

The Book Nook

by Kate Oland

Programs, programs, programs! There's a lot going on this summer at Victoria County libraries - so much that it's hard to cover everything in one Book Nook. I'm going to give you the quick overview, and tell you how to stay informed about library events for the whole family.

Children all over the county are signing up for the Summer Reading Program - a free program that encourages kids to keep up their reading skills through the summer. Kids who read eight books (or read for ten hours) receive a prize donated by Cape Breton businesses. Participants can also enjoy Craft Days and Game Days at both Ingonish and Baddeck Library Branches. Kids can sign up at any branch (or on the bookmobile) until August 5th.

The Victoria County Bookmobile will celebrate Summer Reading with a Fun Day at the Bay St. Lawrence Community Centre, July 14th from 11:30 to 1:00. We'll do storytelling, face painting, crafts, and games, and enjoy some snacks as well. All are welcome! The Bookmobile is also making extra stops in Wagmatcook this summer, to give kids a chance to participate in the Summer Reading Program. We'll be at the Wagmatcook Cultural Centre July 20 (10-11), August 3 (11:45-12:15), August 17 (10-11), and August 31 (11:45-12:15).

Baddeck Library is hosting its second year of the Summer Welcome Program Series - a weekly series aimed at bringing locals, summer residents, and tourists together in a relaxed, informal atmosphere to learn about aspects of Cape Breton culture and heritage. The series runs every Thursday night at 6:30 pm through July and

August, it's free to attend, and no registration is required. Tea and oatcakes will be served. July's presentations include "Celtic Storytelling" with Robert O'Hearn, "Historic Baddeck" with author Jocelyn Bethune, "Beinn Bhreagh," presented by the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site, and "The Wildflowers of Cape Breton," a slideshow presentation by naturalist Bethsheila Kent.

Baddeck Library (with the help of summer student Alex Hanam), is also ramping up its Youth programming this summer, in response to suggestions from its Youth Advisory Group. A successful Teen Arts and Crafts Night was held on July 6th, and planning is underway for a Coffeehouse on Friday, July 22nd, 6-8 pm. The coffeehouse aims to provide a relaxed and supportive atmosphere for youth to perform music, read poetry, do standup comedy, etc. in an "open mic" format. No registration is required, but feel free to call Alex or Kate at 295-2055 if you have questions about performing.

On July 27, Alex will be hosting a Teen Accessory Swap from 6-8 p.m., here at the library. It's a great opportunity to weed out the jewelry, shoes, hats, scarves, bags, etc. that you don't use and swap for something fabulous. No need to register, and it's free to participate. Just bring your "stuff"!

Stay tuned for more information on summer programs coming up in August!

Kate Oland, Baddeck Branch/Victoria County Bookmobile - 295-2055

Leona Stockley, Victoria North Regional Branch (Ingonish) - 285-2544

Athletes of the Year



Baddeck Academy students Ian Nicholson (l) and Michelle Towle (c) were honoured at the school's recent Awards Night. Pictured with Ian and Michelle is Baddeck Academy alumni Jessie Wong, who was the guest speaker for the awards presentation. Ian and Michelle won their awards for Male & Female Athletes of the Year.



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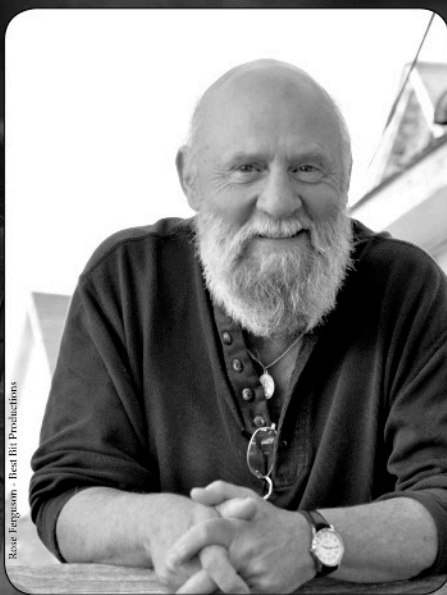
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