

Seeley's Bay Newsletter

Connecting the community...

Seeley's Bay & Area Ratepayers Association

Issue #6, Sept 2010

...and check out www.seeleysbay.ca



Noteworthy Neighbours

"A good teacher is always giving to the community. Their role is to understand the values and culture of a community, and then to pass them on to the community's children, as they are prepared for their future in the community." says 4th generation resident **Donna Robinson**

The ice storm of January 1998 came just days after the untimely death of Donna Robinson's husband. Donna returned from visiting family in the Toronto area while the freezing rain was still falling; she remembers hydro lines falling down behind her as she made her way north on the #15. A day or so after getting home she went to the fire hall to see how she could help, and for the next few days she worked with others to organize food assistance for families dependent on hydro for basic needs and cooking.

As things began to sort themselves out, and as other emergency centres offered up their surplus food, the Seeley's Bay crew stockpiled it all, and the "Roll-Aid" food bank was created. Donna is still a driving force for the area food bank, along with 15 other dedicated volunteers. "Roll-Aid" is the ONLY food bank in the Township of Leeds & 1000 Islands.

Donna had three thoughts for newsletter readers. First, the **annual food bank drive will be on October 16, from 9:00-1:00. Please help out; the food bank needs to raise at least \$15K this year.**

Secondly, Donna would like to see us **co-operating more with our neighbouring villages.** People's time and resources are limited; we can achieve more by working together, sharing facilities, and joining forces. As an example, there are too many small Christian groups struggling to pay the bills; collaboration seems like an obvious thing to explore.

And finally, Donna would like to see energy going into **improving the quality of water in the bay.** She is optimistic that we can make real progress by providing information to people about alternatives to harmful practices, and by improving our drainage & waste treatment over time.

Donna's home is "North Leeds & the Rideau Shore".

Ultimate Fishing Town in Canada

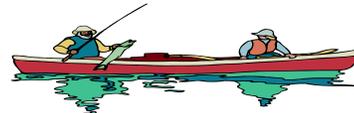
Seeley's Bay beat out 150 other towns to make the short list of 10 places competing to be named the Ultimate Fishing Town in Canada. It has taken a lot of team work, on-line voting and creative 'marketing' to get this far. There are 3 things you can do NOW to help the village win the final top prize of \$25K which can be used for community improvement, including:



CTV crew visits us Sept 10

1. Vote at <http://www.wfn.tv/ultimate-fishing-town/Seeleys-Bay>; vote every 12 hours 'til Sept 28
2. Convince everyone you know, anywhere in the world, to do the same!
3. If you are on **Facebook**, join 138 others on "Support Seeley's Bay Ontario", click to 'like' it

Shane White, pictured above, is co-owner of Rideau Breeze Marina on Haskin's Point Road. You can watch a video of Shane under the Seeley's Bay site on the World Fishing Network's contest site (see link above). In the interview Shane talks about the fishing in Seeley's Bay, and what he thinks we should do with the prize money. **"I want to help the fish!"**



The contest ends Sept. 28 so please VOTE NOW!

Important Public Meeting

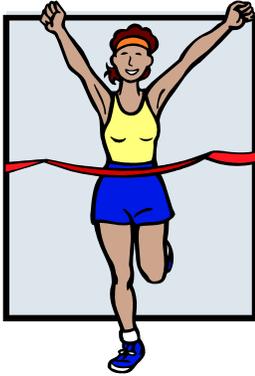
ALL WELCOME

Tuesday, Sept. 28
7:00 p.m.
Community Hall
(above fire station)
Door Prizes
Dessert
Beverages
Special Guests



Please come to hear our First Impressions Community Report and help start an action plan for Seeley's Bay & Area (see more details on page 2 under SBARA)

Seeley's Bay Athletics



**All classes free
All ages
All abilities**

Outdoor summer schedule until the end of September; Evening/ Indoor classes resume for Oct & Nov:
Tuesday evening lineup:
 5 PM gentle fitness - Kim
 6 PM mat yoga – Julie
 7 PM clogging (dance)
Thursday evening lineup:
 5 PM gentle fitness – Kim
 6 PM Tai Chi - Michael
Tuesday and Friday Mornings
 8 AM walking group - Tanya
 9 AM 'arm chair yoga' - Julie
Pick up schedule at Medical Centre or call 613-387-3120

SBARA

Seeley's Bay and Area Ratepayers' Association (SBARA) in co-operation with the Ontario Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Rural Affairs, as well as the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands, has undertaken a First Impressions exchange with the community of Otonabee-South Monaghan (village of Keene). Each community had a team make incognito visits to one another over the summer. On **September 28** at a full public meeting, the visitors from Keene will present their report on the first impressions Seeley's Bay makes to prospective tourists, investors and people considering a move to the area. Their report will include suggested actions for improvement. Residents will be invited to comment and suggest projects for an action plan.

The SBARA **Annual General Meeting will be on October 28, 7:00, at the Community Hall.** The new action plan will be discussed. Residents are encouraged to attend the meeting, join the organization, and help make Seeley's Bay and area an even better place to live and to visit.

What's happening:

- Sep 19 – Legion Week, many special events
- Sep 25 – Turkey Dinner @ fire hall, from 4:30, \$6-\$12
- Sep 28 – Public Meeting @ fire hall, 7:00
- Oct 16 – Food Bank Drive 9-1:00; Legion Dinner @ 5
- Oct 20 – Hear all municipal candidates @ fire hall, 7:00
- Oct 25 – Municipal Election Day - VOTE**
- Oct 28 – SBARA AGM @ fire hall, 7:00
- Oct 30 – Hallowe'en Party @ Legion
- Nov 13 – Dance with Jeff Code @ Legion
- Every 2nd Wed of month, seniors lunch/SAIL @ fire hall
- Every Thurs – euchre @ Legion



Message from local Township Councillor

Wow, what a year at the Seeley's Bay docks! Because of the tremendous efforts of the Seeley's Bay and Area Ratepayers Association, the docks are now a "Noted destination of Rideau Canal boaters". Our Harbour Masters, Christine and Cory, have been run off their feet accommodating the boaters with slips, electricity, and information about Seeley's Bay. Next year is already looking successful with pre-bookings of slips.

The launching dock, the Community Kiosk and security system are three things that have received rave reviews from our new boating friends. Another thing the boaters have been telling me is that they can't get over how friendly and helpful all the people of the village are. They are being assisted as to where things are and what there is to do in and around the village. Major note is the Vita Parcours stations. Look out for next year!

Charlie Kellington



New directional sign at the Nest Egg helps visitors find their way; Dale Moore would like to hear feed-back. "What's missing? How else can we improve signage in town?"

This newsletter is published every 2-3 months, and now goes to over 125 households. To sign-up to receive it by e-mail, and/or to publicize community-oriented events, please write to the editor at newsletter@seeleysbay.com Feel free to print and post a copy on your public bulletin board and/or share copies with neighbours. Help spread the word!

Important Recycling Opportunity

When: Saturday, Oct 2, new TLTI Public Works facility in Lansdowne, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
What: TVs, cameras, amps, a-v players and recorders, phones, answering machines, computers & accessories, printers, copiers, fax machines, PDAs, radios, scanners, speakers, tuners – all that old electronic junk collecting dust!

