



ARTS AND CULTURE CENTRE

Box Office Phone 729-3200, Fax 729-0247  
www.artsandculturecentre.com

- ❖ **Feb 12<sup>th</sup>:**  
DEBUT ATLANTIC  
ARTIST DAVID JALBERT, piano
- ❖ **Feb 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>:**  
BIG BAND SHOW -  
VALENTINE'S NIGHT OUT
- ❖ **Feb 20<sup>th</sup>:**  
"WICKED ALTOGETHER"
- ❖ **Feb 21<sup>st</sup>:**  
CIRCUS COWBOYS
- ❖ **Feb 29<sup>th</sup>:**  
THE CONCERT CROWD

UNIVERSITY BOTANICAL GARDEN

306 Mt. Scio Rd. phone 737-8590  
The garden's winter office hours Mon-Fri 9 am to 4 pm.

The gift shop hours are 10am - 3.30 pm Mon-Fri. The Gift Shop will be closed after Dec 21 (a 20% discount on most items is available until then) and re-open Jan 21.

The trails and flower gardens have closed for the season and will re-open May 1st. The conference Room is available for meetings and conferences.

For information on the "Bloomin' Teapot" tearoom call 753-8327

For information on events, programmes visit their website www.mun.ca/botgarden

CENTRE SCOLAIRE ET  
COMMUNAUTAIRE DES GRANDS-  
VENTS.

Ridge Rd. A library, resources and events for the francophone community. Phone 757-2816 or 757-2817  
website www.acfsj.ca

A.C.HUNTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

at the Arts and Culture Centre  
Website www.publib.nf.ca phone 737-2133/3950

FLUVARIUM

Nagles Place phone 754-3474 for information on hours and programmes visit their website www.fluvarium.ca

ELAINE DOBBIN CENTRE FOR AUTISM

70, Clinch Cres. (across from the Janeway)

"THE PANTRY" AT SHAMROCK FARM is open Mon-Fri. 10 am-4pm for reservations call 722-8200 Ask about the availability of the Conference Room or Board Room.

THE WORKS

17 Westerland Road  
Aquarena, Field House and other recreation facilities  
phone 737-3799  
Website: www.theworksonline.ca



**IN PIPPY PARK**

IN PIPPY PARK is published six times a year by the Pippy Park Promotions Committee. Material published within reflects the events and happenings in Pippy Park and the organizations associated with it.

Contributions are welcome, and all contributions are presumed to be submitted for the mutual enjoyment of readers, thus no payment will be made for contributions.

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**IN PIPPY PARK**

January, February 2008



Volume 8, Number 1

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**Pippy Park Celebrates 40 Years in 2008**

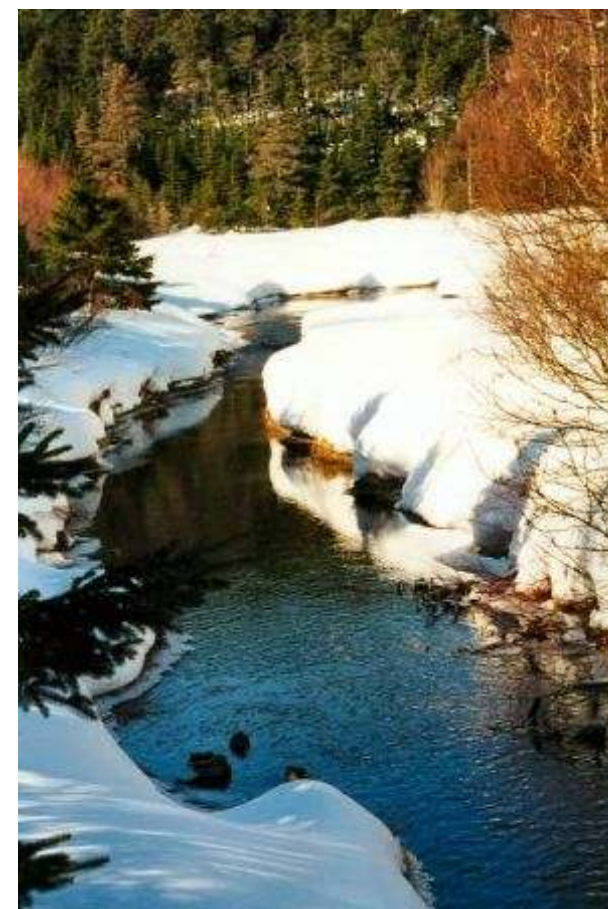
**40 Years Ago**

**MY "PIPPY PARK":**  
*Memories of Forty  
Years Ago*

**By Mike Manning**

I came to Newfoundland in 1962, at the request of the late Premier Joey Smallwood who was looking for someone to help develop a 400 acre public park to be known as "Confederation Park". It was to consist of the grounds around the newly constructed Confederation Building the newly established campus of Memorial University and the grounds of the College of Trades and Technology that was under construction at that time. It was to include Kents Pond and Long Pond and the land along the yet to be completed Confederation Parkway (now Prince Philip Drive).

In 1966 with the rapid increase in the construction of public and institutional buildings, plans were put in place to expand the area of the park to provide adequate room. Mr Chesley A. Pippy the owner of Newfoundland Tractor and Equipment Co. agreed to donate a large sum of money over a number of years to help establish the



A tranquil Leary's Brook winds its way through the snowbound Freshwater Valley at the foot of Mount Scio on a sparkling winter's day.

park. In recognition of this pledge, legislation was passed in 1966 naming the park after him.

Joey Smallwood held a public meeting at Gonzaga High School and made the grand announcement asserting that the Provincial Government "...will not

stop until we have here a park that will attract attention across Canada....only one other park will hold a candle to it and that is the one in Regina Saskatchewan (Wascana Centre)...which though attractive is as flat as the floor".

*continued next page*

**2008 Park Master Plan Review:  
Your Input Sought**

**By: Bob Halfyard**

This year the Pippy Park Commission will be conducting its legislated five year review of the Pippy Park Master Plan.

Interested groups or individuals are invited to make submissions in writing to the Commission (Attn. Bob Halfyard) on any suggestions they might have relating to the development of Pippy Park. Copies of the current Master Plan can be viewed at the Pippy Park Headquarters (Mount Scio House) during regular working hours.

Submissions must be received before February 29, 2009.

E-mail comments to:  
bobhalfyard@nf.aibn.com

Or send them to:  
Bob Halfyard  
Master Plan Review  
Pippy Park Commission  
P. O. Box 8861  
St. John's, NL A1B 3T2

Tel: (709) 737 3655  
www.pippypark.com

## My "Pippy Park" Memories of Forty Years Ago

Mr. Charles R. Bell was named the first Chairman of the Commission in 1966. The legislation formally establishing the Pippy Park Commission was finally passed in 1968. Between 1966 and 1968 I met with Mr. Bell and the other members of the Commission and was instructed to tour Canada and the New England States to gain insight into the development of other comparable large parks. At the same time a firm of Planners was hired to draw up a Master Plan, part of which was based on the reports of my trips.

The draft Master Plan was released in 1969.

In discussing the development of the park over the years Joey Smallwood had specifically told me to find mature trees to plant around the University and Confederation Building. "We don't have time to wait for small trees to grow." I had some doubts as to whether they could survive being relocated to such ex-



Trees being moved from Colonial Building grounds for transplanting at Confederation Hill and Memorial University in February, 1966.

posed locations, however to give them the best chance we hired an Ontario firm of tree moving experts from whom we could learn the (then new) techniques involved. Many surplus trees (mostly Beech, Linden and Maples) from the grounds of the Colonial

Building and the old Highways Depot on LeMarchant Road (next to the Grace Hospital) were successfully moved and are still growing today where they were planted. In addition, prior to the construction of the Arts and Culture Centre, which was the prov-

ince's Centennial Project, in 1967 Joey gave specific instructions that the mature trees growing around the old Church of England Boy's Orphanage which then occupied the site, should be preserved at all costs. Those that had to be moved we relocated to form a third line of the avenue leading down to Burtons Pond. These trees were probably 50 or 60 years old at the time but we managed to move them with very few casualties.

During those years it was very satisfying to see the park and the landscapes developing before our eyes. Every year major improvements were visible and we were constantly being congratulated on the transformation that was taking place. It is very encouraging to know that these improvements have continued at a measured pace ever since. I hope we do, in Joey's words, "attract attention across Canada"



## Fluvarium Announces Partnership to Upgrade Facility, Programs

Aims to become top Science Centre in Canada focusing on Water Resources

The Quidi Vidi Rennie's River Development Foundation has formed a partnership with longtime corporate supporter Petro Canada to revitalize the Fluvarium.

The Fluvarium, with approximately 3200 square feet of exhibits, provides a panoramic view beneath the surface of Nagle's Hill Brook through nine underwater viewing windows and allows visitors to view fish, insects, and other creatures, as well as plants in their natural environment



in a variety of habitats.

The facility, constructed in 1990, will be renewed to meet current needs and revitalized to better function as a public centre for environmental education.

It is in this building, that the QVRRDF conducts environmental education programs for school students. These curriculum related programs endorsed by the province's Department of Education, are

attended by over 12,000 students annually, from K to Grade 12.

A multi-year project is planned to develop new, innovative, experiential environmental programming and to design, construct and implement exhibits that will achieve program objectives. Each of the Fluvarium exhibit levels will be revitalized

When completed, the Fluvarium aims to become the top science centre in Canada focusing on water resources.



## Winter Activity Centre: Open Now!

The City of St. John's Winter Activity Centre at North Bank Lodge, Nagles Place, opened for the season on January 12<sup>th</sup>. Skis and snowshoes will be available for rental on weekends (weather permitting).

For more information visit the City of St. John's website: [www.stjohns.ca/cityservices](http://www.stjohns.ca/cityservices) and click on "outdoor pursuits" under "recreation and sport".

There is also a link there to the Avalon Nordic Ski Club which gives updates on the status of the snow conditions and grooming of the trails in the Pippy Park Campgrounds.



Nordic Skiing along the closed roads of the Campgrounds in Pippy Park. Ski rentals are available from North Bank Lodge on the weekends for the remainder of the winter.

## Family Fun Day! Winterfest '08

**Winterfest '08** is scheduled for Sunday February 24<sup>th</sup> (or if weather/snow conditions are unsuitable Sunday March 2<sup>nd</sup>) at the North Bank Lodge on Nagles Place. The afternoon will include family activities, games, snow art competition, organized with the help of the students at the College of the North Atlantic. Free rentals of skis and snowshoes, free hot chocolate. Mascots, RNC Mounted Police and other attractions will be there.

**P** It is strongly recommend to use parking at Confederation Building West Block. The City of St. John's Traffic Services *vigorously enforces* no parking regulations along Nagles Place with ticketing.

If weather/snow unsuitable it will be postponed until the following Sunday (March 2<sup>nd</sup>), phone 576-8518 to find out.

**Winterfest '08** is presented in association with the Friends of Pippy Park, the Pippy Park Promotions Committee, the Pippy Park Commission, the City of St. John's, the College of the North Atlantic and OZ-FM.

Park Info Online:  
[www.pippypark.com](http://www.pippypark.com)



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