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week



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The Gaspé **Spec**

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Contract 400119680
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Railway rehabilitation paid through road budget cuts, says Lelièvre

Geneviève **Gélinas**

GASPÉ: – The Gaspé riding Member of the National Assembly, Gaétan Lelièvre, is asking Premier Philippe Couillard to take responsibility for the Gaspesian railway in order to undertake its rehabilitation as soon as possible. According to Mr. Lelièvre, Gaspesians have already paid for the repairs of their railway through regional cuts in road budgets over recent years.

Mr. Lelièvre estimates the cuts made by the Liberals in the Gaspé Peninsula and the Magdalen Islands at \$118 million since they were elected in 2014. To get that figure, he took 2013-2014 as a reference year, when the Parti québécois government of Pauline Marois invested \$84 million on the region's roads.

Since then, the annual investments have decreased, and range between \$48 and \$60 million per year, for a total of \$218 million expected from 2014 to 2018. If the Government had continued to invest \$84 million per year, this total would have been \$336 million, that is to say \$118 million more.

The complete rehabilitation of the railway from Matapédia to Gaspé would cost between \$86 million and \$122 million, according to studies completed respectively for the Gaspésie Railway Society and Quebec's Department of Transport.

"Only with the government cuts at the Transport Ministry, we could pay cash for the railway refection from Matapédia to Gaspé, and that doesn't include the cuts made in education, health and regional

development," Mr. Lelièvre states.

"What I say is that we've already paid for the repairs of our railway. It's not a budget reason anymore. It has to be announced as soon as possible," the Member of the National Assembly (MNA) adds.

Since 2015, the Gaspesian railway has belonged to the Québec government. It's used only from Matapédia to Caplan, on 130 kilometers. The 190-kilometer-long eastern part, from Caplan to Gaspé, is in a dormant state.

Mr. Lelièvre criticizes the government's "numerous hesitations" in the railway file. "The contradictory ministerial statements, the silence of the actual Transport Ministry and the lack of leadership of the minister responsible for the region, Sébastien Proulx, are no longer acceptable," he states through a press release.

Meanwhile, the Parti québécois MNA Martin Ouellet was in the Gaspé Peninsula



Photo: G. Gélinas

According to Parti québécois Members of the National Assembly, Martin Ouellet and Gaétan Lelièvre, Gaspesian companies struggle with transport issues.

last week to consult with small and medium-sized companies about their needs. "We talked a lot about transportation. We have to address that problem:

planes, trains and automobiles," Mr. Ouellet says.

"To supervise the progress of a construction site can cost \$100,000 for a Gaspesian busi-

ness, but only \$25,000 for a Montréal or Toronto business," illustrates Mr. Lelièvre. The expensive plane tickets are part of the problem, he added.

McInnis Cement to use the railway more than initially planned

Geneviève **Gélinas**

PORT DANIEL: - McInnis Cement has already reached an agreement with a client to ship cement by rail from New Richmond. Considering that the line was put in a dormant state east of Caplan by the Quebec Department of Transport, cement will need to be transported by truck between the Port Daniel plant and

New Richmond.

The first customer to take delivery of cement by rail has signed a contract calling for 28,000 tonnes per year for five years, for a total of 140,000 tonnes. A volume of 28,000 tonnes translates into 300 carloads.

However, McInnis Cement spokesperson, Maryse Tremblay, says that if the railway serves the Port

Daniel plant directly, "the company's increment could be substantial. We would ship a lot of output by rail. It would open some markets," she says.

In 2014, McInnis Cement was expecting very little or none of its production to be sent out by rail. Up to 95% of the output was slated for marine transport. In 2016, a 5% portion, or 110,000 tonnes

over a total output of 2.2 million tonnes, was expected to be shipped out by land, either by rail or by trucks. That portion could reach 10% now.

"We have left more room for rail especially if the line which passes very close to our plant is in working order. Certain destinations are more advantageous to be served by rail than by ships," says Ms. Tremblay.

News briefs

The many faces and places on the Canada 150 commemorative note

CANADA: It's not easy representing 150 years of Confederation on a single bank note. But the Bank of Canada's new commemorative note does just that with a story about our history, land and culture.

This new \$10 note, celebrating the 150th anniversary of Confederation, was unveiled on April 7 and it will hit the streets starting June 1.

For the first time, portraits of four public figures are featured on the front of a Bank of Canada note. Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir George-Étienne Cartier, Agnes Macphail and James Gladstone are four parliamentarians who played significant roles in our history. Since some Canadians may not be familiar with these individuals, let's learn a bit more about them.

Sir John A. Macdonald likely doesn't need much of an introduction. He was Canada's first prime minister and one of the Fathers of Confederation, under whose leadership and vision the Dominion of Canada formed, grew and expanded until it stretched from sea to sea to sea.

Sir George-Étienne Cartier, also one of the Fathers of Confederation, was a principal architect of Canadian federalism and a proponent of Confederation as a means of safeguarding French Canada and other minorities.

Agnes Macphail was a champion of equality and human rights who, in 1921, became the first woman elected to the House of Commons in Canada.

James Gladstone, or Akay-na-muka (his Blackfoot name), committed himself to the betterment of Indigenous peoples in Canada and, in 1958, became Canada's first senator of First Nations origin.

Together, these four remind us that the Canada of today was shaped by people of different backgrounds, who, through their vision, courage and effort, created a better country.

The back of the note emphasizes Canada's natural landscapes—the rugged splendour of a land as diverse as its people. Five landscapes represent different regions of the country: the West Coast, the Prairie provinces, Central Canada, the Atlantic provinces and the North.

Beginning June 1, 40 million commemorative bank notes will be distributed through Canada's financial institutions. The commemorative note will circulate alongside the current \$10 note but will not replace it. The existing \$10 note will continue to represent the majority of \$10 notes in circulation for the life of the Polymer series.

Visit www.bankofcanada.ca/banknote150 to learn more about the design and security features of the commemorative note.

Lobster season postponed

Gilles Gagné

CHANDLER: – The administrators of the Southern Gaspé Professional Fishermen's Group decided to delay the start of the lobster fishing season, mainly because of the weather. A first conference call was held on April 20 and various reasons were presented to justify the first delay, until April 26. The weather, the state of the Percé wharf used by Cannes-de-Roches fishermen and the dredging at the Port Daniel wharf were also raised. A second conference call was held on April 24 and the administrators decided to postpone fishing until April 29. The first catches will land a day later.



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New Richmond Minor Hockey Association fundraising event

Press release

NEW RICHMOND: - On April 29, the New Richmond Hockey Minor Association, in partnership with Mauger Ford and Ford of Canada, will hold a fundraising activity at the Carrefour Baie-des-Chaleurs shopping centre. The event, which is part of Ford's "Drive 4UR Community" program, will see Mauger Ford and Ford of Canada contribute twenty dollars for every test drive taken by members of the public during the day.

The target of the activity is three hundred test drives which would result in a six thousand dollar donation to the association. Most of the funds raised will go into a new fund which will help underprivileged children participate in minor hockey.

Members of the public are invited to participate by taking part in a test drive and completing a short survey. The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Drivers must be aged 18 and over and have a valid drivers license with them.

Volunteers from the New Richmond Minor Hockey Association will be on hand to assist and employees of Mauger Ford will be able to answer any questions. Refreshments and hot dogs will be served.



IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Following the acquisition of new contracts over the next few months, the frequency of trains on the Gaspésie Railway will increase considerably between Matapédia and New Richmond.

ALWAYS BE ALERT - ANY TIME IS TRAIN TIME! A train can travel at any time of the day or night, during the week or on the weekend.

NEVER walk, run, bicycle or use an ATV on the railroad tracks, a railway right-of-way or on railway bridges.

ALWAYS obey the flashing lights at railway crossings.

ALWAYS stop, look and listen before crossing to make sure it is safe to do so.

Do not forget – when it comes to railways – Stay off! Stay away! Stay alive!

A safety message from the:



Police report

During the week of April 18 at the New Carlisle courthouse in the case of Réal Savoie accused of the July 27, 1996, premeditated murder of Sonia Raymond in Maria, defence attorney Marcel Guérin made several attempts to discredit the evidence gathered during the undercover investigation that led to the premeditated murder charge against Réal Savoie.

Attorney Guérin emphasized on two points, violence and money, during his cross-examination of the “cover man” who had planned the 65 scenarios put in place between July 2013 and April 2014.

Marcel Guérin asked the cover man if the criminal organization had mentioned in front of Réal Savoie that its members were able to beat a woman or make her “disappear”. “It is possible. That is what was reported to me. However, the goal was not to make the group look like a dangerous organization but to make Réal Savoie feel comfortable.” The cover man added that after a female undercover cop was falsely beaten by other members of the criminal organization, Réal Savoie made an approval “fist to fist” sign with the driver of the vehicle. The February 2014 mock beating took place partly outside the van and partly in the back of the van. Savoie mentioned to another undercover cop that he would have liked to participate in the beating and that he would have been rougher. “The goal was to show that the organization had little consideration for women,” said the cover man.

Later, the organization scheduled an April 16, 2014 meeting during which Réal Savoie would be given a new status in the organization, prior to a major operation that would provide him with \$20,000 in pay.

During the cross-examination, Marcel Guérin put a lot of emphasis on the money spent by the organization for the benefit of the suspect.

These expenses were for Bell Centre game tickets, meals in posh restaurants and a raise in salary for Réal Savoie’s participation in criminal acts of a more serious nature.

The cover man insisted that the money spent was essentially used to give credibility to the organization. He also pointed out that the undercover investigation had cost \$179,000, most of which was spent between October 2013 and April 16, 2014.

The April 16, 2014 meeting between Réal Savoie and the cousin, (Mr. Big), lasted about an hour and 40 minutes. The details of the meeting will be revealed at trial next week.

News briefs

Bad news in Newport

Thierry Haroun

NEWPORT: - A well-known local cultural site, *Site Mary-Travers dite La Bolduc*, has recently announced that it was closing its doors for lack of financing. “The CEO did all it could over the past 23 years to keep it open and they practically did everything that could be done to attract people. Not only is there a lack of financing but there’s much to be done on the building that’s been seriously damaged by recent storms,” says Chandler Mayor, Louise Langlois. “We’re not abandoning... In partnership with the MRC, we will soon hire a consultant that will try to see what other options are on the table in order to celebrate the memory of this Gaspeian artist from Newport.”

Mary Travers was born on June 8, 1894. Her father was an Irish descendant and her mother a French Canadian. Ms. Travers was one of the first Québec singer songwriters. Between 1932 and 1940 she toured the New England States and Ontario. For further details, one can visit the website: labolduc.qc.a

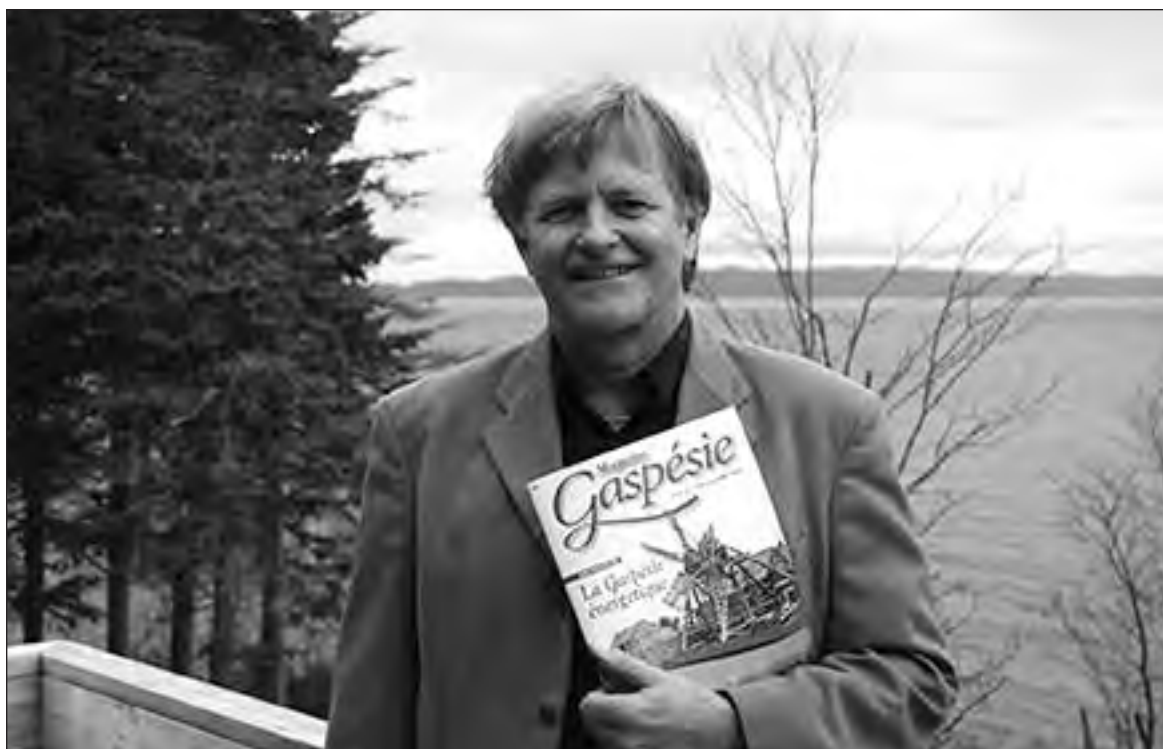


Photo: courtesy of Jean-Marie Fallu

Historian Jean-Marie Fallu.

L'Ordre de la Gaspésie faces criticism

Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ: *L'Ordre de la Gaspésie* must be more transparent and change the way it nominates candidates, points out historian, Jean-Marie Fallu, director of the Magazine *Gaspésie* and member of the Musée de la Gaspésie

The *L'Ordre de la Gaspésie*, which is under the patronage of the *Musée de la Gaspésie*, was formed last year to honour those who have substantially contributed to their respective community in the arts, history and other heritage sectors. They are recommended and chosen by the representatives of all five MRCs of the region. This year’s winners are Gaétane Rioux-Sasseville (Haute-Gaspésie), Michel Pouliot (Côte-de-Gaspé), Simone Grenier-Doiron (Rocher-Percé), Jean-Guy Poirier (Bonaventure) and well-known and respected young historian, Pascal Alain (Avignon).

The problem is the following: once this year’s winners were announced, Jean-Marie Fallu wrote France Côté, President of the Museum, a long letter in which he criticized the nomination procedure. He pointed out that there could be questionable appearances of conflict of interest or, at least, an ethical problem given that a prefect was named and he was recommended by the mayors of his MRC. He was referring to Jean-Guy Poirier, a mayor himself. Reached by

Spec, Mr. Fallu had this to say: “I think that these awards are a good thing but the nomination process must be more transparent and open to the public. I recommend that an independent committee be put in place that would present the nominees in order to avoid any apparent conflict of interest.”

At ease with his nomination

Jean-Guy Poirier replied “I’m at ease with my nomination, but it’s up to them to put

things straight. If they don’t want politicians, they should simply ban the possibility of voting for mayors and other elected representatives in the candidacy documents we receive.” As for the Vice-President of the museum, Yvan Landry, he mentioned over the phone that he’s well aware of Mr. Fallu’s criticism. “We are open to changing the way the nominations are made, but I still think that the MRCs are the best organizations to choose the nominees. We will work to enhance the nomination process.”



Call For Tenders

CLEANING OF THE HALDIMAND BEACH INFRASTRUCTURES

Ville de Gaspé request tenders for the cleaning of the Haldimand Beach infrastructures located on the 5th rue de la plage.

The necessary documents and information can be obtained at Ville de Gaspé's town clerk department during regular office hours.

The tenders must be accompanied by a certified cheque to the order of Ville de Gaspé for an amount equal or superior to 10% of the total amount for the first year, including all applicable taxes. The tenders may also be accompanied by a bond, for the same amount, and valid for a period of sixty days from the day the tenders are opened.

This guarantee must be exchanged, when the contract is signed, for an annually renewable performance bond corresponding to 10 % of the contract's yearly price, including all applicable taxes.

All tenders must be deposited in sealed envelopes bearing the title "Soumission –Entretien ménager – Bâtiments de la plage de Haldimand" and will be received at the clerk's office until 2:00 p.m., May 10, 2017, to be publicly opened the same day beginning at 2:01 p.m.

Ville de Gaspé reserves the right to accept neither the lowest nor any of the received tenders.

Given at Gaspé, April 26, 2017.

Isabelle Vézina
Director of legal services and town clerk





Commentary

Gilles Gagné

Legalization of pot: Why such an incomplete bill?

When the marijuana legalization bill was presented on April 14 at the House of Commons, the federal government left a number of subjects aside. One of the main aspects left behind was the work it implies for the provinces because of the fair number of laws that will have to be changed and the financial burden that will come with them.

The bill leaves more questions than it provides answers under its current form. Where will pot be distributed? Will it be in liquor stores, in conveniences stores or in specialized outlets? That side will apparently be left to the provinces for decisions. The same provinces will also be in a position to determine the legal age for possession and buying marijuana, and the authorized quantity. However, Ottawa has suggested 18 years of age and up to 30 grams of soft drugs will be permitted, either dried or fresh, or under the form of oil. People will be allowed to grow four plants per household - plants that cannot be higher than one metre.

What if some provinces determine that the legal age is 45 or 55? Canada's Justice minister, Jody Wilson-Raybould, emphasized that the provinces not respecting the essence of the marijuana legalization bill will most likely face legal action from people invoking the Charter of Freedom and Rights.

The federal government is also delaying the determination of many norms. The level of taxation will be specified in another specific bill to be released "in the coming months." The marijuana culture criteria will also be divulged at a later, maybe much later, date. Will people have to grow pot inside their house or outside or in a protected and "invisible" area, out of the neighbours' view? For now, those specifications remain undetermined.

What was the hurry of submitting such an incomplete bill, despite its 150 pages, for such a complicated matter?

It is true that the bill will not be adopted and put into force before July 2018, in all likelihood.

Moreover, the government of Justin Trudeau had promised to legalize marijuana in the 2015 electoral campaign and has been blamed for not delivering many promises from the vast list presented before poll day. It looks as if the Liberal regime is trying to make up for some lost time, or time frame.

We have seen more respectful actions from the federal government towards the provinces though. They have so far hardly been consulted. They faced a "done deal" on April 14.

The police forces of Canada spent between \$2 billion and \$3 billion to prohibit marijuana in 2015. Organized crime draws between \$7 billion and \$8 billion

in profits per annum through selling it. Canadian consumers are some of the biggest users in the "Western World". About 21% of the youth aged between 15 and 19 are consumers, and that proportion reaches 30% for the people aged between 20 and 24.

Some countries have legalized marijuana decades ago, like Netherlands, without a major health, social and economic impact apparently.

However, the federal government doesn't seem to have assessed the health bill that can likely come with pot decriminalization, and the awareness campaign which would be showing responsible behaviour that must also be undertaken.

Ottawa will create three new laws to notably deal with driving under the influence of marijuana. The use of marijuana at the workplace has apparently not yet been assessed. Those factors will have undoubtedly an impact on provincial budgets, since law enforcement at that level is a jurisdiction of the provinces. Prevention measures will also have to be implemented to deal with minors that will be tempted to buy and consume pot.

So far, the federal government bill stays quiet on the relevance of granting the provinces with the financial means to adapt to the coming changes. We have seen better proofs of collaborative federalism.



The Board of Directors of The Gaspé SPEC will be awarding one bursary of \$500 to the high school graduate showing the greatest academic improvement from Secondary 3 to Secondary 5 and who will be going on to further their academic studies. The applicant MUST also send proof of their involvement in community volunteer activities. Students from the following schools are encouraged to apply:

ESCUMINAC INTERMEDIATE, NEW RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL, NEW CARLISLE HIGH SCHOOL, CHANDLER EVERGREEN & GASPÉ POLYVALENT

Students MUST SUBMIT the following with their written application: A copy of their school marks from Secondary 3 to Secondary 5, and two letters from community leaders attesting to their community volunteer work during this time period. Applicants failing to provide all of the above will not be considered

Applications must be received by 4 p.m. May 12, 2017

One bursary will be awarded to the successful candidate.

Please send your application to:
Spec Bursary, 128 Gérard D. Levesque,
New Carlisle, Quebec, G0C 1Z0



The Soapbox

Art MacPherson

O.K, so yes, I still have something to rant about. I know everyone thought I had run out of ink or something to lament about, but surprise, there's still lots to gripe about. One of my favorites lately concerns people and cars. So here it goes...



We all have to travel these days from place to place and always hope we get there in one piece. When I pull out of my gate onto the highway, I usually come perpendicular to the road, so I can see in both directions a mile or so on either side. So out I go onto the road, hit the gas and get up to the speed limit in a minute or two. Then I take a glance at my rear-view mirror, and there they are, glued to my rear bumper. So I count to ten and go a bit faster, only to notice they are still trying to get into my trunk. So I fight off "Road Rage", and calm down, hoping the "oh so in a hurry" individual will pass or turn in somewhere - no such luck. He will weave back and forth playing peek-a-boo, taunting, trying to get my 70-year-old goat. Ever happen to you? Sure it did.

I think it's time we got this type of idiot off the road. They will eventually kill themselves, or worse, some innocent soul, a family out for a drive, etc. Am I getting the image out? We need to get license plates on the front of vehicles again, so we can at least get the plate number, tell the police and give these idiots a good stiff fine, or whatever it takes to get them to drive like responsible human beings. It's only funny until they kill somebody. Automobiles are not play toys-for some people to intimidate others and, where safety is concerned, we all need to work together.

Oh, yes, the "PAID" at the start of the column stands for "people against idiot drivers" what a nice bumper sticker! Just thinking out loud. I know MADD is a nation-wide program to get drunks off the road. Idiots need to be culled out also or highway fatalities will continue to rise each year. It only hits home when someone you love gets wiped out by this kind of highway menace. An opinion from the soap box...



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Construction begins at McInnis Cement's terminal located in Bronx, New York

Gilles Gagné

PORT DANIEL: – McInnis Cement has announced the construction of a fourth marine terminal. It will be located in the Bronx quarter and will serve the New York City market. Output from the Port Daniel plant will be shipped to the terminal.

The company is not divulging the amount invested in the 43,000 tonnes-warehouse. The first three terminals were announced over the last year and will be located in: Sainte-Catherine, on the south shore near Montreal; Providence, Rhode Island; and Oshawa, Ontario.

The Sainte-Catherine facility will have a capacity of 36,000 tonnes, while the Providence and Oshawa warehouses will have respective capacities of 45,000 and 14,000 tonnes.

Company spokesperson, Maryse Tremblay, says that the Bronx warehouse will be open later than the three first facilities and that will not cause any logistic problems for the company.

“The plant start-up will not lead to a full production capacity of 2.2 million tonnes right away or during the first year. During the first few months, the Sainte-Catherine and Providence facilities will be in a position to supply the New York market,” explains Ms. Tremblay.

The Bronx warehouse bears some differences compared to the three previous warehouses.

“It is located in an area where the industries are small. It is more in the middle of a community. The dynamics is different. There is a cycling trail and a pedestrian path between the wharf and the warehouse. It is adjacent to the Hudson River and the cycling and pedestrian trails are people's only access to the waterfront,” explains Maryse Tremblay.

McInnis Cement will use a



Photo: courtesy of McInnis Cement

Plans are underway for the construction of McInnis Cement's fourth terminal located in New York.

barge with a boom to unload the ships chartered by the company to supply the South Bronx terminal. The same barge will travel to Providence where a ship will unload cement there as well.

Company officials consider that the South Bronx terminal and the three other facilities are “strategically-located throughout the eastern portion of North America and chosen for their access to efficient waterways, as well as their proximity to the market to minimize truck miles to its customers.”

Once completed, the 74,600-square-foot Bronx terminal will feature a new warehouse that can store 43,000 tonnes of cement coming from the Port Daniel plant and load up to 80 trucks per day. The facility will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

According to a press release issued by McInnis Cement, a “rooftop solar array will reduce strains on the local power and a fully-enclosed truckload will mitigate dust (...) The terminal proximity to concrete plants will dramatically reduce truck traffic and associated emissions in the Bronx.”

The Bronx terminal is expected to bear fruit for McInnis

Cement over the coming years. “The area is expected to see more than \$60 billion in infrastructure projects and another \$7.7 billion in Superstorm Sandy repairs, creating a much-needed demand for concrete. The Bronx terminal will allow McInnis customers to participate in these projects while reducing their transportation costs and environmental impact,” mentions the company.

The Bronx property that includes the terminal has a long history with many uses, “including a 19th century amusement park and a float yard to move rail cars laden with coal, construction materials and daily consumables for transport to Manhattan and Long Island.” The location “had lain dormant and fallen into disrepair as an illegal city dump for a number of years until it was rejuvenated by an innovative entrepreneur,” mentions McInnis Cement's press release.

It is also explained that “extensive remediation efforts were made to transform the multi-acre property into a sustainable site. Inserted between the terminal and protected wetlands is a new quarter-mile segment of the South Bronx

Greenway.”

Maryse Tremblay points out that the McInnis Cement “is now days away, instead of weeks, from starting the fire in its kilns and therefore initiate cement production. We ran a limited trial a week or two ago. Once the fire is started on a wider scale, we won't stop,” she emphasizes.

“We are very excited to be one step closer to delivering cement to our customers in this

area and along the east coast,” said McInnis Cement chief executive officer, Hervé Mallet, in a press release.

Regarding the new terminal, Mr. Mallet says that “once complete, the facility will set a new standard for development in the New York City harbour, placing in harmony an industrial operation, with a natural wildlife habitat and waterfront access for citizens of the South Bronx.”

The Residence Manoir St-Charles established in Caplan is a private residence for autonomous and semi-autonomous seniors

Our adapted service serves the clientele with loss of autonomy offering complete service with 3 meals and a snack every day, laundry and housekeeping service, Alarmcare Elderly Alert, auxiliary nurse, nurses aid, and more.

Our objective is to offer a housing service of the highest quality for our retired clientele.

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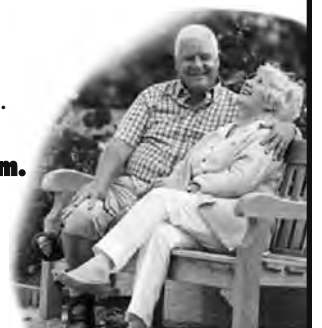
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If you wish to obtain further information; simply contact us at 418 388-5940, post 1

Hoping to meet with you in the near future. The owners, direction and staff welcome you.

Open House: April 30 from 1 to 4 p.m.



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Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



Tangled as seaweed on a Gaspé shore

This week I want to share with you some Gaspesian film history. You may not have heard of or have seen the 1968 film *Isabel* but you should. Some Spec readers have seen the film because they were actors in the movie, and it's just about 50 years ago that *Isabel* was filmed mostly in Shigawake.

The film was a huge critical success when it was first shown in 1968 and was directed by Paul Almond who, until his recent passing, had an ancestral family home in Shigawake. Mr. Almond was known as a director, producer and writer. He received the Order of Canada and was greatly respected for his many accomplishments in film and television, as well as his eight volume *Alford Saga*, set right here on the Gaspé.

The film *Isabel* stars Geneviève Bujold, who was Almond's 25-year-old wife at the time. Her vixen appearance made her very appealing as the main character, Isabel. One reviewer wrote that her eyes were innocent, with dark pupils that "stared so intently that they practically burned through the screen." The story begins as Isabel is coming home to the Gaspé from Montreal by train to see her dying mother. She stays on after the death of her mother to look after her uncle Matthew. There are hints of incest, a near rape scene in a barn and a powerful love scene which takes place during a violent night storm with waves crashing on the beach. Her uncle Matthew says suggestively "This space is for you... then we'll all be together again, one day." Further, "You look more like your mother every day." A line that gives the viewer shivers, or younger readers might say side eye. As the film progresses it seems that Isabel is descending into madness.

The scenes of the Gaspé are breathtakingly beautiful and moody. A reviewer remarked, "One can almost feel the winter cold and wind, the drafts in the old farmhouse, the stickiness of the mud in the barnyard." At the time, it was felt that Almond was a genius for using locals in the film and he used them to enhance the film. It was felt that residents of the area heightened the sense of realism in *Isabel*.

The film can best be summed up as a Gaspé-Gothic romance and contains many disturbing themes and images. It contains elements of a ghost story and there are flashbacks to the violent deaths of family members. It was considered a masterpiece of its time and Almond's creative and skilled direction combined to make it so. It is powerful, though slightly disturbing. An unmentionable relationship may have existed between Isabel's grandfather and her mother... then again, Matthew may be her father. We feel Isabel's confusion and her fear, and just like her character, we are not sure what can be done to stop the images she is seeing and the sounds she is hearing. Perhaps she is seeing ghosts of an inbred past. A review of that day said, "Home it seems isn't just where the heart is, it's where your worst nightmares reside as well."

Paul Almond wrote, produced and directed the movie. By all accounts he was a mystic, a romantic and was passionate about all the projects he worked on. His direction can be moody, as it is in *Isabel*. *Isabel* was the first of three films in a series, but the next two did not reach the same success as *Isabel*.

Paul Almond, a great and talented director, chose to use the Gaspé as the setting for his masterpiece. Wasn't he brilliant to use real Gaspesians to give his film authenticity? If you want to watch the film, ask around as some people do own copies and you may be able to borrow it or you might try to buy a copy. Years ago, I found it for sale on eBay but the best I could locate there recently was an original *Isabel* poster for \$12.95US (If you know a source for buying the film please let us know.)

If you watch it, do keep in mind that it is about 50 years old. Film has changed greatly. *Isabel* is a complex movie, "as tangled as seaweed on a Gaspé shore." However, it is important that you know as much about your Gaspesian heritage as you can. I have said it before. We can't know who we are unless we know about those that came before us.



Photo: G. Gélinas

La Maison du Pêcheur is being prepped for relocation

Geneviève Gélinas

PERCÉ: – *La Maison du Pêcheur* will soon be moved to its new foundation in the *Société des établissements de plein air* (SÉPAQ) parking lot, farther from the sea and closer to Highway 132. The building is one of four that has to be moved in the context of the project to protect the Percé shoreline from erosion and to rebuild the boardwalk. *La Maison du Pêcheur* is located at the entrance of the wharf, in the shoreline part most affected by erosion. The Café de l'Atlantique, a seaside annex to *La Maison du Pêcheur*, was a total loss after the December 30 storm.



Story told by EARL GALLON
Interview by TANNER WELLMAN

The Dark Walk Home

I remember when I was about fifteen; we lived in the country and I used to walk to New Carlisle East to see my girlfriend, Shirley. It was quite the long walk from the country to the far side of New Carlisle.

Sometimes in the summertime, my brother Garnet and I didn't feel like walking so we would steal the Pumper. A Pumper is a CN car which has two handles and with two men pumping would take you up the tracks. My father worked on the CN, and he and Wilfred would use it for work. So it would always be sitting beside the track behind our house.

When we were getting ready to go out, Daddy would always say to us, "Don't you touch that pumper!" "No Daddy, we're not going to touch that pumper!" Then Garnet and I would leave for New Carlisle, go behind the house and put that Pumper on the track and on we would get!

Going down the track was lovely. We had to hold the brake because it was mostly downhill and if it went too fast, it might have left the track. Coming up to go home we had to pump it. Every night we would take it to New Carlisle. When we got there, we would take it off the track at the station, put it off to the side and

when we were ready to go home, we would put it back on the track and pump our way home.

I remember one night I decided to walk alone to New Carlisle. It was pitch black because there were no street lights back then and no flashlights. It was so dark. You couldn't see your hand before your face.

As I was walking home I heard something behind me. I glanced behind me and nothing was there so I kept walking. Then I heard another sound behind me...tik tik tik...I turned again...nothing. I kept walking but this time I walked a little faster. Then I heard the noise again...tik tik tik. It was getting closer!

By this time I was getting nervous and the hair on the back of my neck stood up. Something was behind me. What was it? I was soon going to bolt! I started walking really fast and the faster I walked the more I heard the noise behind me... tik tik tik tik. In a panic I turned and there it was. A big fat pig! I almost fainted in relief. Someone's pig got loose and was following me up the road! It's amazing what tricks your mind plays on you in the dark.





Photo: G. Gélinas

TELUS:

Improved wireless signal for Percé

Geneviève Gélinas

PERCÉ: – A Telus subcontractor is installing an antenna in the Percé Catholic Church bell tower in order to meet the high demand for wireless communication services during the tourist season.

Last summer, tourists and locals in Percé experienced wireless traffic congestion. Telus promised that the company would now be able to meet such a demand thanks to the new antenna and to the fact that it's equipped with the standard LTE system which reserves parts of the bandwidth for specific services, such as voice, video or emergency services.

Crab quota doubles in southern part of gulf of Saint Lawrence

Gilles Gagné

PASPEBIAC: – The snow crab quota earmarked for the southern part of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and high prices could propel the overall revenues of the Gaspé Peninsula fishermen to record levels in 2017.

The quota is up by 102% compared to 2016 and is 43,822.1 metric tonnes for the southern part of the gulf. It covers zones 12, 12E, 12F and 19. The fishermen of four provinces evolve in those four areas. As usual, zone 12 gets the lion's share of the total quota, with 39,531.64 metric tonnes.

The fishing opening date in those areas remains to be determined because some harbours on the New Brunswick side are still blocked by ice.

Besides Quebec, the fishermen of three other provinces (New Brunswick being dominant, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia) hold licences in the southern part of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence.

Fishermen based in the Gaspé Peninsula and the Magdalen Islands benefit from 30.6% of the quota reserved for the traditional crab fishermen, a chunk of 69.2% of the

overall quota. The three First Nations communities of the Gaspé are getting a higher share, 39.5%, of the 15.8% part earmarked for Natives. Other Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands fishermen get 32% of the 15% share going to groups of fishermen regrouped under the "new access" category.

Despite the very high quota allowed for the Gulf of Saint Lawrence's southern part, Bill Sheehan, of E. Gagnon et Fils, the biggest snow crab processor in Quebec, assures that the prices will be high in 2017 because of quota reductions totalling 68% in Alaska over the last two years.

"The markets are empty. We have been buying some crab in Rimouski (located alongside zone 17) at a base price of \$4 per pound. On the North Shore, fishermen get \$4.25. Last year, our first price was \$2.75 per pound and the average price was \$3.75 once the season was completed," explains Mr. Sheehan.

"I don't know where it will stop this year but I wouldn't be surprised to see an average price of \$5 per pound. The price paid in Newfoundland, where the season is started, is

currently \$4.39 and we have always paid more," he adds.

In 1995, the price of snow crab reached \$4 per pound in the Gaspé Peninsula.

The competition will certainly be strong around the gulf in 2017. "Quotas are down by 22% in Newfoundland. Japan takes a lot of crab in Newfoundland, so they will be quite present there this year because they ran out of crab in 2016. I expect some Newfoundland plants to make an attempt at recruiting some of our fishermen. The phenomenon already exists in New Brunswick as some Gaspesian fishermen deliver their crab there. At our plant, we have a stable group of crab fishermen. We have to be competitive," explains Bill Sheehan.

Rumour had it for a while that crab fishing would start around April 22 in the south part of the gulf. "It is just about impossible," emphasizes Mr. Sheehan.

"The New Brunswick boats are not in the water yet and it takes ten days before fishing starts once they are floating. It will likely be around April 29," he says.

Cont'd on page 11



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Training Session
"Digital Marketing"
Jonathan Nicolas



Conference
"Demographics of the English-speaking Community: How to Use Data to Build the Tourism Industry"



Mi'gmaq Evening
Aboriginal tourism projects



May 24, Gaspé

Conference
"Cruiseship Destinations"
Amy Powers
CruiseMaineUSA

Workshop Blocks
Various topics throughout the afternoon

Concert-Action Evening
Local Tourism



May 25, Percé

Conference
"Marketing Canada
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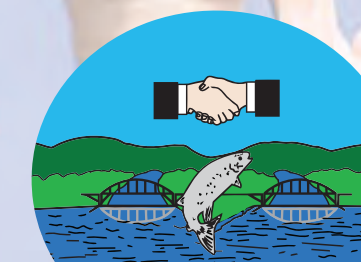
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Two-month extension about wharf transfer hasn't changed Town of Gaspé's decision

Gilles Gagné

GASPÉ: – Transport Canada has extended the deadline set to receive proposals for interest in commercial wharves located in Quebec to June 16. That new deadline will not change the Town of Gaspé's decision. The town is not interested in acquiring the port of Sandy Beach.

The federal government had originally set that deadline for mid-April. Transport Canada was expecting the Quebec government and the municipal administrations to express their interest by that time.

The mayor of Gaspé, Daniel Côté, says his administration will stay out of the main discussions, despite two additional months earmarked for talks.

"We are not involved anywhere. At the beginning of the exercise, we asked Transport Canada to give us an idea of the state of the port infrastructure. Transport Canada replied:

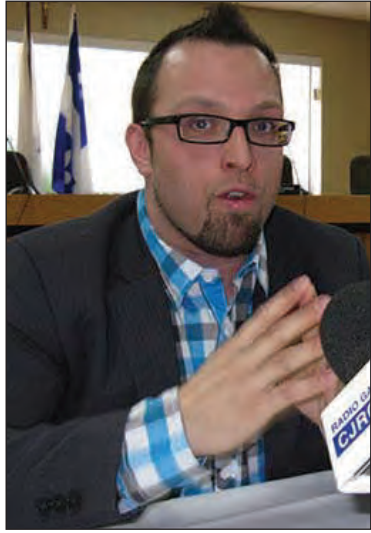


Photo: G. Gélinas

Mayor Daniel Côté emphasizes that the Town of Gaspé is still not interested in acquiring the port of Sandy Beach.

"You will tell us if you want it first." Well, it doesn't work that way. You cannot make up your mind on something if you don't know in what kind of state it is in," explains Mr. Côté.

Transport Canada wants to part with a number of commercial wharves, including a few that are closed. In the Gaspé Peninsula, they are in Mont-

Louis (on the north side of the coast), Gaspé, Chandler and Carleton. The Mont-Louis wharf has been closed for close to 20 years and is now a pile of rubble. The Chandler wharf has been closed since the end of September 2016 but its state is quite salvageable.

The Quebec government is weighing the option of acquiring some federal wharves. The two-month delay granted by Transport Canada will also benefit the provincial ministries and ministers involved in the talks, including Jean D'Amour, responsible for the maritime policy.

"The fact that the town of Gaspé is not deeply involved in the discussion doesn't spell a lack of interest for what will happen to the Sandy Beach wharf," adds Daniel Côté.

"It is just that the port of Sandy Beach has a regional calling. It serves the whole east part of the Gaspé Peninsula. We don't know what will happen to the Chandler wharf but the CTMA Vacancier will dock

in Gaspé this year. In the past, it had served the mining industry in Murdochville. Now, it would be expected from a relatively small municipality to take-over an infrastructure that serves a much larger territory? It doesn't seem fair. The federal government has shown the shocking habit of getting rid of its infrastructures, and stay away from direct services to the population. We know a bit about it, having been forced to take over the airport many years ago," explains the mayor of Gaspé.

"We agreed to accept ownership of the Griffon Cove wharf because it was the heart of the community and it has a good heritage value and there was also a decent budget coming with it. Sandy Beach represents a major transport infrastructure. It is different," emphasizes Mr. Côté.

The interest of the Quebec government regarding some of the Gaspé Peninsula commercial wharves remains unknown for now.

"Nothing is official. We know that if the Quebec government is not interested in the wharves, and if the towns are not interested either, the federal government will keep them," says the mayor of Gaspé.

Federal minister of Transport, Marc Garneau met with the officials of the *Union des municipalités du Québec* (UMQ) in October in order to make talks progress.

"There was supposed to be another meeting before the Christmas break between Ottawa, Quebec and the UMQ on the wharves issue. It was delayed. We know nothing about the progress of the file," concludes Daniel Côté.

The Town of Chandler has shown interest in acquiring its commercial wharf, the condition being upgrading work that will make it fit again.

In Carleton, the municipal administration has also started talks to acquire the wharf but the \$23.4 million project spearheaded by the town council stagnates.

Getting to know our community organizations

Bonaventure Agricultural Society Division . A

The Bonaventure Agricultural Society Div. A is looking for volunteers for the annual Shigawake Fair and Music Festival (August 17 - 20, 2017). There are many different volunteer opportunities covering various events /activities during the fair and festival. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact: Emilie Woods (Secretary) – emilie.a.woods@gmail.com

The Shigawake Agricultural Fair & Music Festival is well known not just on the Gaspé Coast but in many other communities. It has grown over the years and has turned into a large annual event. Promotion of agriculture is the main focus of the fair and they will be going into their 108th year!

The music festival was added 9 years ago and hosts not only local talent but also from other communities and provinces. This has been very successful and a wonderful addition to the fair.

Some annual events at the fair include :

- Horse Haul
- Gymkhana
- Farm & Domestic Animal Judging
- Handicrafts & Baking
- Family Day
- Lawn Tractor Race
- Wine & Cheese opening night

Canadian Heritage Patrimoine canadien

CRAB:**Cont'd from page 7**

The E. Gagnon et Fils plant will hire between 325 and 350 production workers. "We will also have four unloading teams, for a total of 80 more people, approximately 20 truck drivers and the management team. It adds up to 525 people during the season

peak," says Mr. Sheehan.

The Sainte-Thérèse plant should process a record volume of 13 million pounds of crab in 2017. "We processed 7 million pounds last year. We have never processed as much crab as 13 million pounds. We processed a bit more than 9 million pounds one year," he concludes.



Call For Tenders

OPERATION OF THE CANTEEN AT HALDIMAND BEACH

Ville de Gaspé request tenders for the canteen operation at the Haldimand Beach located on the 5th rue de la plage.

The necessary documents and information can be obtained at Ville de Gaspé's town clerk department during regular office hours.

The tenders must be accompanied by a certified cheque to the order of Ville de Gaspé for an amount equal or superior to 10 % of the total amount for the first year, including all applicable taxes. The tenders may also be accompanied by a bond for the same amount and valid for a period of sixty days from the day the tenders are opened.

This guarantee must be exchanged when the contract is signed for an annually renewable performance bond corresponding to 10 % of the contract's yearly price, including all applicable taxes.

All tenders must be deposited in sealed envelopes bearing the title "Soumission – Opération de la cantine de la plage de Haldimand" and will be received at the clerk's office until 2:00 p.m., May 10, 2017, to be publicly opened the same day beginning at 2:01 p.m.

Ville de Gaspé reserves the right to accept neither the lowest nor any of the received tenders.

Given at Gaspé, April 26, 2017.

Isabelle Vézina
Director of legal services and town clerk



Public Notice

ENACTMENT OF BY-LAW

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given :

1. THAT at a meeting held on February 4, 2016, the Town Council has adopted By-Law 1297-16 «décrétant une dépense d'une somme de 260 000 \$ et un emprunt d'une somme de 59 000 \$ pour la réalisation de travaux de réfection et d'empierrement du mur de la rue Dubé».
2. THAT By-Law 1297-16 has been approved by the qualified voters during a register held on February 16, 2016.
3. THAT By-Law 1297-16 have been approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Land Occupancy, on April 19, 2017.
4. THAT the interested can consult that By-Law at the clerk's office, at the Town Hall, 25, rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville, during regular office hours.

GIVEN at Gaspé, April 26, 2017.

Isabelle Vézina,
Director of legal services and town clerk



PUBLIC NOTICE

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS WHO ARE ENTITLED TO SIGN AN APPLICATION TO TAKE PART IN A REFERENDUM

Second draft 1156-11-26 (adopted on April 18, 2017) amending the zoning by-law

NOTICE is hereby given that, following the public consultation meeting which was held on April 18, 2017, the municipal council of "Ville de Gaspé" has accepted by resolution on April 18, 2017 a second draft of by-law 1156-11-26 amending the zoning by-law. This second draft contains provisions that may be subject to an application made by interested persons from anyone of the zones to which such provisions apply and of the contiguous zones, to require that a by-law containing these be submitted for their approval, in accordance with the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities.

1. PURPOSE OF AN APPLICATION TO TAKE PART IN A REFERENDUM

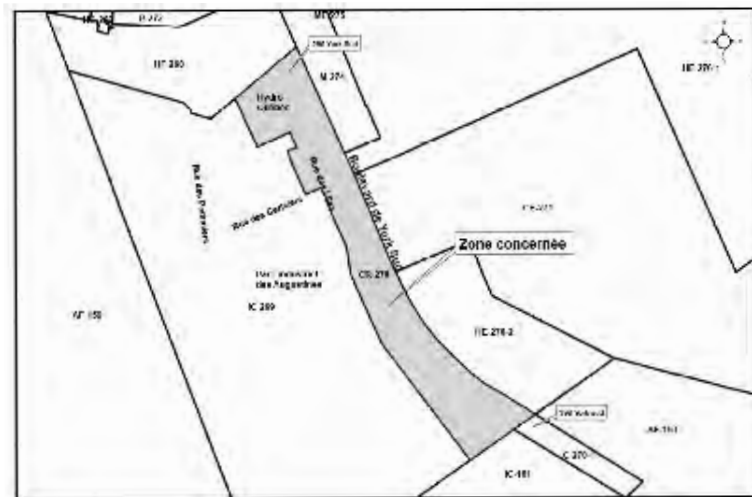
An application relating to the following provision of the second draft:

- Modifier les usages autorisés dans la zone CR-270 afin de permettre, comme usage spécifiquement permis dans cette zone, l'usage industrie artisanale de la bière et afin d'assujettir cet usage au Règlement sur les plans d'implantation et d'intégration architecturale no 1171-12;

Such an application is required that the by-law containing the provision to which it applies be submitted for the approval of the qualified voters in the zone to which applies this application, and in any contiguous zone from which a valid application originates.

2. LOCALIZATION OF THE CONCERNED ZONES

The concerned zone CR-270, and situated in the area of the industrial park of the Augustines, is illustrated on the following sketch:



3. VALIDITY OF AN APPLICATION

To be valid, an application to take part to a referendum must:

- state clearly the provision of the second draft to which the application refers;
- indicate the zone from which the application originates;
- be signed by at least 12 interested persons of the zone from which it originates, if there are more than 21 interested persons in that zone, or, otherwise, by the majority of the interested persons;
- **be received by the town clerk office at the town hall no later than May 3, 2017, 4:30 pm.**

4. INTERESTED PERSONS WHO ARE ENTITLED TO SIGN AN APPLICATION

An interested person is a person of full age, Canadian citizen and not under curatorship who, on the date of adoption of the second draft, which is April 18, 2017, is not disqualified from voting and meets one of the following requirements:

- is domiciled in a zone from which an application may originate and who has been domiciled in Québec for at least 6 months;
- is the owner of an immovable or the occupant of a business place situated on such a zone since 12 months at least.

5. LACK OF APPLICATIONS

Should there be no valid applications relating to the provisions of the second draft, the said provisions may be then included in a by-law which will not have to be submitted for the approval of the qualified voters.

6. CONSULTATION OF THE DRAFT

The second draft of the by-law is available for consultation at the clerk's office at the town hall during regular work hours, that is from 8:15 a.m. till 12 p.m. and from 1 p.m. till 4:30 p.m., Monday till Thursday; and from 8:15 a.m. till 12 p.m. on Friday.

Given in Gaspé, April 26, 2017.

Isabelle Vézina,
Director of legal services and town clerk

Business & Professional DIRECTORY

Grenier & Grenier LAWYERS



Réal Grenier, b.a.ll.l.
Jules Grenier, b.a.ll.l.

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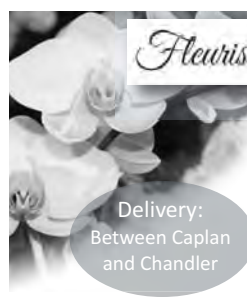
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Announcements...



Obituaries

BUCKINGHAM: Leila Elizabeth (nee Mackenzie)

Passed away peacefully on April 15 in her 94th year. Survived by Forrest, her devoted husband of 68 years; children: Nancy, John, Andrea, Cheryl; grandchildren: Whitney, Amanda, Margaret, Claire, Emma, Jeanine, Nicholas and great-granddaughter Olivia.

Born and raised in Fredericton, New Brunswick, with summers spent in Paspebiac, Quebec. Leila's treasured time at Netherwood School in Rothesay, New Brunswick and the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto laid a strong foundation for her full life dedicated to family, filled with music and enriched by a wide circle of friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Morley Bedford Funeral Home, 159 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto (2 stoplights west of Yonge St.) on Saturday, May 6, at 1:00 p.m., followed by a reception. Memorial donations may be made to the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra or a charity of your choice. Online condolences at www.morleybedford.ca



MALONEY: Cynthia Mitchell

Passed away at CISSS de la Gaspésie Hospital, Gaspé, on March 24, 2017, at the age of 98 years Mrs. Cynthia Mitchell, wife of the late Mr. Valentine (Valo) Maloney from Barachois.

She leaves behind to mourn her cherished family: Sybil (Ralph), Glen, Desmond (Anida), Marlene (Ron), Diane (Ken) and Ronald, 15 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild, brother Osborne, sister Vivian (brother-in-law Joseph), nieces

and nephews and caring, loving friend, Jackie Lemieux.

Predeceased by sisters and brothers: Evelyne, Lona, Nelson, Romeo, Claude, Corinna, Carmella, Freeman and Lee.

The family will receive condolences at the Residence Funéraire Valère Fortin in Barachois on Tuesday, July 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Funeral service will be held at the St-Peter's Church in Barachois at 10:30 a.m. the same day.

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the Gaspé Foundation Hospital.



In Memory

CHICOYNE:

In loving memory of Stanford A. Chicoyne (1907-1987) and May Gartshore Chicoyne (1910-1999).

Those we hold most dear

Never truly leave us.

They live on in the kindnesses they showed,

The examples they set,

And the love they brought into our lives!

Verna, Shirley, Carol, Phyllis, Stan and Sharon.

CLARK: Jessie

We often think of bygone days,

When we were together.

The family chain is broken now,

But memories live forever,

To us, she has not gone away,

Nor has she traveled far,

Just entered God's eternal home

And left the gate ajar.

Loved and always in our hearts, the Clark family.

Card of Thanks

The family of Douglas Caldwell extends their thanks and support to all those who offered their sympathies after his passing on April 3, 2017 at the age of 81. We thank those who gave donations, sent flowers, sent personal or private messages, were at the parlor to support family, and assisted during the day of the funeral in any way. Please accept our sincere thanks for all that you did before or after his passing. Thanks to Dr. Marcel Belanger and the staff of the CHSLD of Matapedia for their patience and devotion during his time of need. Thanks to the United Church family, the minister, the choir, and the ladies that prepared the lunch after the service.

Happy 75th Birthday



Happy 75th Birthday
Dorothy Bourgaize
Love from your children,
in-laws and grandchildren

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To meet the deadline
announcements must be
received by Thursday at 4 p.m.

Social notes...

Welcome home to Mrs. Sarah MacKenzie who spent the winter visiting with her children.

Happy birthday wishes to Mr. Leonard Hayes. All the best.

Sympathy is extended to Barbara Ann and Clark Young and family on the passing of her mother, Mrs. Emma (Flowers) Dawson.

I recently dropped in to see Mrs. Olive Dow at the Gilker Residence and she is looking great. She had her 95th birthday in February.

Mrs. Shirley Journeau was surprised and happy to see her son Ronnie from Montreal arrive for a visit.

Dean and Crystal Ramier from Fredericton, N.B. visited his parents, Donald and Margaret Ramier, for Easter.

Snowbirds, Morris and Joan McRae, have returned home to Shigawake.

In place of his sister Judy who had the misfortune of breaking her leg, Hartley Lepage accom-

Landis Assels

SHIGAWAKE & PORT DANIEL NEWS

panied his father Vance and friend Celia Smith to Florida.

Sincere sympathy to Lance, Spencer and Lisa Wylie on the death of their father, Mr. Alton Wylie.

Terry Dea from Australia has been an "early morning caller" inquiring about our weather and friends. We are all trying to stay well and the snow is slowly going.

Get well to Ruth Bisson who had the misfortune of falling and breaking her arm. Get well soon.

Congratulations to William (Bill) Sullivan who was recently presented a plaque for all his years of devotion to Shigawake Community Center. Thank-you Bill!



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CLASSIFIEDS

POINTE NAVARRE:

Mass of St. Peregrine

The mass of St. Peregrine, patron saint of the sick suffering from cancer and long-term diseases, will be celebrated on **Tuesday, May 2**, at 7 p.m. at the Shrine of Pointe-Navarre. Welcome to all.

GASPE:

Hot Chicken Supper

A hot chicken supper will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 59, on **Friday, April 28**, beginning at 5 p.m. \$10 per person, includes dessert, tea or coffee. Proceeds go to the Alzheimers Society.

YORK:

York River Senior Citizens Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 30: The annual bingo will be held at 1 p.m. at the community hall. Cost is one card for \$3 or 2 cards for \$5.

WAKEHAM:

Advance notice

Wakeham ACW will be holding their annual summer sale on **Saturday, July 8**. Further info to follow at a later date.

DOUGLASTOWN:

Upcoming Events

Friday, April 28: Happy Hour at 5 p.m. Happy Hour is a great opportunity to get together with old friends or make new ones. Bring your refreshments and a dish to share. A voluntary contribution would be appreciated.

Sunday, April 30: Operation Christmas Child is inviting everyone interested in helping their cause to meet at the Douglas Community Center from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. If you are interested in knitting or crocheting mittens, socks, or hats for children ages 2 to 14, your skills will be appreciated. You don't need to be a seamstress or knitter or anything of the sort. Anybody that wants to help is more than welcome.

Friday, April 28: All are welcome to line-dancing classes from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Cost: \$5 per person. The teacher is Mrs. Olivia Rehel. For more information, contact Mrs. Beverley Vibert: 418-368-3003.

BARACHOIS:

Yoga

10 a.m. Saturdays at Belle Anse School - Six weeks session re-starts **Saturday, April 29**. \$10 drop-in fee. Come and try it - your body will love it! Bilingual.

BARACHOIS:

Legion Branch 261 Upcoming Events

Every Monday: The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 261, will be having a bingo at 7 p.m. at the legion. Everyone welcome!

BARACHOIS:

Bingo

The next Bingos at the Barachois Rec Centre will be on **Friday, April 28**, and again on **Friday, May 12**, at 7 p.m. More than \$500 to be won!

PORT DANIEL:

Gift Bingo

A gift bingo will be held **Friday, April 28**, at 7:30 p.m. at the Golden Age 3 Star Club, for St-James Anglican Church, Port-Daniel to help raise money to replace the roof.

PORT DANIEL:

Upcoming Events

The Three Star Golden Age Club will be holding the following events at their building:

Friday, April 28: Super Gift Bingo, 7:30 p.m. \$10/series, 3 for \$20. Canteen available. Proceeds for St. James Anglican Church, Port Daniel.

Saturday, April 29: Military Whist, 8 p.m., \$5. Light lunch will be served.

Saturday, May 13: Mother's Day Tea, admission \$6, 12 noon to 2 p.m.

SHIGAWAKE:

Cookbooks for sale

The Marcil Branch W.I. has a cookbook that would make a perfect gift. The cost is \$12 per book and includes wonderful recipes from past and present W.I. members. To purchase a copy, please call 418-752-8152 or pick one up at the Spec office.

SHIGAWAKE:

Tea, Bake and Craft Sale

A tea, bake and craft sale will be held on **Thursday, July 20**, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Adults

\$7, children 6 and under free. Door prizes and other prizes and 50/50. Welcome all and bring your friends to Shigawake Community Centre, across from the Anglican Church.

SHIGAWAKE:

SPDS Governing Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 30: There will be a meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Shigawake Port-Daniel School.

SHIGAWAKE:

Community Center Upcoming Events

Saturday, June 3: Mother Father Daughter Son Afternoon Tea from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$6 per person. Door prize and other prizes. Everyone welcome.

Saturday, June 17: Lobster or chicken dinner, \$20, 4-6 p.m. Tickets sold in advance.

HOPE TOWN:

Hope Baptist Church

Hebrews 10:25 says "You should not stay away from the church meetings, as some are doing..." Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. for all ages; Family Worship at 11 a.m. Sunday, (nursery provided); King's Kids (ages 5-12) at 3:30 p.m. Friday; Young Peoples (Gr. 7 and up) at 7 p.m. Friday. We are a Christ-centered, Bible believing and preaching, friendly church where everyone is welcome. 305 Route 132, Hopetown 418-752-5838 Pastor Paul R. Bedford BTh. MTh.

NEW CARLISLE:

Bible Chapel Services

Sunday: Breaking of Bread for Believers - 9:30 a.m., Sunday night service - 7 p.m. **Wednesday:** Bible study and prayer at 7 p.m. "You Must Be Born Again."

NEW CARLISLE:

Monthly breakfast

The New Carlisle 50+ Club will be holding their monthly breakfast on **Wednesday, May 10**, at 9 a.m. at the Heritage Restaurant.

NEW CARLISLE:

Variety Show

The NCHS Home and School brings you "A good old Gaspesian Variety Show" on **Friday, May 5**, at New Carlisle High School, 7 p.m. \$5 entry fee for

all, toe-tapping music for all ages. Bring a friend and enjoy an evening out. Door prize, canteen service and a 50/50 for added fun.

NEW CARLISLE:

Life Association Activities

Saturday, May 6: Mothers' Day Tea at New Carlisle Town Hall, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. \$5 per person.

Saturday, June 10: Bingo at the Royal Canadian Legion in New Carlisle at 7 p.m., \$10 per series or 3/\$20.

NEW CARLISLE:

Garage Sale

New Carlisle High school will be holding a garage sale, **Saturday, April 29**, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., in the NCHS gym. Proceeds are to fund the grade 11 trip to Toronto. Please come out and support our students.

NEW CARLISLE:

Mussel Supper

The New Carlisle Legion will hold a mussel supper on **Saturday, May 6**, starting at 5 p.m. Reserve your place by calling 752-5495 or 752-6799 on or before May 3. Cost is \$15 per person. All are welcome

NEW RICHMOND:

Friperie Notice

NEW schedule: The friperie Entraide de l'E.P.E. will only open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. from March 2017 on. We can open from 8 a.m. on request at: 418-392-5161. Summer clothes have arrived for the whole family and in different sizes. There are a lot of free things every week: soccer shoes, skates, skis, dishes, toys, plush boots. 248 boulevard Perron West, New Richmond. For information call 418 392-5161.

NEW RICHMOND:

United Church Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 30: An after service hotdog luncheon will be held at the church. Cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for kids under 12.

Friday, May 5: Evening of Music The Little River Band and other musicians will be having an evening of music and songs at St-Andrew's United Church in

New Richmond at 7 p.m. A free-will offering will be taken. Everyone welcome!

Friday, July 21: Strawberry Social

July 30: Memorial Hymn Sing

October 21: Turkey Supper

December 15: Christmas Concert.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

50 + Club Activities

Every Tuesday: A prize bingo will be held at 7 p.m. Entry fee is 2 cards for \$5 and \$1 for each additional card.

Every Thursday: Dame de Pique at 1 p.m. \$5 per person.

Friday, April 28: Jam sessions at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. For more information contact: Dorothy Campbell (418-392-4686) or Donna Fallow (418-392-5509).

GESGAPEGIAG:

Community Market

A community market will be held in the Galgosiet building on **Saturday, April 29**, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. To reserve a table for \$5, call the band office (Bonnie Jerome) 418-759-3441.

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UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, April 30

2 p.m. Hopetown

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, April 30

New Carlisle

9 a.m. Eucharist

Hopetown

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Port Daniel

11 a.m. Eucharist

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Sunday, April 30

Gaspe

9 a.m. Service

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Conference on Gaspesian Hong Kong veterans

Veteran Phil Doddridge to be honoured

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND: – Tom Eden, a Gaspesian with a keen interest in military history, will present a conference entitled *The Boys from the Coast, the Gaspé's Hong Kong Soldiers* on May 20 at 2 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion in Cascapédia-St-Jules.

The one-hour conference will be followed by an exchange around an exhibit prepared by Mr. Eden. He and other people then intend to pay homage to Phil Doddridge, a Hong Kong battle veteran. Mr. Doddridge, who still lives in his New Richmond house, turned 95 on April 2.

Mr. Eden was in the military for eight years at the end of the 1980s and at the beginning of the 1990s. He developed during that span and since a passion for past conflicts, especially World War I.

Three years ago, Tom Eden made his first presentation about the Gaspesians who lost their lives during World War I. He also prepared an exhibit to go with the conference.

"Philip Doddridge came to the exhibit. I knew who Philip was because he was the former director general of the school board and because of his volunteer work for the betterment of the community, but I didn't know him personally. After a little tour of my humble exhibit, we started talking a bit. The respect was automatic because he was a veteran and because he was a Hong Kong veteran. I realized that this guy is special. At the end of the day, I was left with something hard to define, uneasiness probably. I felt that I



Photo: courtesy of Tom Eden

Tom Eden and Phil Doddridge chat during the May 2016 commemoration of the Royal Rifles by the Voltigeurs de Québec on the Plains of Abraham.

should know more about Hong Kong. I sent him an email asking if he would be willing to sit with me and explain a few things. He quickly answered, 'sure', a couple of hours later," says Mr. Eden.

"Mr. Phil," as Tom Eden often calls him more than explained "a few things." The two men embarked on a round of meets that have lasted to this day.

"We met for the first time at the Military Museum in New Richmond. I brought my audio-recording gear and I recorded him for two-three hours. He basically answered my every question. I had done some homework before that meeting but not enough. I left with even more questions. I interviewed him 15 times after that. I have called him 200 times at least and we have had

275 conversation emails since. From being almost complete strangers, he became one of my closest friends," explains Tom Eden.

He had the feeling that he could do more to inform the population about the importance of the Hong Kong chapter of World War 2.

"Two-hundred Gaspesians from Matane to Matapédia (around the coast) joined the Royal Rifles of Canada, which is a lot, considering the

population and the enlistment, and the fact that some Gaspesians joined other regiments," points out Tom Eden.

The Royal Rifles of Canada were based in Quebec City. They were joined by the Winnipeg Grenadiers as the two regiments sent to Hong Kong.

"Fifty-two soldiers from the New Richmond-Cascapédia-St-Jules area enrolled for Hong Kong. Thirteen of them didn't come back. Mr Phil lost

friends there. I feel the need to pass it on, to make that story better known, for Mr. Phil and for the 52 families that were involved in Hong Kong," emphasizes Mr. Eden.

Over the last three years, he and Phil Doddridge found some similarities in their paths. "We both joined the service at 18 years and three months. I left when I was 25-26, while Mr. Phil left at 24. I must say that, for me, I spent the best years of my life in the service. I travelled and I practiced sports. I was active before the Bosnia years. It was another story for Mr. Phil, who was a prisoner of war for four years," says Tom Eden.

"We have talked a lot. He can talk about a lot of things, social and existential topics. He has pure intelligence; he is one of the most intelligent persons I have met. He has what I call a "sense of himself." He became a mentor. He guided me through all this. I went to Hong Kong in November and December 2016, and that was 75 years after the battle during which many Gaspesians were made prisoners. I understand that the battle was part of a bigger Japanese operation. The Pearl Harbor attack was \ on December 7, 1941, while the Hong Kong battle started on December 8," concludes Mr. Eden.

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