Senses - 6:30 - 8:00 pm. No Registration required.

FEBRUARY 18 - STORY TELLING CIRCLE - Join Bill Conall, Cape Breton Regional Library's Storyteller-in-Residence for an afternoon of storytelling - Feb. 18th - 2:00 - 4:00.

Bill has traveled North America both as a road musician and a long-haul trucker.

He share stories from his own experiences, but also others that have just gathered around him over the years.

Bill enjoys and presents true stories, made-up stories, short stories, long stories, rhyming poetry and songs.

FEBRUARY 26th - Writers Group meets 7:00 - 9:00 pm

SATURDAY DANCE



The Sydney Mines & Pensioners Club will host a **SATURDAY DANCE** from 8:00 - 12:00 pm in their Clubrooms at 6 Fraser Avenue in Sydney Mines. The cost of the Dance is just **\$5.00** and it is open to the public.

There will be a variety of music available. Come out to our Club, 6 Fraser Avenue in Sydney Mines and have a great night every Saturday. Canteen Service and Bar Service is available.



DJ JACK COOL K-LEE NEWS

Last week i had the pleasure of interviewing Actress Lee Purcell. who recently had the honor of completing a starring role in the upcoming feature film "CAROL OF THE BELLS" for director Joey Travolta and his Inclusion Films.



Inclusion Films teaches and employs people in the film industry who have developmental and physical disabilities. The title role of "Carol" is played by an actress who happens to have Down Syndrome.

There were many inspirational and highly professional people on the film crew who have disabilities who were trained by Mr. Travolta's schools. The movie stars actress Geri Jewell Donna Mills and many more actors and actresses Lee has also worked with actor such as Steve McQueen, Mark Harmon, Jon Voight, Malcolm McDowell, Nicholas Cage, Jan Michael Vincent, Louis Gossett Jr, Chadwick Boseman, Robert Young, Orson Welles, Charles Bronson, James Garner, Richard Thomas, Paul Sorvino, Barry Bostwick, Jack Lord, Tom Selleck, RJ Mitte and im sure many more during my conversation with the Lee Purcell she stated that she got to meet Paul McCartney and George Harrison of The Beatles which I thought was pretty cool. Have a healthy and safe week everybody, I'm Jack Cool.

If you like Soduko Puzzles, logon to our website and enjoy a Daily Puzzle along with a new Daily Crossword Puzzle - Logon at -

www.kleeradio.com



BRANCH 008 LEGION NEWS

Our Chase The Ace Jackpot is now at \$9,143 - stop by and listen to the music and try your luck with the weekly draw - downstairs - The Kitchen will be open on Friday at 6:30 pm for finger foods.

APRIL 25TH - ISLE AUX MORT BOYS are playing at our Branch - tickets are going great, don't be late to get your tickets. or you will miss a great night 9 - 1, \$10.00.

LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING - February 23 at 8 pm, Branch Meeting at 7:00 pm.

GOOD FRIDAY FISH SUPPER - April 10th from 3:00 - 6:00 pm - \$12.00 each. Pan fried or deep fried, dessert included.

Tickets available at Bar or Ladies Axiliary soon (March).

Can you figure out this well known phrase? You may be surprised at the answer.

2TO

Putting two and
To together!
- - ANSWER - -

There are 3 Kinds of People

Those Who Make Things Happen

Those Who Watch Things Happen

Those Who Wonder What Happened

Sydney Mines Seniors & Pensioners Club

SUNDAY NIGHTS at 7:30 we have tarabish, everyone is welcome. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place Prizes are awarded.

MONDAY NIGHT - at 7:30 - FUN NIGHT - we invite members from other Seniors Clubs - Bingo 7:30 dabbers only - Loonie Draw Enjoy a game of SCAT - \$1.00, light refreshment, see you there.

WEDNESDAY - 7:30 45s Card Game 1st, 2nd, 3rd

For the latest and most comprehensive list of local events, logon to - **www.musiccapebreton.com**

Mike Little updates his listings each week.

Some News Items courtesy of **Swing Over The Mountain** Newsletter - Login to read it at - <http://sotmnews.weebly.com>

Shear Madness

HAIR DESIGNS

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Thurs. 9-7 - Fri. 9-5 - Sat. 9-4

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CONTACT INFORMATION

GLEN GRAY, EDITOR

PH: 902-564-9022

Email Address

glengray@kleeradio.com

PHANTOM COUNTRY with Kenny Walsh airs on K-LEE RADIO on Sundays at 6:00 pm - the best in Classic Country Music - tune in to hear Kenny at **www.kleeradio.com**



SYDNEY MINES LIBRARY NEWS

LEGOS - will resume in the new year every 2nd Tuesday beginning January 14th.

CRAFTS will return January 9th, Thursdays at 3 pm.

KNITTING GROUP will resume January 13th at 2:00 pm.

BOOK CLUB - anyone interested in forming a Book Club, please contact the Sydney Mines Library.

LIBRARY CLOSED - we will be closed Monday, February 17th for Heritage Day.

FREE PUBLICITY - If your club or group is holding a community event in the new year and you are looking for some free publicity, email us and we'll make sure that your event gets some needed promotion.

Sunday Morning Gospel Radio Show with host Pierre Chiasson Aired 9:00 am
www.kleeradio.com



CAN YOU SOLVE THIS MYSTERY?

A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns, and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in 3 months. Being an astute observer, he picks one door and lives.

Your mystery is which door did he pick to survive?

they're dead!
haven't eaten in three months,
He picked Door #3. If the lions
MYSTERY ANSWER

FREE PUBLICITY for your event, fund raiser etc.
thisweek@kleeradio.com

The Sydney Mines Minor Hockey 50/50 - Last Draw was won by Shirley MacDonlad and the Jackpot amount for this draw was 12,191 - **THANK YOU**

NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY NEWS

Seniors Dance

Come out and enjoy an evening of dancing and fun with music on Saturday, at 8 pm at the Seniors and Pensioners' Club, Fraser Ave., Sydney Mines!

Admission is \$5.00 and everyone welcome.

Gape Breton Storyteller

Celtic Myths & Legends
Ghost Stories
Local UFO Sightings
From Cape Breton Island

Written & Compiled By GLEN GRAY



BIRTHDAY WISHES

Birthday Wishes going out to my grandson Julian Campbell celebrating his 8th birthday. Happy birthday from Nanny, Poppy, Mom, Dad, Brielle, Shay and all your school friends.

DEADLINE FOR NEWS Tuesday - 12 Noon

The deadline for news to be printed in our newspaper is **Tuesday at 12 noon**. We start to put the paper together for printing on Tuesday and if your news is not in by the deadline, it will be printed in the next issue.

FOR THE BEST IN LOCAL
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YOUR FREE SODUKO WEEKLY PUZZLE

4		9	7		2		1
3							
	5						
1	4						
3		8				5	
		5		7			
			6			8	
5		8	3			6	7
	1						4

You can also get your Daily Soduko Puzzle and Crossword Puzzle by logging on to - www.kleeradio.com and clicking on the FEATURES Page. Also included is a DAILY FREE SOFTWARE giveaway. Logon today to get yours FREE!!

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Armstrong Memorial Branch #19

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - NORTH SYDNEY
Archibald Avenue - North Sydney

CHASE THE ACE JACKPOT \$9,143 - EXECUTIVE MEETING FEB. 26 - 7 PM - GENERAL MEETING AT 8:00 PM - CRIB THURSDAYS AT 7:00 PM
LADIES DARTS MONDAY 7:00 PM

794-4816 - 794-7482 - Members & Guests

NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY NEWS

A Kitchen Ceilidh with Chaulkdust

By now everyone is sick and tired of shovelling and the freezing cold temperatures here in Cape Breton. It's called the winter blah's and we all have them right about now. Well here is a simple way to shake those winter blah's and enjoy a night of relaxation and good music. On Friday, February 28th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 643 Main Street in Sydney Mines we will be having a Kitchen Ceilidh in our church hall featuring Chaulkdust.

Who are Chaulkdust you may ask, well let me tell you who they are. They are a group of teachers that play great music together and bring joy to a very large audience. The band members are Jimmie Campbell, Ian MacLeod, Roy Dawson and Jennifer MacDonald. They play a variety of music anything from



gospel to rock and roll and they will have you singing and tapping your feet all evening long. You will also hear soloist Jennifer MacDonald who sings like an angel, what a treat.

This will be an evening of fun and music where you can relax, kick back and enjoy yourself in a kitchen party setting. You may also get a surprise visit from Archie Alec from Mabou who will have you laughing out loud.

This great night of music and laughs will be held in the St. Andrew's Church hall and we will have a canteen service which we will be selling coffee, tea, cookies and fudge at a very low cost. So if you like a hot cup of tea or coffee and a homemade cookie or fudge while you enjoy a great show, then St. Andrew's is the place you will want to be.

So break up the winter blues by joining us at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Sydney Mines on Friday, February 28th at 7:00 for our Kitchen Ceilidh with Chaulkdust, you won't be disappointed.



KWIK KOPY PRINTING

CHARLOTTE STREET - SYDNEY

PHONE 562-2122

TAX TIPS COLUMN

The differences between common-law and a spouse?

A spouse is someone with whom you are legally married to while a common-law partner applies to someone who: Has been living with you in a conjugal relationship but is not your spouse for at least 12 consecutive months (so your roommate doesn't count); or is the parent to your child

A "child," for this purpose, includes natural or adoptive children or a child over whom you had custody and control and who was wholly dependent on you for support.

Do common-law couples file one joint tax return?

Regardless of your marital status, you are an individual taxpayer and are required to file your own tax return. If you and your partner qualify as a common-law couple, you will have to include your common-law partner's name, social insurance number (SIN) and net income (even if it's zero!) for information purposes only.

So, if you've never swapped SIN numbers, welcome to the next phase of your relationship!

How do common-law relationships impact tax returns?

The CRA will take into account the total earnings from both parties to identify which credits and benefits you may be eligible for and who they should be allocated to. For example, if you have child care expenses, they can only be claimed by the common-law partner with the lower net income. One of the biggest changes new common-law couples experience is changes to their GST quarterly payment.

Many people who qualified for this credit on their own will no longer meet the requirements once they file as common law given the government will combine your net incomes. If you are a common-law couple with no children, you will cease to be eligible for the maximum credit once your combined income is more than \$38,507 and will not get any credit at all once it exceeds \$50,347.

On the bright side, as a common-law partner, you are likely eligible for a number of claims that could increase your return, including: The spouse or common-law partner amount if you supported your common-law partner and their net income that was less than \$12,069 (for 2019).

Be sure to ask your tax expert how to maximize your 2019 deductions to get the most from your return.

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