

Seeley's Bay Newsletter

Seeley's Bay & Area Residents' Association

Connecting the community...

Issue #13, Dec 2011

...and check out events calendar and local resources at www.seeleysbay.ca



photo courtesy of John Truyens

Return of the Village Christmas Tree

For many years the residents of Seeley's Bay used to have a ceremony to light up the tree at the corner of Bay and Main Streets, until they stopped because the tree got just too darn big. This year, Ron Rudd of the Seeley's Bay Retirement Home and Dale Moore of the Nest Egg were determined to revive the tradition. With the help of local volunteers, they were able to string thousands of lights all the way to the top of this enormous and beautiful tree. As soon as the sun fades each day, you can see the decorated tree all the way from Highway 15.

Reverend Stacy Wood of the Holiness Church led a lovely children's choir in seasonal carols. Many people attended the tree lighting ceremony, enjoyed the hot chocolate and cookies and the special shopping opportunities.

Ron and Dale are both members of the Spruce Up Team of Seeley's Bay Steps Up, and this project will help support the work of the team.



photo courtesy of John Truyens

A Really Good Way to Spend \$36.00...



Help provide good food, and buy local...

At this time of year there is a lot of pressure on everyone to spend money. One way to make a meaningful purchase is to buy a fresh food voucher for the ROLL-Aid Centre. Last year, as part of a project of the United Counties Health Unit, area residents Frank and Mary Lou Kinsella lived off a standard food bank hamper for one week. The hardest part for both of them was the lack of *fresh* food in the hamper. Because fresh produce deteriorates faster than canned and dry goods, it isn't practical to have it in the food hampers which are distributed once a month. So, Frank proposed a 'fresh food voucher' program, whereby the recipient could take their voucher to Sweet's Freshmart and buy \$6 worth of produce once a month, and the food bank is now trying to make this work on an ongoing basis. Donna Robinson, who runs the ROLL Aid Centre, would like to encourage donors to buy a six month voucher, i.e. for only \$36 you would be providing a little fresh produce for half a year for someone. One local food bank client, a woman on a disability allowance, is raising her 13 year old grandson. She reports that it makes a big difference to be able to buy a head of lettuce and make healthier sandwiches for his lunch. Please contact Donna at 387-3245 or donrobin@kos.net to make your donation now.

Citizen of the Year?

The Legion is sponsoring a "Citizen of the Year" project; please vote by December 29th for whoever you think deserves the award; ballots are available throughout the village (Nest Egg, TD Canada Trust, Post Office, Freshmart)

Abrams Brothers Are Coming Back!

The amazing Abrams Brothers will be playing here in Seeley's Bay on January 15. The concert will be a joint fundraiser for the United Church steeple reconstruction and for Seeley's Bay Athletics. Tickets are \$25 and you can get them at the Medical Centre, Sweet's Freshmart or through Barb Donaldson. The Abrams Brothers are just back from a Western Canada tour. If you have already seen the band perform, you have likely already bought your ticket. If you have not, you will discover that they are incredibly talented and full of joy. This concert will be a family affair as their dad and grandparents will be joining the young gentlemen on stage. Don't miss the musical event of the year!

Angel Tree Project

The Lions Club is once again asking for people to sponsor a gift for a child via their Angel Tree Project. Select a 'child' from a card on the tree at the Post Office, and then buy a gift suitable for that child (no more than \$40.), and return it to the Post Office or the Medical Centre by December 15th.

Christmas hampers, as well as children's gifts from the Lions Angel Tree project, will be distributed from the ROLL-Aid food bank on December 22, between 4-6 pm. It is important that families in need reserve a hamper in advance and pre-register children for the gift program via the food bank.

Seeley's Bay Athletics

Indoor walking and 'chair yoga' classes continue to run on Tuesday and Friday mornings, 8-9 a.m. for walking, 9-10 a.m. for fabulous chair yoga. This schedule will continue throughout the winter.



What's happening:

Dec. 7 - Open House @ Retirement Home, 1:00 – 8:00 pm
Dec 12 – Foot Clinic @ Retirement Home (SAIL)
Dec 15 – Lego Club @ Library, 6:30-7:30
Dec.21 – Seniors Diners' Club @ the Hall, noon (SAIL)
Dec.31 – New Years Eve dance & dine @ Legion, \$25, 5:30
Jan. 15 – Abrams Bros. Concert @ the Hall, 2:00pm, \$25
Feb 3-5 – Frost Fest returns; watch website for details
Feb. 19 – Story Fest Jim Raffan @ the Hall, 2:00pm, \$10

Food bank information donrobin@kos.net



The Seeley's Bay and Area Residents' Association (SBARA) has **a lot to be grateful for** as we enter the holiday season, most of all we are thankful for the enthusiasm and volunteer spirit of our community.

Over 400 people showed up to give a great welcome to **Rick Hanson** when he visited Seeley's Bay on October 30th as part of his Many in Motion Tour. Tanya Abrams was celebrated as our local medal bearer for her contribution towards a healthy community. Local firefighters provided safety and a parade. Ron Rudd provided a wonderful lunch to over 24 people on Hansen's team; they said it was the first home-cooked meal they had had since they left Cape Spear, Newfoundland a few months earlier!

Early response to the Seeley's Bay Steps Up **Infrastructure Sponsorship Program** has been good. Several area residents have stepped up and pledged donations to help buy benches, picnic tables and other items that we hope to install in parkettes throughout the village, pending approval of government funding.

Our favourite story teller, **James Raffan**, has agreed to make another presentation on his polar travels at a **StoryFest** event to be held at the Community Hall on February 19. Last winter these events were very popular and many people have been asking for more. So we are grateful that Jim has volunteered some more of his time to help us raise funds towards our \$25K goal.

And finally, we are very grateful that half of **Main Street** is now spruced up with new pavement and new drainage. And isn't the easy entrance to the Post Office grand!?



If you want to volunteer, donate or get more information, please contact: Peggy Sweet McCumber (Chair of SBARA) at sbara@seeleysbay.com

This e- newsletter is sent to **over 190 households** every 2-3 months. To sign-up and/or to publicize community-oriented events, please write to newsletter@seeleysbay.com. And please print and post a copy on your public bulletin board and/or share copies with neighbours. You can also join the **over 505 people** who 'like' "Support Seeley's Bay Ontario"

