

Town seeking princess candidates

Being named Princess Kentville provides young ladies with the opportunity to gain valuable skills and experiences that will aid them in both personal and professional endeavours. For the duration of the year, Princess Kentville attends many community events, acting as an ambassador of the Town and a role model for community youth.

We asked Princess Kentville 2009, Lindsay Pearl, to share some of her experiences with us:

Q: As a candidate, what were you feeling the day of the Tea, before the interviews and speech portions of the night?

A: The day of the Tea I was slightly nervous and very excited. I knew that being a candidate for Princess Kentville was a valuable learning experience in itself. I was also looking forward to the unique journey that lay ahead if I was chosen Princess Kentville.

Q: Please tell us what the best part of being a candidate for Princess Kentville was for you.

A: The best part of being a candidate for Princess Kentville was the chance to prepare a speech reflecting on the future of our Annapolis Valley. I felt I had a very special opportunity to share my thoughts with fellow community members.

Q: Was it difficult for you to find a topic for your speech? How did you decide what to write about?

A: I did not find it difficult to find a topic for my speech, as the Apple Blossom Committee had selected three main topics that I could pick from. I selected my speech topic on the issue I felt was most relevant to and interested me the most; this way I had great deal of information to incorporate into the speech.

Q: You were a candidate twice. What would you tell someone who is perhaps afraid to run because they may not be selected as Princess Kentville?

A: Simply being a candidate for Princess Kentville was an extremely valuable experience. It taught me professional skills, such as public speaking and how to con-



Mayor David Corkum, Princess Kentville 2009 Lindsay Pearl and child attendant Kailey Bennett.

duct myself in an interview. Running once for Princess Kentville prepared me well for the following year. As I reflect back on my experience from both years, I understand the very important life lessons I learned and feel things could not have worked out better.

Q: You were selected as Princess Kentville 2009 and went on to become Queen Annapolisa. How has the entire experience helped you in your personal, academic or professional life?

A: It is truly hard to describe how the experience of being chosen Princess Kentville 2009 and then crowned Queen Annapolisa 77th has positively affected

my life. I am much more confident and well versed in my professional skills, the interview process, the creation of a portfolio, preparation of a speech, public speaking, impromptu speaking, leadership abilities, and proper etiquette. I know these skills will remain with me and be very valuable in my future career.

Are you interested in being a candidate for Princess Kentville 2010?

Candidates must be between the ages of 18-23 and have been a resident of Kentville for at least one year. Candidates who are living away while attending school are still eligible, but must be available for all official Apple Blossom Festival events and a minimum of three functions over the course of the year. Candidates for Princess Kentville must adhere to the rules and regulations as set by the Apple Blossom Festival. The chosen candidate will receive accommodations at the Old Orchard Inn for the duration of the Apple Blossom Festival; participate in all official functions of the Festival; will compete for the title of Queen Annapolisa; and will receive a bursary from the Town of Kentville.

Application forms are available for downloading at <http://www.kentville.ca/documents/princess/princess-app2010.pdf>

or can be obtained by contacting Town of Kentville Parks and Recreation at 902-679-2539 or recreation@kentville.ca

KENTVILLE CONNECTION

Your town. Your news.

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Spring 2010

Message from the mayor



Happy New Year and welcome to winter! It's hard to believe it's already the end of February, as it seems like

just yesterday I saw a lot of you at Harvest Festival.

2010 is proving to be quite an exciting year for the Town. We are starting to see progress on the new Kings County Academy and it will be exciting to watch as the walls go up and it takes shape.

The Town has confirmed a building lot on River Street near the police station for the Friends of the Kentville Library. They will now be able to move forward with their plans to build a new library in downtown Kentville. You can expect an official announcement ceremony from the Friends of the Kentville Library in the coming months.

It is encouraging to see the continued development of our Kentville Futures site on the former CP lands, with the recent opening of the Shannex

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Town residents enjoy some indoor recreational activity at the Soccer Dome last month. There's plenty to do indoors or outside this winter to stay active.

Stay active in winter!

The snow and cold temperatures have arrived, but that's no reason to hibernate for the next few months. This winter stay active with family and friends and take pleasure in the crisp outdoor weather.

Enjoy the traditional outdoor favourite of sledding at Burgher Hill, Oakdene or Memorial Parks.

Are you interested in giving showshoeing a try but don't have any showshoes? Kentville Parks and Recreation now has snowshoes available for borrowing through the new Kentville Snowshoe Program. The snowshoes are universal and no equipment is needed; they are light-weight and good for beginners; and there are both child and adult sizes available.

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Mayor

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nursing home and the new Covington Station building that contains the Kentville Pharmasave and doctors' offices.

Unfortunately in this issue of Kentville Connection I do want to touch on two issues that are not so positive but have been in the news recently. One is the education funding court case between the Municipality of the County of Kings and the towns of Berwick, Kentville, Wolfville and Hantsport. The second is the consideration that the Municipality of the County of Kings is giving to possibly relocating its offices, and those of other government agencies, to a new tri-government complex that would be built near Highway 101. Please see page 5 for more information.

And in keeping with the theme of this issue of Kentville Connection, I'd like to remind everyone to get outside and get active this winter season! Kentville has so much to offer throughout the winter months it's hard not to enjoy the snow and all the activities that come with it. Whether it is skating, sledding, snowshoeing, indoor walking or experiencing the downtown, bundle up, grab your family and friends and enjoy what winter has to offer in our great town of Kentville.
Mayor Dave Corkum

Lots to do indoors or out

From page 1

How about playing a game of hockey or going ice skating on the pond at Memorial Park? Although the Town of Kentville does not clear or maintain the surface, it does check the ice every day to ensure it is safe and posts safety signs to let you know.

If you prefer to keep your feet on solid ground, try walking, skiing or snowshoeing the 7 kilometers of Kentville's Trail System. If you're up for more of a challenge and are looking for something more rugged, take your skis or snowshoes to the Participark and experience the Gorge.

Bird watchers know that many feathered friends stick around during the winter months, so a visit to the bird sanctuary near the west end of The Trail can be a fascinating experience.

The Town of Kentville's Winter Activity Challenge is a great way for you to show us you're having fun...and you can win prizes too! Whatever it is that makes winter fun for you and your family, we want to see it. Snap pictures of you and your friends, family or neighbours enjoying the great outdoors this winter, visit the Kentville Parks and Recreation Facebook page and upload the photos. Prize draws take place once a month in January, February and March. So get out there and have some fun in the snow! Search for us on Facebook under the email address recreation@kentville.ca

If you prefer to stay indoors but still want to be active, the Kentville Indoor Walking Club is a great way for people of all ages to enjoy safe, low impact physical activity. Walking takes place Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

from 10-11 a.m. While there, give the pedometers and Nordic walking poles a try! Parents and tots can also take advantage of the Indoor Walking Club by having play time in the middle of the circle. So come out to the Indoor Soccer Facility on Park Street to walk, run or bring the kids for quality play time.

Of course it wouldn't be winter in Kentville without numerous activities and events taking place at Centennial Arena. The Arena hosts Public Skating, Moms and Tots Skating and a variety of other sports and events, so get out and glide around the ice for a refreshing way to be active. If you're not much of a skater, you can still get out and check out a weekend hockey game. The Valley Wildcats play on Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons. For more information on Arena events, please call the Arena hotline at 679-2542.

Don't forget to take a day this winter to explore Downtown Kentville. With its many unique shops, services and attractions, Downtown Kentville is a great place to spend the day. Warm up by enjoying a meal and hot drink at one of our cafés or restaurants or heat things up after dark by taking in some live entertainment in the form of a show at CentreStage Theatre or some music at one of our pubs.

There is so much for you and your family to do in Kentville this season, so embrace the cold weather and stay active this winter!

For more information about any of the physical activity programs, contact Nichole Lutz at 679-2556 or activeliving@kentville.ca

Department updates

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works employees are busy maintaining streets and sidewalks in as safe a condition as possible with the variable weather conditions that occur throughout the year and especially during the winter.

The following is some of the Capital Construction work completed within the Town of Kentville in 2009:

- Completed paving sections of Prospect Avenue, McGill Court, Baden Powell Drive, Elizabeth Avenue, and trail from the Soccer Dome to West Main Street.
- Sidewalk has been added on Webster Street from Kings Riverside Court to the Church, as well as extending the Park Street sidewalk.
- School Street -- water and sewer is done and asphalt replaced.
- Completed the concrete curb and asphalt to open River Street (which is now open.)
- West Main Street – the underground work has been completed to extend waterlines and provide for storm sewer lines. The road reconstruction has been completed with the first layer of asphalt.
- West Main Pump Works - Pumps to pump water from West Main Storm Water have arrived and are scheduled to be installed in February and March of 2010.
- The Town has recently purchased a 1/2 -ton pickup truck, one-ton salt box, and three-ton salt box.

BYLAWS/REGULATIONS

Winter Parking Regulations; Section 202(1) of the Motor Vehicle Act, effective December 1 until April 15, no person shall park upon any highway or street in the Town of Kentville from 1:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. This is strictly enforced during snow plowing operations and violators will have their vehicles towed.

The placement of snow from a driveway or parking lot onto Town streets is strictly forbidden.

PARKS & RECREATION

Centennial Arena may be participating in a Capital Improvement Program including lighting and ceiling upgrades as well as a heat recovery system for the plant room. The project is subject to approval from Council, and would involve funding partners including RFANS, ecoNova Scotia, NSHPP and NSPI.

The Arena has hosted a variety of special events this season including a Figure Skating Ice Carnival, the Valley Open Figure Skating Competition, Valley Wildcat Playoffs and multiple hockey tournaments. March 28th is the last scheduled ice time for the Arena this winter, and of course the Home Show will take place in April.

The bridge that will eventually provide access to the Ducks Unlimited Trail from behind the Municipality of the County of Kings building has arrived. Work is currently being done to prepare for the installation of abut-

ments and the bridge is expected to be in place later this spring.

The department has been encouraging residents to Take the Roof Off Winter by engaging in fun outdoor activities this season. Burgher Hill, Oakdene Park and Memorial Park are all popular sites for sledding and are monitored regularly for safety issues and cleanliness. A community sledding party was held in January to promote outdoor winter physical activity.

The department is also promoting outdoor skating at Memorial Park and providing snowshoes to residents who wish to borrow them for use in the area.

PLANNING

2009 saw a total year end building valuation of \$8,092,832. There were 16 single family residential dwellings and 1 semi-detached for a total of 18 dwelling units and a new commercial development – The Pharmasave and Office Building on Station Lane. The Planning Department and Council approved a rezoning request for approximately 7.5 acres of land on Chester for a single family and residential two unit dwelling subdivision; and a rezoning request from St. Joseph's Church to change the zoning on the property from Residential Two Unit Dwelling (R-2) to Institutional (I) to ensure conformity of the use.

Shannex's long term care facility is now open. The Town is moving ahead with designating River Street as a public street to open up vacant property adjacent to the Cornwallis River for commercial uses.

WATER COMMISSION

The Kentville Water Commission Rate Hearing took place on Dec. 8 in Council Chambers. The process is anticipated to take a number of months with the implementation of new rates scheduled April 1, 2010.

Welcome to new businesses

Nathanson Seaman & Watts
24 Webster Court
678-1616
www.24webster.com

Nova Discovery
19 Aberdeen Street
681-5555
www.novadiscovery.com

Kentville Pharmasave
100 Station Lane
365-6655
www.kentvillepharmasave.com



Kentville Connection is published twice a year by the Town of Kentville.

*Comments and story ideas are always welcome.
Call 679-2549 or email communitydevelopment@kentville.ca*

CentreStage Theatre presents comedy

CentreStage Theatre's next show is *The Last of Jane Austen*.

In the marvelous and touching comedy *The Last of Jane Austen*, by Shirl Hendryx, two elderly, usually quite proper sisters in a small Midwestern town, bored with playing canasta and attending readings of Jane Austen novels at their local church, develop a passion for watching boxing on television.

When a shabby transient shows up at their door looking for odd jobs, they decide to train him to be a boxer. Despite his lack of skill, questionable morals, and warnings from their suspicious

niece, the women manage the boxer in a "real fight", and create a buzz in the boxing world. But, is he who they think he is, or is he a glib opportunist reveling in the attentions of two old ladies? Will he demolish their dream or provide them with a satisfying adventure in their waning years?

The Last of Jane Austen stars David Lane as the shabby transient and Rose Meagher and Anke Van Ek as the two elderly sisters. The show also features Branaghlee Lane, Brenda Ellis, Wayne Dupuis, Andrew Comeau and Keegan Martin. It is directed by Candy O'Brien. The show is

appropriate for older teens and adults.

The show opens on Thursday, Feb. 25 (pay what you can) and continues playing on Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. until March 27. There will be a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, March 14.

Coming shows

The Mouse that Roared - a comedy directed by Roger Prentice (April 15-May 15)
Getting Sara Married - a comedy directed by Mindy Vinqvist-Tymchuk (June 3-July 10)
Cinderella, Cinderella - a family show directed by Kerri Leier (June 3-June 20)

CentreStage Theatre is located at 61 River Street, Kentville, near the police station. For more information, visit www.centrestagetheatre.ca or phone 678-8040 to make reservations.

If you would like to be included in the CentreStage e-newsletter list, please write to centrestage@centrestagetheatre.ca

Visit the Kentville Public Library this spring!

Preschool story time takes place on Friday mornings from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

There will be special activities happening over March Break, so keep checking with the library for more details as they become available.

Stop by the library at 95 Cornwallis St., call 679-2544 or visit the website at <http://www.valleylibrary.ca>

Snow removal takes time



Piles of snow like this one on Aberdeen Street are usually removed at night when there is less traffic on the roads and heavy equipment can move around easily.

It's that time of year again, when Kentville sees snow, snow and more snow! Here's a reminder of how the Town of Kentville's Public Works Department looks after the plowing, sanding, salting and maintenance of our roads.

There are two key points to remember when it comes to snow removal operations:

1. The Town of Kentville Public Works Department's number one priority is public safety. We will get the streets plowed and cleared of snow as soon as possible and when it is least disruptive.
2. The Town of Kentville Public Works Department does what it can, with what it has, when it can.

Often times the roads will be salted as the snow begins to fall so there is little or no accumulation. However, once there is a significant amount of snow on the ground, there is a priority system for snow plowing and salting/sanding roads.

Main thoroughfares and streets with steep grades are the top priority, followed by streets with a slight grade but

lightly traveled, and then flat, lightly traveled streets.

Although Public Works does not plow all sidewalks, it is standard procedure to clear some sidewalks along main thoroughfares and within the Downtown. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of property owners and occupiers of properties adjacent to sidewalks to keep them clear. In its plowing efforts, Public Works will also do its best to remove snow from parking lots to ensure there are as many available parking spaces as possible.

During snowstorms snow will be piled on Town streets to ensure the roads are passable. Crews do their best to pile snow in areas where there are no crosswalks and where there will be minimal impact on residents and local businesses, while maintaining public safety. Typically, piles are removed the same day, during the night when businesses are closed, there are few cars on the road, and the streets are safe. Heavy equip-

ment and dump trucks are used to remove hundreds of loads of snow, and contractors are hired to assist with the hauling and disposing of it.

It's also important to remember that during snow storms and snow removal operations, other incidents such as water main breaks can occur. Such incidents will take priority over snow removal operations and leave a skeleton crew available for plowing. So if your street doesn't get plowed right away, please be patient as there could be other circumstances delaying it.

Potholes are another concern and become increasingly worse due to freezing and thawing. The Public Works Department is aware of them and will work to repair them in a timely manner, once snow removal and other priority procedures are completed.

If you have any questions about snow removal operations, please contact the Town of Kentville Public Works Department 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 679-2520.

Kentville Home Show turns 29

The Kentville Home Show is the largest Home Show in the Valley. Each year since the original in 1982, the Home Show has grown and is recognized as a major event in The Town of Kentville.

You can expect to see the newest products from lawn and garden, home improvement, home heating and construction, along with numerous other products.

With ongoing support from its vendors, Valley businesses and the general public, the Kentville Home Show has been able to sustain 28 years of success. We look forward to

this year being another exciting year.

Kentville Home Show - April 16-18, 2010

Hours:

April 16: 5 p.m.-9 p.m.

April 17: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

April 18: 12 p.m.-4 p.m.

Contact Information:

Kevin Bennett, Facilities Manager

Office Phone: 679-2533

Cell: 680-6407

Fax: 679-2375

Email: kbennett@kentville.ca

New visitor information centre

The Town of Kentville, the Municipality of the County of Kings and Destination Southwest Nova Association (DSWNA) are working cooperatively to open a new Town & County Welcome Centre in Downtown Kentville.

The new Welcome Centre, located at the corner of Main and Cornwallis Streets, will be open year-round and will also house a DSWNA satellite office.

Each year, thousands of visitors pass through Kentville on their way to Hall's Harbour, The Look Off, Cape Split and Baxter's Harbour. The new Welcome Centre will showcase the Town and County and will draw visitors into Downtown Kentville on their way through.

The Centre is expected to open in April 2010.



The Kentville Parks and Recreation Department hosted "Sledding Under the Lights" at Memorial Park on January 22. The event saw approximately 400 people come and go during the night. The highlight of the night was the sledding races between Kentville Parks and Recreation and AVR/Magic 94.9. Thanks to everyone who came "Sledding Under The Lights" with us!

Sustainability plan process ongoing

Throughout 2009 and early 2010, the Town of Kentville engaged in a community consultation and planning campaign called 'Envision Kentville: Planning for Tomorrow Today.'

Over the past year, Envision Kentville has broadly consulted with Kentville citizens of all ages, interests and backgrounds on the development of the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP).

The ICSP is a long-term sustainability plan that identifies common community assets while recognizing common community challenges. The ICSP lays out the town's sustainability priorities as well as the actions and timelines that are required to protect and enhance the Town's sense of place and quality of life.

By 2030, the Town of Kentville will strive towards the popularly supported vision of "Becoming a healthy, vibrant, integrated and complete community where citizens can live, work and play in an environment that supports a high quality of life."

In meeting this vision, the Town will face the challenges, and the potential to embrace new opportunities, in building on existing community assets in a way that addresses the sustainability issues of common concern. Ultimately, the success of the ICSP rests on the Town's abilities to balance the four pillars of sustainability – economic, social, cultural and environmental – and to do so through ongoing and meaningful processes of civic engagement.

Some of the key goals and priorities of the ICSP, in no particular order, include:

- Building on Kentville's role as the service centre of the valley while encouraging diversity and entrepreneurship in the

local economy

- Supporting good infrastructure planning, policies & practices in traffic & parking, that maximizes efficiency and minimizes costs while,

- Encouraging a pedestrian friendly, active living community with integrated trail connectivity to support active transportation (i.e. walking, jogging, cycling)

- Working with regional partners to protect agricultural farmland and the rural nature of the Valley while working to support the local agricultural economy

- Working with regional partners to clean up & restore the Cornwallis River

- Ensuring a safe, clean and reliable water supply & protecting Town water resources through proactive measures

- Continuing to enhance regional collaboration on the provision of public transit & waste management services

- Supporting local, regional & provincial collaboration to reduce greenhouse gases & air pollution

- Supporting regional approaches to climate impacts & adaptation planning (i.e. flooding, sea level rise & extreme weather events)

- Managing sustainable community growth & development through planning & policy

- Promoting downtown revitalization

- Encouraging the diversification of community recreation, arts & culture, green spaces & facilities

If you are interested in learning more, visit the website and view the draft ICSP in the Community Consultation documents section at:

www.kentville.ca/townhall_sustainability.cfm

Town states position on education funding, proposed tri-government complex

By Mayor Dave Corkum

After 27 years of honouring an agreement to cost-share mandatory municipal contributions to education equally with the towns, Kings County Council has applied to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia to have the Court impose a termination clause of March 31, 2010 in the agreement. This action is unprecedented both in its adverse effect on inter-municipal cooperation and by trying to make the Supreme Court a party to an agreement that was reached by local governments.

Education funding is one agreement among many inter-municipal funding and service arrangements we rely on to ensure each municipality pays a fair share and that services are available to the public regardless of the political jurisdiction they live, work, learn and play in.

Presently, the County of Kings and the Towns of Kentville, Wolfville, Berwick and Hantsport all pay \$1,252 per student to the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board. If Kings County Council is successful in having the Supreme Court terminate the education funding agreement, Kentville's cost per student will increase \$300 and Kings County's will drop by \$100. This will increase Kentville's total cost by \$230,000 per year. Put another way, it would have the same effect as Kentville paying for 185 Kings County students under the agreement that has served the region so equitably since 1982.

Regarding the proposed Kings County Tri-Government Complex, we are very concerned that anyone is proposing to move so many government services out of our downtown. We are also disappointed about an apparent lack of concern about the devastating impact this would have on our downtown. Like so many downtowns in Canada, downtown Kentville has had to redefine itself over many years as "big box" retail stores have sprung up and expanded outside our borders.

The County of Kings municipal complex is a cornerstone of our downtown and vitally important to Kentville, which has become the government, professional and business service centre of Kings County and the Annapolis Valley. Kentville is also at the heart of the urban core of Kings County, which includes Coldbrook, North Kentville, New Minas and other immediately adjacent communities. This area, with Kentville at its centre, recently rated #1 in Nova Scotia and #17 in Canada in the Canadian Federation of Independent Business "Communities in Boom" report on the best places to do business.

We are proud of the prominence and success of Kentville-Kings and certain that we are even stronger, more prosperous and vibrant when we work together and not a cross purposes to one another. We firmly believe that the council and residents of the Municipality of the County of Kings will be well-served by reinvesting in their existing municipal complex rather spending much more money to build something new where there are no services.

