



Rivière-au-Renard,



Shigawake musical
festival lineup



Cruiseship: Medical evacuation
takes place near Chandler

The Gaspé **Spec**

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Gesgapegiag represented at the North American Indigenous Games

Wendy Dawson

GESGAPEGIAG: - The North American Indigenous Games were a long time in the making and took over 25 years to develop.

In 1975 in Reno Nevada, Willie Littlechild, a Cree from Hobbema, Alberta, presented the idea for the games to a group gathered from the National Indian Athletic Association. Two years later in Sweden at the Annual Assembly of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples, Mr. Littlechild put forward the motion to host international Indigenous Games. It was passed in unanimity.

It was finally in 1990 that the dream for the North American Indigenous Games became a reality. Charles Wood, who was chairperson of the organization that year, explained the first steps leading to the games during an interview with CBC at the time.

“The vision of the NAIG, from the very beginning, along with my brothers, Willie Littlechild of Ermineskin First Nation at Hobbema, and Big John Fletcher of Peigan in Southern Alberta, was one of our interest and concern about what was happening among the young people in all of our communities... We took it upon ourselves to try and find something constructive for the young people to look forward to. What it was eventually was that we would put together a plan for a Games through which the young Aboriginal people could come together to excel in their athletic field of endeavour and to come together to do other things: to make new friendships, to renew old ones, and so



Photo: facebook

Eastern Door and Northern 19U basketball team at the NAIG 2017.

on...,” he said.

The first North American Indigenous Games were held in Edmonton, Alberta, and saw 3,000 athletes participate in 15 different sports. Since that time, the games have been hosted every three years and the host cities have been in either Canada or the United States. The most successful games to date were held in 2006 in Denver, Colorado, with over 10,000 participants.

This year the North American Indigenous Games were in Toronto. From July 16 to 23, over 5,000 athletes participated in 15 different sports. Among those participants, four young men from Gesgapegiag participated in both the 16U basketball team and the 19U team of the Eastern Door and the North, the official team representing Quebec, among other Eastern and Northern locations, at the games.

Jeremy Speller, whose official capacity was as assistant coach of the 19U basketball team, also acted as the chaperone of the four participants (Sebastian Caplin, Blair Gedeon, Ted Jerome and Keishawn Bradstreet) during their time at the games.

A graduate of St. Thomas University in political science and native studies, he will be returning to school this fall to complete his masters in Indigenous governance at the University of Victoria.

“The opportunity for these youth really comes from Tyler Vaughn from Listiguj, the head coach for the 19U team. He was the driving force behind the participation of the local players having coordinated practices and participation in tournaments in the two years leading up to the games. We put our teams together last year. Tyler, Matt Barr, head coach of

the 16U team and his father Craig Barr – they have been supporting all the players, getting them to the tournaments and practices – just to get them ready for these games. Andrew Martin too, he was really involved in the fundraising.”

The 16U team which included Ted Jerome, Sebastien Caplin and Blair Gedeon made it all the way to the semi-final, where they lost by 5 points to British Columbia. They still had the chance to bring home some hardware at the bronze medal game, however, lost by one point to Minnesota.

The 19U team, which included Keishawn Bradstreet had one win out of four games played, however, as Jeremy Speller explains, it still remains exceptional considering the small population base upon which the Eastern Door and the North draws its teams. “The kids from Gesgapegiag don’t

even have an outdoor court. Their opportunities for practice are pretty limited.”

Athletic performance aside, Jeremy Speller feels as if the whole experience for the athletes is much larger than the games themselves.

“It has been so amazing. You know, starting with the opening ceremonies – there are over 5,000 youth athletes here. Seeing all of these different Indigenous people from all over Canada and the U.S. has been very empowering. The youth are full of energy. It’s just electric. It is really cool to see the youth competing against each other, but still having the need to interact with each other after the games – seeing friendships develop. They are trading pins. They are trading their gear and their jerseys. I think that these youth having a large stage like this is just awesome,” he explains.

Sebastian Caplin one of the athletes on the 16U team was clearly impressed, “It has changed me to see how many Natives are out there that are playing sports.” Ted Jerome concurred, “It was a fun experience meeting new people from around the world.”

When asked about the importance of sport with Indigenous youth, Jeremy Speller feels it is one of their greatest opportunities but he feels like more can and should be done.

“I think that more funding could be put into facilities that support sport. I understand that hockey is an amazing sport, but it’s not accessible to everyone. Ice rental and equipment, travel can go into the thousands. These communities need to

END OF AN ERA:

Auberge Le Coin du Banc sold after 42 years

Cynthia Dow

COIN DU BANC: "People tell me they feel like orphans," Joanne Rehel told SPEC. The former waitress from the Auberge Le Coin du Banc said long-time customers of the unique historic inn at Corner of the Beach seek her out at her new location almost every day. She now works at the Restaurant Suisse, opposite Point St Peter.

Run by Sydney Maloney and Lise de Guire, the Auberge evolved from an old Mabe house bought in 1973 after Syd's family-run inn on Bonaventure Island was expropriated for the creation of the park and gannet refuge. They opened it on June 26, 1974; the beginning of a very special adventure.

The famous innkeepers first met in 1969 when Lise de Guire, a nurse from Montreal, visited Syd's family's inn on the Island. She told friends she had never met anyone quite like the islander and thus started a rather unusual romance which ended in their marriage in 1993. Syd died in the year 2000, and his widow kept the business going with the love and support of the

many local people she employed over the years.

The Auberge attracted visitors from all over the world, many who returned time and time again to enjoy good food, and the crash and boom of waves on the nearby beach.

Winnifred Lemarquand, who also worked for many years for the innkeepers, told SPEC that, "It was like working at your own home. The people were so nice. Lise was the heart and soul of the inn." The former waitress is now working at the Au Bons Secours store in downtown Percé.

The main part of the house was probably built in the mid-1800s by Edward Mabe, a member of a merchant family which ran a lobster cannery on the site, and had a ship-building business and store. These mariners sailed regularly to the Caribbean to trade salt fish for sugar, molasses and other staples. Many of the artifacts which festooned the floors, walls and ceilings of the dining room and lobby of the Auberge came from the Mabe buildings on the site.

Lise was the interior decorator who turned every bedroom into a special space filled with artwork, handmade quilts and colour-coordinated decorative



Photo: G. Gagné

Auberge Coin-du-Banc looked like this in October 2012.

handiwork.

It was Syd, a rather eccentric carpenter, who added cabins and several additions to the house to expand his business. There were even bedrooms in the barn! Joanne noted that although he had little formal schooling, he could draw construction plans as well as any architect.

Forever designing things in a very unique and quirky manner, Syd had two goats who shared a pasture opposite the inn. Syd build them a ladder to the top of the barn where they could look out over the sea to the cliffs surrounding Percé.

"Syd and Lise wanted the Auberge to be a place to relax and enjoy life," explained

Joanne, "That's why there was never a dress code or rules. They wanted people to feel comfortable."

Visitors did feel comfortable, including the famous and wealthy. Joanne noted that Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau was a frequent visitor in the 1970s, bringing with him his young family including current Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Despite being a very avid federalist, Syd was pleased to play host to "independantistes" such as singer Pauline Julien, politician Gérard Godin, actor Gilles Pelletier and a host of others.

"The inn was always full of actors and theatrical people and artists, like Françoise Bu-

jold, Suzanne Guité and Alberto Tommi. People were attracted by the eclectic décor and the special atmosphere. Syd liked a riot of colours, and the inn reflected that," Joanne said.

She noted that sometimes Syd would get a scolding from Lise about being too generous. "He always put out a huge bowl of fruit and things to eat, to help those who couldn't pay much." He also would go house to house asking if he could pick wildflowers on other people's property as he loved to use them to decorate the tables. "He had a lot of creative ideas."

"What I liked most about working at the Auberge was that it was a rendez-vous for all kinds of people. The diversity of guests was amazing. From lawyers to artists to construction workers, everyone came," Joanne said.

She added, "We knew last autumn that the Auberge would not re-open this spring."

Joanne noted that Lise's health had failed substantially throughout the summer. Ms de Guire, 90 years of age, is now living in a geriatric facility outside Montreal.

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CRUISESHIP: Medical evacuation takes place near Chandler

Gilles Gagné

CHANDLER: - An 84 year-old passenger onboard the Veendam, a cruise ship operated by the Holland America Line, was rescued on July 31 off the coast of Chandler. The operation required the use of one of the 219 metre-long ship's tenders to bring the passenger to the shore, where he was taken care of by local paramedics and later by a medical team.

"The passenger needed a blood transfusion. He was in a stable state. They (crew members) asked for medical assistance. We could have gone with a boat but they used a tender. We put them in contact with the Chandler marina people and they guided the tender, using the marine radio," explains Canadian Coast Guard spokesperson Karina Laberge.

McInnis Cement shore captain Peter Fenton, who lives in Pabos, watched the Veendam as she was slowly moving towards the Chandler shore. "She didn't tie up. It is a ship too big for that wharf and it is closed due to a need of repairs. My wife and I were only



Photo: courtesy of Peter Fenton

The Veendam slowly approached the coast in front of Chandler in order to have the sick passenger reach the land in a tender. An ambulance was waiting on the Chandler wharf.

watching what was happening. We saw a tender coming off the vessel," he explains.

The Veendam made it on time for her next stop, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on August 1. The vessel had started that leg of her trip in Montreal on July 29 and was bound for Boston, where she arrived on August 5. That was part of a 14-day round trip that had also started in Boston.

The Veendam was delivered in 1996 and was upgraded in 2009 and 2016. She has a capacity of 1,350 pas-

sengers. She measures 219.2 metres in length, or 723 feet. She was built by Fincantieri in Marghera, Italy. One of the Veendam sister ships, the Maasdam, makes regular calls in Gaspé.

The Holland America Line is a subsidiary of Carnival Corporation. The two companies are based in the United States. The Veendam bears a Dutch flag, being registered in Rotterdam. Holland American Line was owned by Dutch interests until 1989. The company was founded in 1873.



Photo: C. Dow

GHCS holds summer Health Fair

Cynthia Dow

GESGAPEGIAG: - This year Gesgapegiag Health and Social Services held its annual Health Fair on Friday, July 28, just before the Mawiomi on the POW WOW grounds. There were lots of activities, including a salute to the four community members who played basketball at the recent North American Indigenous Games held in Toronto July 16 to 23. Keishawn Bradstreet, Sebastian Caplin, Ted Jerome and Blair Gedeon were one shot short of capturing the bronze medal. They played with team-mates from Listuguj and Northern Québec. Also at the Fair, the Mental Health Team spoke about maintaining balance, doing self-care, and what mental wellness means to them. They urged people to come forward for help if they are struggling in any way. The crowd was very moved by Brandon Jerome's witnessing of his struggles against the impact of bullying. Booths lined the tent walls offering information on diabetes, nutrition, mental wellness, and substance use.

Police report

On August 2 at approximately 10:45 p.m., Jeannine Maldemay-Castilloux, 78, from Paspébiac was killed in a car accident at the T intersection of Des Ponts Road and Route 299 in Cascapédia-St.-Jules. The vehicle in which the victim was a passenger failed to turn right at the intersection, crossed Route 299 and was struck by a vehicle proceeding north on that route. The two seniors were returning to Paspébiac. The 81-year-old only sustained minor injuries.

The three occupants of the other vehicle were returning to Carleton and the driver was unable to avoid the collision. The occupants only sustained minor injuries.

The Sûreté du Québec sent an accident reconstructionist to determine how and why the accident occurred, and more particularly, why the 81-year-old did not follow the route of the detour, failing to turn right at the intersection of Des Pont Road and Route 299. "Did he faint or was he blinded by the headlights of another vehicle? Did he fall asleep? Was he tired? Alcohol is ruled out as a cause of the accident," says Sûreté du Québec's spokesperson Sgt. Louis-Philippe Bibeau.

Following the closure of the Cascapédia Bridge on Route 132, the traffic is detoured via Route 299, Des Pont Road and McKay Road.

On the evening of August 6 in Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé, a 62-year-old woman, Luce Hautcoeur, died after being struck by a car, on Route 132, near the intersection of Cyr Road, and the village campground. According to the Sûreté du Québec, the victim was on the pavement when she was hit. The driver, a woman in her mid-twenties, left the scene of the accident but was arrested shortly after. She will likely be charged with hit and run causing death, and appear at the Percé courthouse on August 7.



Gwenaëlle Plonquet-Thibeault had trained in the Gaspé basin prior to the July 29 race.

Plonquet-Thibeault completes the crossing of Lac Saint-Jean

Geneviève Gélinas

SAINT-GEORGES-DE-MALBAIE: - Saint-Georges-de-Malbaie swimmer Gwenaëlle Plonquet-Thibeault completed the Traversée internationale du Lac Saint-Jean, a 32-kilometer race, in 8 hours, 10 minutes and 31 seconds. The 20-year-old woman finished 10th of 12 women in the event which took place on July 29. "I achieved my goal. I finished in the time I wanted, between 8 hours and 8 hours 30 minutes. It went very well. It was sunny with no waves. The crossing was easier than I thought, mentally and physically, but the recovery is more difficult: I'm sore everywhere!" said the swimmer two days after the race. Ms. Plonquet-Thibeault would like to participate again in the Traversée next year. Women's winner, Italian Martina Grimaldi, finished in 6 hours 45 minutes and 59 seconds.



Commentary

Gilles Gagné

The Anticosti Island mess

The decree adopted by the Quebec government on July 28 spelling the end of oil and gas exploration on Anticosti Island doesn't even put an end to one of the worst examples of governmental economic intervention in the history of the province. The decree includes \$41 million handed out as compensation to three private partners.

Let's be clear: stopping further hydrocarbon exploration works on Anticosti Island was the right decision. However, the magnitude of the compensation given to the companies leaves a sour taste in the mouth, just like the mistakes that marked the last decade of oil and gas search on Anticosti, a saga marred by incompetence, naivety and ideological stupidity.

The last three Quebec governments must be blamed for the Anticosti fiasco. Those regimes all thought that a major oil deposit could spark Quebec's economy, despite clear signs that it would never happen.

Between 2010 and 2012, former premier, Jean Charest wanted to strike a deal with Pétrolia in order to determine the oil and gas potential of Anticosti Island, which had only been subjected to seismic surveys in the past decades.

In February 2014, a few weeks before launching an electoral campaign, former premier, Pauline Marois reached a deal with Pétrolia and its partners. It is permitted to think for now that the ensuing liberal government, Philippe Couillard's, used the contract signed by the Parti Québécois regime to determine the compensations recently announced.

Whether that contract was used, like liberal government officials say, or not, Quebecers were solidly fooled, financially, by the agreement accompanying the decree.

We know for sure that three companies, Junex, with \$5.5 million, Maurel and Prom, with \$16.2 million, as well as Corridor Resources, with about \$19.7 million, receive a total of \$41.4 million. We know for sure that two companies, Pétrolia and TransAmerican, remain to be compensated, and are expecting a lot. Pétrolia, as the leader of the Anticosti exploration campaign, is still using the present tense when referring to the island's hydrocarbon potential, a negotiation technique that could bear millions of additional dollars.

We also know for sure that those firms had ac-

quired for close to nothing the drilling rights on Anticosti Island. Last but not least, governmental authorities should have listened to experts like Marc Durand, a now retired doctor in geology, who warned anybody ready to listen that oil and gas could not be extracted profitably on Anticosti. The geological structure requires deep drillings, using fracturing, a method necessitating huge amounts of fresh water, a rare commodity on the island, except in salmon rivers. Even if there is oil on the island, it probably couldn't have been extracted for less than \$200 per barrel, while the current international price hovers between \$50 and \$60.

While most oil and gas companies are deaf to the protection of water, a rising number of Quebecers care for drinkable water.

That sure explains why, in December 2015, premier Philippe Couillard suddenly expressed reluctance about oil and gas drilling on Anticosti. That conversion came as he attended the Conference of Paris, also called COP 21, a strategically important event, environmentally speaking. Symbolically, Mr. Couillard wanted to send a strong ecological message. Protecting a natural gem like Anticosti was that strong symbol, especially considering the low potential of oil and gas on that island, given that some government people had had time to gather that reality since the 2014 election. The sacrifice was small.

The Quebec government had so far invested \$30 million of its money, via Ressources Québec, in the Anticosti oil and gas adventure. A sum of \$41.4 million must now be added to the tab, with Pétrolia and TransAmerican still to compensate. The Quebec government will probably reach the \$115 million sum Pauline Marois had committed to investing on Anticosti's hydrocarbon search in February 2014.

Philippe Couillard's government has the nice role in that story, since they can always blame the financial loss on the previous government, even if it took the premier and his cabinet almost two full years to make up their mind on that ecological stake.

The remarkably annoying aspect of the whole saga is that Anticosti island has hardly benefitted from all that money. Those funds could have been used in real economic development, considering that the island is under-served in transport, and that its road network and tourism infrastructure are subpar. Investing \$115 million there on sustainable projects would have provided Quebec with another outstanding destination, and the spinoffs would have supported the economy of the Gaspé Peninsula and North Shore as well, two regions trying to convince the Quebec government of the relevance of implementing a daily ferry service between the island and the continent.

Instead of that, a lot of money will support companies that could have gone belly up otherwise.

In the case of Junex, we already see that the company is now concentrating all its efforts on the Gaspé Peninsula. So far, Junex has played its cards well by committing to avoid exploration through the fracturing technique, arguably the worst possible way of ruining underground water sources.

The situation is different with Pétrolia. The company has challenged the town of Gaspé regarding its Haldimand drilling location, and has entertained very tense relations with the Quebec government since the end of 2015, when it became almost evident that the days of oil exploration on Anticosti were numbered.

The protection of Anticosti was the right decision to make. However, if that protection leads to opening the doors to any kind of exploration technique in the Gaspé Peninsula and elsewhere, the sudden conversion of Philippe Couillard to environmental values through the Anticosti Island decree will clearly become bad tasted hypocrisy.

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What's This Artifact?



Answer: Old-fashioned fire extinguisher/fire grenade. This item would be tossed like a grenade at a fire and it would burst, spreading the chemicals inside of it over the fire and extinguishing the blaze. The chemicals inside were mixed to cut the oxygen

Rivière-au-Renard, ten years after the flood

Geneviève Gélinas

RIVIÈRE-AU-RENARD – On August 9, 2007, Rivière-au-Renard residents woke up in a village devastated by a flood which caused two deaths. Today, the flood victims live in an area protected from the changes in the river's water level.

Gaétan and Paulette Boulay were living on Morris Street in 2007. "At 3 a.m., a neighbour woke us up. He asked if we had water in our basement," remembers Mr. Boulay. In the next half hour, the water level rose very fast. It filled the basement and rose to a height of one foot on the first floor. "In 30 minutes, we lost all of what we had built in 30 years," says Mr. Boulay.

The couple went out to their patio and climbed on to their deck chairs. "We heard the boats navigating on Morris Street. I was yelling but they didn't see me," Mr. Boulay reports.

He saw his neighbour climb in his pick-up truck, be



Photo: G. Gélinas

Rivière-au-Renard had received 114 millimetres of rain in 24 hours.

drifted by the current, and be stopped by a tree. "I called the SQ. A loader came and we boarded on its shovel."

At 55 and 53 years old at that time, Paulette and Gaétan Boulay used to think that they were finished investing in their house. They had to re-invest. Mr. Boulay negotiated a piece of land on a hill from where he can see the Rivière-au-Renard port. "We used to

climb here in the spring and Paulette used to tell me: we should move the house here, but there was nothing: no road, no aqueduct."

The Municipality of Gaspé chose this area for the flood victims. The Boulays moved their house to the hill summit. They received just enough public aid to resettle like before, but they decided to invest their own money in order

to improve their house by building a solarium to enjoy the view. After five months in their trailer or at their family members' homes, the Boulays moved into their new home on January 8, 2008.

"The flood had consequences. When it happened, our house, our car and our pick-up were ours. We were done paying for them, but it was a good age for that flood to happen to us," says Mr. Boulay.

A safe place

Most of the Boulay neighbours are flood victims, like Madeleine Cotton and Roger Poirier. The night of the flood, Mr. Poirier went down to his cold room to check one of his pumps which had just broken down. The water began entering through the window and because of the pressure, the door closed behind him. The water level rose and rose some more. Mr. Poirier had his head against the ceiling when the door hinges broke.

"It was a miracle that the door broke. I often dreamed that I was stuck in my basement," says Mr. Poirier.

At Mrs. Cotton and Mr. Poirier's previous location, the floods were a recurrent problem. "Some people are nostalgic, but I say that it (2007 flood) turned out to be for the best. We used to have water in our basement more and more often," Mrs. Cotton says.

"We resettled. We got help from the Red Cross and the Civil Security Department," she adds. "We have a splendid view and even when it's raining, we don't mind."

The 2007 Rivière-au-Renard flood forced the evacuation of 250 people. Two people, Henri Dupuis and Marie-Paule Blanchette, died because their house was washed away by the river. A total of 91 houses were flooded: of those, 38 had to be relocated. Nineteen businesses were also flooded. A quantity of 114 millimetres of water fell in 24 hours.

The lessons from the 2007 Rivière-au-Renard flood

Geneviève Gélinas

RIVIÈRE-AU-RENARD – When the river water levels rise, the Gaspé municipality firefighters didn't wait until a distressed person calls 911. They mobilized right away. Flood victims are becoming rare, because houses were relocated or rebuilt outside the flood zones.

François Roussy, who was the mayor of Gaspé in 2007, who was awakened at night by a phone call on August 9. "I went to the town hall. We followed the emergency measures plan that we had completed a few months before. We had prepared it without thinking that it would be useful so early," says Mr. Roussy.

"We were listening to the communications of the Gaspé public works department, of firefighters and policemen. It was clear that people were panicking and it's clear that we felt overwhelmed. When you have to evacuate people with loaders... Some employees put themselves in dangerous situations."

Carl Sinnett, chief of the Gaspé firefighters, was intervening in Corte-Real that night. The Dartmouth River had overflowed its banks and

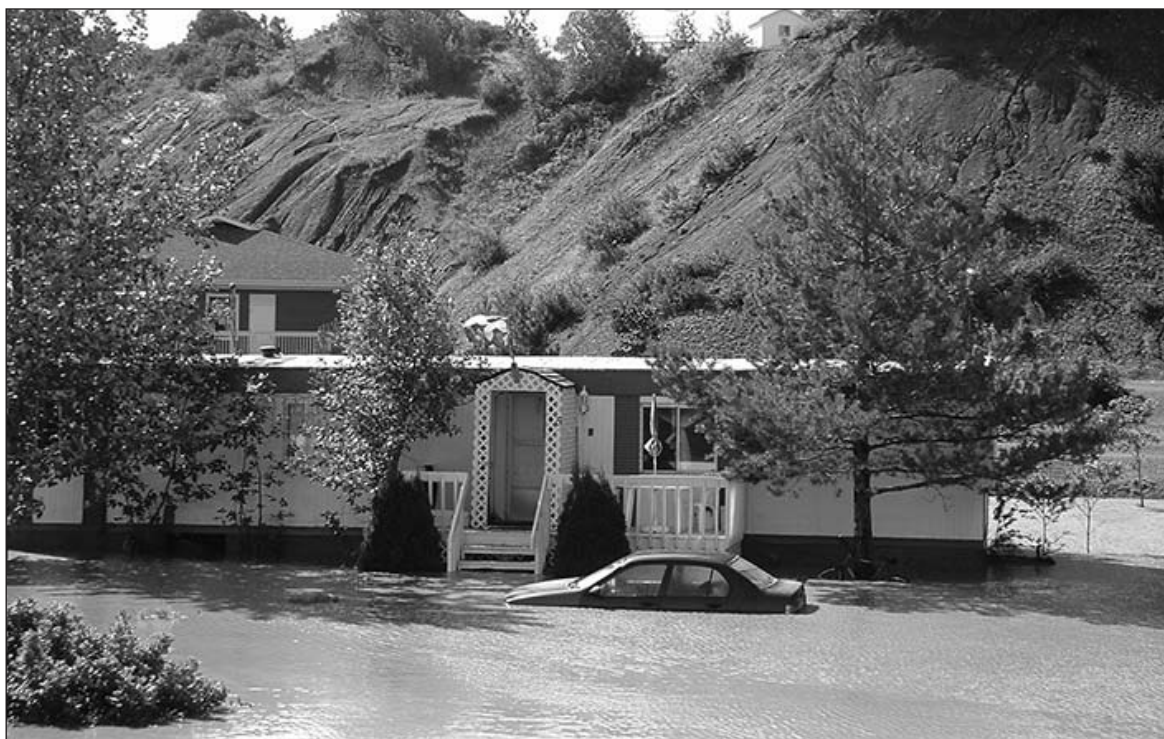


Photo: G. Gélinas

A total of 38 residences were relocated after the flood.

a bridge had been washed away. Over there, residents stuck in their homes had to be evacuated in a loader shovel.

After the Rivière-au-Renard and Corte-Real events, the firefighters started shifting into preventive mode earlier, Mr. Sinnett explains. "If there's an alert, a lot of rain or high tides, we open our emergency office right away. We don't wait (...). We go from house to house, we give information leaflets (...), and we now have six boats of different

types, scuba diving gear, life jackets."

The disaster provided the town with an opportunity to review the Quebec government aid programs, says François Roussy. "When it happened, the support programs were not adequate. The disaster assistance program was based on the tax assessment value. Some people used to have a house assessed at \$35,000 or \$40,000. You cannot rebuild a house with that! We did a lot of work with the

government to review the programs."

Quebec paid \$17 million to the August 9, 2007, flood vic-

tims in the Côte-de-Gaspé MRC.

"That taught us that Mother Nature is stronger than everything. We used to think that we could control nature. There was a lot of land where we used to think that we could build new buildings on. It has changed."

In Rivière-au-Renard, the relocation of 38 houses has been a success, believes François Roussy. "We've experienced high flows (since the 2007 flood) and there has been no major flood."

"We've used the emergency measure project seven times since 2007," says current Gaspé Mayor Daniel Côté. "Every time, the team is more ready. The Public Security ministry redefined the flood zones. Fewer houses are subject to floods. The damages are getting less and less significant."

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Shave and a haircut – the art of barbering lives on

Wendy Dawson

GESGAPEGIAG: – The word barber comes from the Latin word barba, which means beard, and while the connection between the two might seem obvious, a historical look at barbers tells a different tale.

In different parts of the world and during different historical periods, barbers did far more than tend to the facial hair of the villagers. In the primitive tribes of Africa, those responsible for developing the haircuts of their warriors were often chiefs or medicine men.

Hair was thought to be the part of the body through which good and evil spirits travelled and so the treatment of hair was sacred. In ancient Egypt, the men that cut the hair of other men were usually priests. In Sicily some 300 years B.C., a young man's visit to the local barber for his first shave – which was called a tonsura – was a celebration of a boy's passage to manhood.

Shockingly, in the middle ages, barbers didn't just tend to grooming, but also to the surgical and dental needs of their clients! It is during that period that the barber pole, the familiar symbol that to this day marks a barbershop, came to be.

According to Wikipedia, the barber shop pole's origins are rather gruesome, once containing a section where leeches were kept as well as a small bowl meant to contain the patients' blood – the staff itself served as a grip for the person in the barber's chair.

In more modern times, in even the smallest of towns, one could be assured of finding at the very least a post office, a general store and a barber shop. Easily recognizable by the red and white barber pole that still marks some barbershops today, they were a regular stop for men who were looking for a hot towel shave and/or a haircut, not to mention the latest town news.

While the familiar barber pole has disappeared from most towns, the dream of owning a barbershop is very much alive for young Billy Gould, from Gesgapegiag. Billy, who will turn 18 in July, has set his sights on learning what some might consider to be a disappearing trade.

Along with another equally young apprentice, he hopes to convert an old building that he



Photo: W. Dawson

Billy Gould currently provides haircuts at his barbershop, but will provide full barber services after his course.

affectionately calls a shack, into a modern-day barber shop. The building which at one time belonged to his grandfather and then his uncle, was given to him by his aunt after his uncle passed away so that he might pursue his dream.

When asked what inspired him to get into barbering, Billy explains, "I used to go see a hairdresser in New Richmond, who is not a barber you know, and I would ask for a certain type of haircut and she wasn't able to give me what I wanted. So, she basically inspired me because I then decided to go to buy some hair clippers."

At 16 years of age, Billy's first test was on himself. "It took me about a year to catch on to what to do and how to do it. I went on Youtube and looked up a specific kind of haircut, a fade, and I found a Youtuber named 360Jeezy. He showed me how to cut my own hair." When asked how that went, Billy is quick to admit that it wasn't a great success. "I messed up and I was made fun of, but I kept watching and I took notes down and I kept trying."

July 25 marked the first anniversary of Billy Gould's foray into what he hopes will be a career. "I told my parents that I wanted to be a barber and they supported that. In the beginning, I started in my room, cutting people's hair in a regular chair. But I used the internet and started looking for the stuff I needed. I bought almost everything that I need

myself."

Billy Gould is currently pursuing his GED at Adult Education. Once complete he hopes to attend barber school, but hasn't yet settled on a location. "The program is about a year long, but I am not sure where I want to go yet. I don't necessarily want to be far away from here."

While Billy Gould only provides a haircutting service now, he hopes that he will be able to provide full barber services including facial hair grooming and shaving once his course is complete. Keishawn Bradstreet, Billy's young 16-year-old apprentice and potential future partner is also considering a barbering program after high school.

Even though Billy is not yet officially registered in barber school, he will continue to see clients and work towards his goals. Billy recently started a Gofundme initiative in hopes of raising the \$1,000 he needs to begin the renovations on his "shack".

"We are going to start with the outside. Hopefully the money raised will help us get the lumber, siding and some of the tools we need to start doing the repairs." It will be the first step in what he hopes will become a viable business for himself and Keishawn.

Billy Gould remains positive about what lies ahead and his future as a barber in his community, "I'm thankful to be doing what I'm doing right now. I am just going on my journey."

Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



Gaspesian "Group of 8" Translating the Beauty:

This week you can read the final interview of the original Spec series, Translating the Beauty, that has profiled eight different Gaspesian visual artists. The series ran weekly from June 21 to August 9. Art speaks to us what words cannot. The astonishing beauty of the Gaspé Peninsula provides an inspiring environment for artists, no matter what medium they work in. The artist sees the world and 'translates' it for us with paint, or glass or inks or wood.

After interviewing the eight artists profiled for this series, I can say that we are blessed to live in an area that has so many talented artists. Over the eight weeks, readers contacted me with many suggestions for artists to feature in the series. There is a virtual treasure trove of art to be found on the Gaspé. Art enriches our communities. Art enhances our lives.

Every artist I spoke to was bright, articulate and generous with his or her time. Not one artist declined to be interviewed and I got to spend some beautiful summer hours with the artists. Interviews that were booked for one hour often stretched longer.

Linguistically and culturally this 'Group of 8' is varied. They are Anglophone, Francophone and Aboriginal. Many of them were bilingual and one was trilingual, able to speak those three languages. Their ancestry includes Acadian, Scottish, Mi'gmaq, German and Irish. They vary in age and geographical location, hailing from eight different communities on the Gaspé; Hope Town, Bonaventure, Gaspé, Wakeham, Gesgapegiag, L'Anse-à-Beaufils, Miguasha and Saint-Georges-de-Malbaie.

The styles of art and the materials they use are also wide-ranging. Acrylic paints, porcelain, inks, stone, coloured pencils, wood, and water paints are some of the materials used by the artists profiled in Translating the Beauty. Some use traditional canvas and others use shells and rocks.

The Gaspesian "Group of 8" were:
Enid LeGros-Wise – Porcelain artist
Normand Desjardins – Multi-faceted artist, including painting, photography, graphic drawing, sculpture
Linda Drody – Acrylic paintings
Cornelia Karkossa – Coloured pencils, acrylic paint
Stephen Jerome – Black ash basket maker
John Wiseman – Watercolour paintings
Rhéal McIntyre – Acrylic and oils on canvas, sculpture

I want to encourage readers to contact and visit the artists, not just these 8 profiled, any Gaspesian artist that you find interesting or appealing. Artists will welcome your visit, with no pressure to buy. John Wiseman told Spec readers about a tourist who visited his gallery and pointed to a picture within moments and said, "I want that one!" When John asked him how he chose so quickly, the tourist informed him that he had visited John's studio ten years before and had thought about the painting all that time. No pressure needed!

To own original art, or quality prints, done by Gaspesian artists is a meaningful thing. Consider buying Gaspesian art for wedding gifts. Art can be found over a broad price range. Buying directly from the artist is an advantage for the artist. Museums and galleries routinely charge between 30% and 50% to the artist.

Profiling the Gaspesian 'Group of 8' was a privilege because they openly answered all my questions and allowed me into their homes to see their art 'up close.' They explained how their life's journey has taken them to be their creative selves. I sincerely hope that Spec readers found the series interesting and enlightening. And please keep in mind... Support our Gaspesian artists!

9th Shigawake Music Festival features blend of newcomers and veterans

Gilles Gagné

SHIGAWAKE: – Between August 17 and 20, the 9th Shigawake Music Festival will take place, featuring a variety of bands and musicians making their first appearance at the event, as well as those who have helped make the festival one of the Quebec's best kept secrets.

Gaspesian singer Kevin Parent will perform at the festival for the first time, on Saturday evening, usually the busiest evening of the four-day event. He will be followed by the Clemville Kids, a local band that has not missed one Shigawake Music Festival, and Besnard Lakes.

The crowd will then proceed to the Trough, where Urockaoke, the band accompanying Karaoke singers, will animate one of the best parties of the year in the Gaspé Peninsula.

The music festival will start at 6 p.m. on Thursday, August 17, with a local showcase. The Landsmen will perform after the local showcase.

Five bands will take the stage on Friday, the night known for its country music emphasis. Spectators will be entertained by Sin and Swoon, Crop Duster (a rock band), the Firemen, Li'l Andy and Ron's Fantasy (a pop music band and a crowd favourite).

Saturday will begin with



Photo: G. Gagné

Nathan and Shaina Hayes are coming back with their maritime songs this year, and more.

Victory Chimes, followed by Tony Talks, a newcomer to Shigawake. Sheenah Ko, Common Holly, along with festival veterans Katie Moore and Andrew Horton, and Sain Doux de Patouka (rock band) will follow.

One of the most appreciated bands of the 2015 festival, Blood and Glass, will then start the evening, followed by Chocolat, a rock band. By then, the crowd should be warmed up for Kevin Parent's performance

On Sunday, the program will feature eight bands start-

ing at noon with Mawmz (experimental folk) followed by Thanya Iyer (Indie folk) who has played in almost all of the Shigawake Music Festivals.

Lily of the Valley, featuring Gaspesian singer Véronique Parker, will then play, followed by Fire Works and the Back Road Country Band. The Dupont Brothers (Michael Chorney & Hollar General) Nathan and Shaina Hayes will precede BarrBarr.

"Andrew and Brad Barr will perform as "BAR-RBARR" this year. Their bassist will be here as well,"

points out Meghan Clinton, the founder of the Shigawake Music Festival.

The Barr Brothers have played in Shigawake quite often since the event began in 2009 but when the band is not complete, they use another name, hence BarrBarr.

The music festival was founded to complement the Shigawake Agricultural Fair, the oldest such event that has been held without interruption in Quebec.

Attendees can also take advantage of the many fair activities scheduled.

INDIGENOUS GAMES:

▶ *Cont'd from cover*

come together to give these kids an opportunity. Basketball does not cost much to operate. It's a basketball and two hoops. It's a cheap sport that doesn't cost a lot to support. I think that after this is all over, we should be looking around to see what other sports are accessible to Gaspesian and Indigenous youth," he says.

All of this year's participants agreed that accessibility to practice is key to preparing for future participation in the NAIG. Blair Gedeon is already committed. "I am taking basketball to a new level now. You win as a team and you lose as a team and learn from it. When I get home, I am practicing every day to become better at basketball."

If there is any doubt as to the impact and importance of this experience on the youth that participated at the North American Indigenous Games, one need look no further than Keishawn Bradstreet.

"This event made me realize that whatever you want to do, it's achievable and there are lots of opportunities. This event has changed me in so many ways. I made new friends, I became a better basketball player and a better person being with different people," he concludes.

For additional information about the NAIG, you can visit <http://www.naigcouncil.com/>. For standings from the 2017 games, visit <http://naig2017.to/>.

Junex to invest \$14M with partners in Galt wells

Gilles Gagné

GASPÉ: – Exactly one week after the adoption by the Quebec government of a decree banning oil and gas exploration on Anticosti island, Junex announced that the company and its partners will invest \$14 million in hydrocarbon exploration in the Galt sector, just west of Gaspé.

Junex announced in the same breath that a new partner joins the venture, Ressources Québec, a public corporation active in the now-defunct Anticosti project. The July 28 decree also spelled a \$5.5 million compensation payment to Junex, amidst amounts totalling \$41.4 million paid to Anticosti Island partners.

Regarding Galt, Junex specifies that the next exploration campaign will notably take the form of oil drilling starting probably in September

at Galt 6 horizontal well. The firm also stresses that a seventh well will eventually be drilled. Other works could be included in the \$14 million investment.

Jean-Yves Lavoie, president and chief executive officer of Junex, assures that the \$5.5 million received following the government decree was not the element that triggered the Galt next exploration campaign.

"It is a completely different file. We had signed a letter of intention with Investissement-Québec in March, for the Galt partnership," points out Mr. Lavoie, who nevertheless agrees that the \$5.5 million "will go to Gaspé."

That March letter of intention leads to the second aspect of the Junex announcement, namely the direct participation of Ressources Québec, Investissement-Québec's oil and gas arm, in the Galt project.

Ressources Québec will pay \$8.4 million of the \$14 million invested in Galt 6 and 7 wells. Ressources Québec will now possess 17.13% of the Galt property, compared to 52.87% for Junex and 30% for Gestion Bernard Lemaire, a longtime partner whose share stays unchanged.

Jean-Yves Lavoie stresses that Ressources Québec pays 60% of the \$14 million sum required in order to control 17.13% of the Galt property and drill wells 6 and 7 because some catching up was needed, considering previous investments by other partners, which total \$35 million.

"If you divide \$8.4 million by \$35 million, you get close enough to 17.13%," he says.

Until now, Ressources Québec was participating indirectly in the Junex ventures, as a 16.5% shareholder of the company.

Jean-Yves Lavoie affirms that the Galt 6 well, like the eventual seventh well, will be drilled "according to conventional techniques," which exclude fracturing and chemical stimulation.

"We are not expecting major things. (For future wells), we will adjust as things progress but so far, we haven't used (fracturing and chemical stimulation)," adds Mr. Lavoie, underlining that any fracturing request must be approved by the Quebec Department of the Environment. He points out that the fracturing technique has not been used in Quebec since the controversy of 2010.

Mr. Lavoie expects that between 25 and 30 people will work at Galt 6 during the two months required to drill that well.

In the meantime, Junex is still waiting for the delivery of its commercial exploitation li-

cence, following a request submitted to Quebec's Department of Natural Resources in September 2016 for the whole Galt property, which already includes five wells.

"It should come soon. Those requests can be long in developing," he simply says.

Galt 4 is the well that has so far revealed the best potential. "We have produced up to 400 barrels a day there," points out Mr. Lavoie.

In six months of exploratory drillings and tests spread over 2015 and 2016, Junex has extracted 14,000 barrels of light crude oil at Galt 4, arguably the most productive well in the history of Quebec.

The well is shut until Junex receives its exploitation lease. Mr. Lavoie thinks that Galt 4 could produce an average of about 200 barrels a day commercially.



Creative ideas to maximize your summer



(NC) Does it ever feel like time flies by faster every year? Changing your habits and routine is a great way to fight the feeling of time passing you by — and summer is a great time to start. Instead of your normal seasonal activities, cultivate a new interest to enjoy. Here are some ideas that'll inspire you:

Develop a taste for the arts. That could be going to see a play, switching up the music you listen to, or trying out painting or pottery. Art has many mental health benefits and is a wonderful way to infuse some imagination into your life.

Set an athletic or health goal. If you are already sporty, participating in a long distance run could be a good option. If exercise is not part of your life, consider committing to an accessible, daily activity — a little bit of exercise can go a long way towards a healthier mind and body.

Try volunteering. Getting involved in a community festival, coaching a sports team, or helping out at a local non-profit are all great ways to meet new people and make a meaningful contribution and enhance self-esteem.

Engage with a cause. Whether it is environmental issues, human rights or social justice, connecting to a good cause is a great way to enrich your summer. Organizations like Amnesty International offer all kinds of accessible ways to get involved with people from all walks of life.

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Annual Shigawake Agricultural Fair & Music Festival

August 17-20, 2017

The annual agricultural & music festival hosted in Shigawake is set to kick off this year on August 17. It will end August 20. As usual, events such as horsehaul, handicrafts, lawn tractor races, traditional games and so much more will take place!

The line-up for the music festival is certainly looking great! Artists such as Kevin Parent, The Clemville Kids, Lily of the Valley, Crop Duster, The Landsmen and so many others will be playing live for everyone to enjoy!

If this is your kind of thing, then come on down and enjoy the entertainment! It is sure to be quite an amazing show for all!

An exhibition by Barry Le Blanc is currently on display at the Cascapedia River Museum. Barry is a landscape photographer and his photos display the amazing world reknown Cascapedia salmon river. Nearly 300 photos will be on display. This event finishes on August 25. If this is your sort of thing, don't miss it!

A whist party will take place at the Hope Town Community Centre on August 12 at 8 p.m. Anyone who is interested is welcome to attend. Come on down and enjoy the fun.

The Battle of the Restigouche Natural Historic Site will be hosting a family activity day on August 12 in Pointe-à-la-Croix. Everyone is welcome. There are activities such as storytelling, demonstrations of carpentry and rughooking, and an archaeological dig. For more information please contact Karine Parenteau at 418) 368-5538

Starting on August 18 at the Corner of the Beach Cultural Museum in Percé, the second biennial quilt exhibition will take place from 1-4 p.m and will run until August 20. For more information please contact Pat Vibert at 418 782 7049

Have fun in the sun!

Tide Predictions

Paspébiac	Carleton	Chandler	Gaspe
Thursday, August 10 04:45 - 1.86 m 11:14 - 0.32 m 17:07 - 1.49 m 22:50 - 0.33 m	Thursday, August 10 04:52 - 2.28 m 11:08 - 0.29 m 17:17 - 1.85 m 22:57 - 0.35 m	Thursday, August 10 04:38 - 1.36 m 11:15 - 0.35 m 16:56 - 1.01 m 22:41 - 0.35 m	Thursday, August 10 03:59 - 1.64 m 10:42 - 0.47 m 16:20 - 1.23 m 22:11 - 0.50 m
Friday, August 11 05:22 - 1.80 m 11:46 - 0.34 m 17:47 - 1.53 m 23:44 - 0.37 m	Friday, August 11 05:29 - 2.23 m 11:40 - 0.28 m 17:56 - 1.92 m 23:41 - 0.35 m	Friday, August 11 05:15 - 1.33 m 11:49 - 0.36 m 17:36 - 1.05 m 23:30 - 0.35 m	Friday, August 11 04:33 - 1.60 m 11:12 - 0.46 m 16:56 - 1.29 m 22:57 - 0.51 m
Saturday, August 12 06:00 - 1.70 m 12:18 - 0.37 m 18:30 - 1.56 m	Saturday, August 12 06:10 - 2.13 m 12:15 - 0.29 m 18:38 - 1.97 m	Saturday, August 12 05:56 - 1.28 m 12:24 - 0.38 m 18:21 - 1.09 m	Saturday, August 12 05:09 - 1.54 m 11:44 - 0.47 m 17:37 - 1.36 m 23:49 - 0.54 m
Sunday, August 13 00:33 - 0.43 m 06:41 - 1.59 m 12:53 - 0.41 m 19:16 - 1.58 m	Sunday, August 13 00:29 - 0.37 m 06:53 - 1.99 m 12:53 - 0.31 m 19:25 - 2.01 m	Sunday, August 13 00:22 - 0.35 m 06:40 - 1.21 m 13:02 - 0.40 m 19:12 - 1.14 m	Sunday, August 13 05:48 - 1.44 m 12:19 - 0.48 m 18:23 - 1.42 m
Monday, August 14 01:30 - 0.49 m 07:28 - 1.46 m 13:32 - 0.45 m 20:08 - 1.61 m	Monday, August 14 01:25 - 0.42 m 07:42 - 1.82 m 13:35 - 0.35 m 20:18 - 2.05 m	Monday, August 14 01:21 - 0.37 m 07:31 - 1.12 m 13:43 - 0.43 m 20:07 - 1.19 m	Monday, August 14 00:50 - 0.57 m 06:32 - 1.32 m 12:59 - 0.50 m 19:16 - 1.46 m
Tuesday, August 15 02:39 - 0.53 m 08:24 - 1.34 m 14:19 - 0.48 m 21:09 - 1.65 m	Tuesday, August 15 02:32 - 0.47 m 08:39 - 1.64 m 14:26 - 0.40 m 21:18 - 2.08 m	Tuesday, August 15 02:28 - 0.39 m 08:30 - 1.02 m 14:31 - 0.46 m 21:07 - 1.24 m	Tuesday, August 15 02:00 - 0.61 m 07:23 - 1.19 m 13:45 - 0.53 m 20:20 - 1.51 m
Wednesday, August 16 03:59 - 0.53 m 09:32 - 1.24 m 15:18 - 0.50 m 22:17 - 1.72 m	Wednesday, August 16 03:52 - 0.50 m 09:46 - 1.50 m 15:28 - 0.45 m 22:25 - 2.12 m	Wednesday, August 16 03:41 - 0.39 m 09:39 - 0.94 m 15:26 - 0.47 m 22:12 - 1.29 m	Wednesday, August 16 03:19 - 0.63 m 08:29 - 1.07 m 14:42 - 0.55 m 21:36 - 1.55 m

Translating the beauty

THE ART OF GILLES CÔTÉ

Gilles Côté, born in Gaspé, is a self-taught artist who is constantly searching for colours and shapes to transmit atmosphere. Art is something, he states, that should be done with passion. The essence of his art is found in a balance of emotion and intellect. He is currently transitioning from figurative art to more abstract works.

Diane Skinner

Art speaks to us what words cannot. The astonishing beauty of the Gaspé Peninsula provides an inspiring environment for artists. The artist sees the world and “translates” it for us with paint or wood or glass or stone. This is an 8-week series that will introduce you to some of the many artists of the Gaspé.

Gilles Côté tells us that art, creating art, is something that one should do with passion. He is very connected to the Gaspé, having been born here in 1956. He tells Spec that he has “salt water in his veins.” For the last 23 years he has had a home and gallery in the Percé area. Gilles has travelled to Europe, Africa, all the east coast of Canada and the U.S., but states without reservation that one of the most beautiful places he has ever seen is the Gaspé. We have diversity of environment and he feels that we are blessed to live in such a place. He mentions in particular the pure air and the blue of the water and the sky. He tells about witnessing a recent sunset that gave him goose bumps.

Beginnings

Even as a child Gilles Côté enjoyed drawing. In high



Photo: D. Skinner

Gilles Côté is a self taught artist.

school, in Gaspé, he would draw caricatures of his teachers. This skill evolved and continued. When he attended the CEGEP in Gaspé he would submit a weekly caricature of local, regional and even national politicians, which was published in the paper. While attending CEGEP he took a course in photography and learned to develop black and white film. Over the years his skill in photography led to a photographic exhibition and he won second place in a con-

test for Photo Life magazine.

After that accomplishment, he had a dream to start painting. So, he bought a book entitled ‘La couleur et le peintre’ about creating art, and a few weeks after reading it he began to paint. Gilles read about the use of colours and still uses only the primary colours, plus white, when he paints. He creates all his colours when he paints. At first, in 1977, he painted exclusively with oils. Then in 1984 he began to paint with acrylics. In 1991 he

stopped using oil paint entirely. Gilles says he really prefers acrylics now, in part because they are less harmful for the environment. Acrylics are also easier to use because they dry quickly, in about 15 minutes. With oils you can ‘take your time’ and in some cases the oils take over two days and up to several months to dry.

When Gilles began his journey as an artist he admired the works of Matisse, Gauguin, Van Gogh, Monet and Picasso. Early on he did not have faith in his talents, so he chose a piece of art by a Master. He decided to copy that art and decided that if he could do that he was good enough to continue as an artist.

Gilles’ Approach

Gilles Côté will work on multiple pieces at a time. He says, “If I start a piece and I

sheep and shepherdesses. They are intensely colourful and stunning, with a whimsical aura. Over the last year he has been inspired to use boats as his theme. Gilles adds that “nature is a great inspiration,” but a book can evoke an emotion, which inspires a painting for him. He adds, “...or even a good movie,” can inspire.

Accolades

Gilles is a successful, charming artist who has been making his living with his art for 23 years. A long time customer from the U.S. and an avid collector, who owns over 40 pieces of Gilles’ art, says this: “Gilles has lived in the barachois forever and nobody paints it better. I have more Gilles Côté paintings than I need, but not as many as I want.” Gilles has a number of collectors who own a significant number of his paintings,



“Moutons en Montagne”

have an inspiration I will switch and work on that. One year I had over 50 pieces started, some were almost finished and some had just a few strokes.” He paints in his workshop, but will paint outside between eight and ten times a year. Gilles does take lots of photographs and sometimes these photos provide him with inspiration for a painting. As he moves more toward abstract painting, he will interpret the reflections on water, for example. Gilles informs us that to paint abstractly an artist must “Start from no references.”

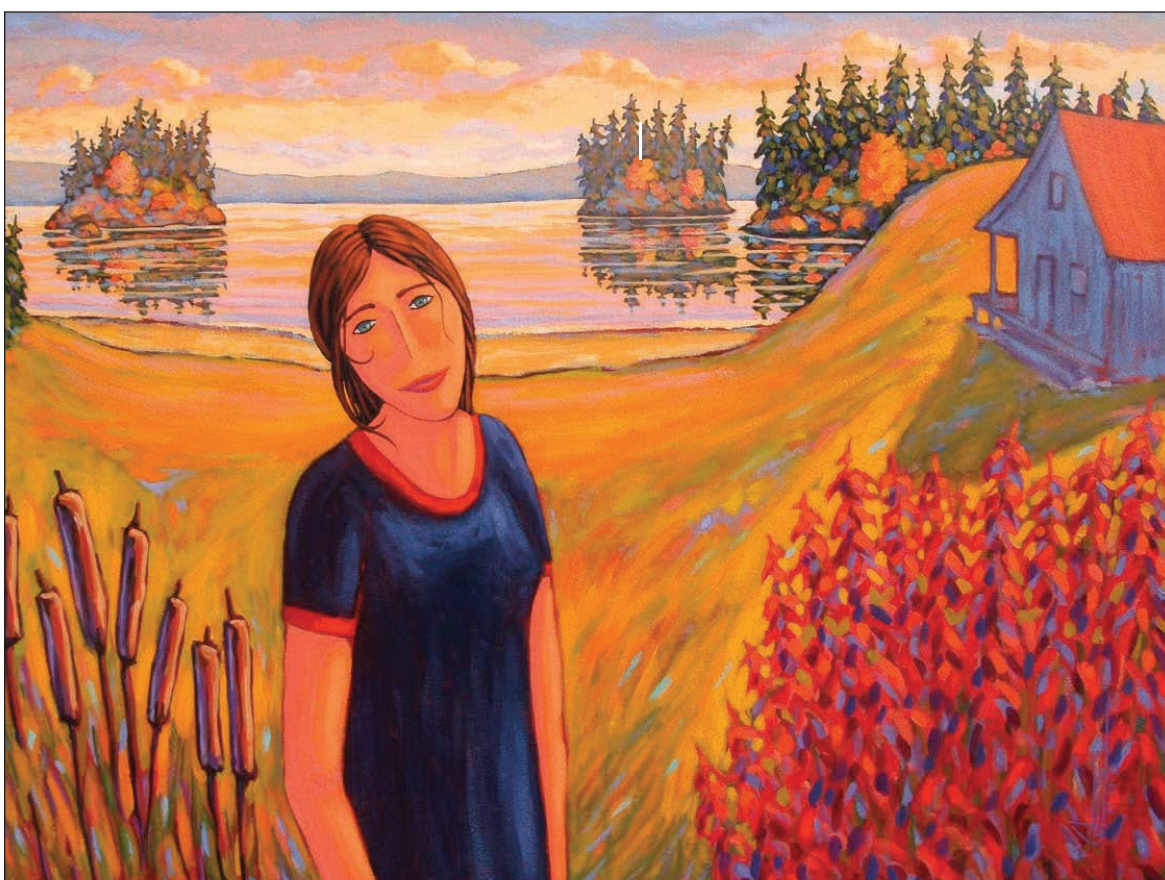
About two years ago Gilles announced that he would no longer be doing any figurative paintings – only abstract. He laughs when he tells Spec that he still keeps doing figurative paintings because he loves to do them! You may be familiar with his iconic paintings of

between 30 and 35 pieces, from the Gaspé and Toronto.

Gilles Côté is a true Gaspeian artist. His paintings are intensely beautiful. His use of colour is stunning. His work is memorable and moving. Gilles closes the interview with his advice “I wish for me and others ... everybody... to follow their passion. Keep on. Work hard.”

Gilles’ prints start at \$20, depending on size. For originals, you can inquire in person or by email. He has pieces on display in Port Daniel and at Café des Couleurs, Barachois. Gilles Côté’s Gallery: 1434 Route 132 east, Saint-Georges-de-Malbaie. 418-905-2787 (He spends the winters in Quebec City) Also, Google ‘Gilles Côté artist’ to view numerous photos of his work.

Support our
Gaspeian artists!



“Mes Îles”

An international star at the Gaspé FMBM

Geneviève **Gélinas**

GASPÉ: – The 14th Festival Musique du bout du monde will present about 200 artists from August 9 to August 13 in Gaspé.

Reggae legend Tiken Jah Fakoly will be one of them. “As a musician and a music lover, it’s a dream to welcome Tiken Jah Fakoly. He’s one of the living legends of reggae,” says Frédérick Ste-Croix, president of the Festival Musique du bout du monde (FMBM).

Tiken Jah Fakoly, born on the Ivory Coast, has always taken position in favour of peace and democracy in Africa. He will play songs from his album, *Racines*, under the festival’s big top on Saturday, August 12. He will share this evening with La Chiva Gantiva, seven Brussels-based musi-

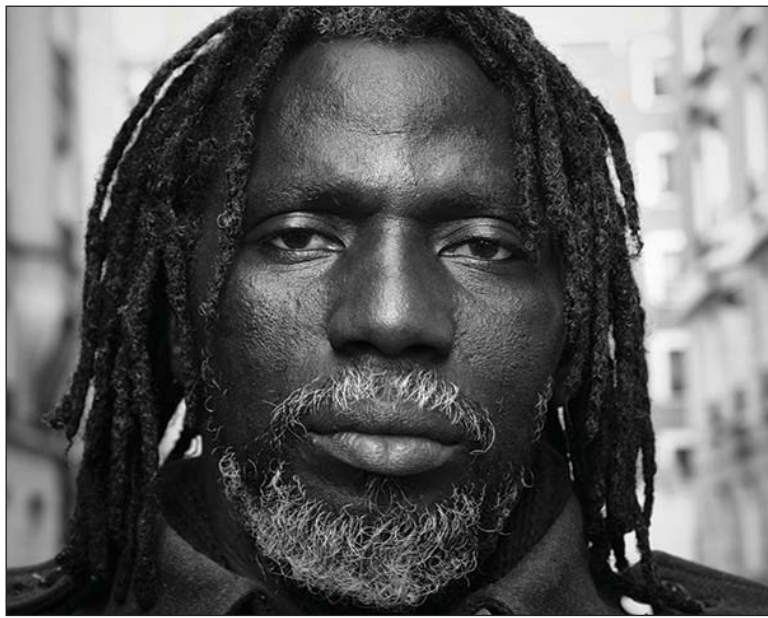


Photo: Youphil

Reggae legend Tiken Jah Fakoly will perform under the big top on Saturday, August 12.

cians who mix traditional Colombian music with rock, Afro-beat and funk.

The first show under the big top, on Thursday, August 9, will be performed by Gregory

Charles. “We wanted our festival-goers to live the Gregory Charles experience because he’s a splendid stage performer. He comes with his band, but Mambo Sax (the Gaspé brass

band) will participate in the show. I can imagine the brass instruments on top of that. It will be a “big train,” says Mr. Ste-Croix.

On Friday evening, two francophone artists, Valaire, a band, and singer-songwriter Yann Perreau will make people dance under the big top.

The tradition of offering a show at sunrise in Cap Bon Ami, in Forillon Park, continues with Chloé Ste-Marie, at 4:45 a.m. on Sunday.

From Friday to Sunday, several musicians and street artists

will perform on Queen Street, downtown Gaspé. Among them are Betsayda Machado, described as “the voice of Venezuela”, the folk rock band The Gaspé Project and the Whakatapu Kotahi Dance Troup whose members perform aka dances from New Zealand aboriginal people.

Last year, about 25,000 people attended the festival. The budget of the FMBM is between \$1.1 and \$1.2 million. About 250 volunteers are giving some of their time to this event.

The Gaspésienne No. 20 can be visited

Geneviève **Gélinas**

GASPÉ: – The visitors to the Musée de la Gaspésie, in Gaspé, can now board the Gaspésienne No. 20, set up on dry land outside the museum. This model of boat, equipped for bottom line fishing, is considered an icon of the fishermen’s cooperative time and represents the bridge between traditional fishing and industrial fishing. The boat was the only one in good enough and authentic enough condition to undergo historic restoration. Fifty such boats were built in Lévis and Gaspé between 1956 and 1960. The restoration was made last summer by a team of 44 volunteers. “It’s the only historic fishing boat that can be



Photo: G. Gélinas

The Gaspésienne No. 20.

visited on the Gaspé and the largest artifact ever displayed in the region,” says Nathalie Spooner, director of the mu-

seum. Inside the museum, visitors can also watch a virtual reality movie about life aboard the Gaspésienne.

Bats, bats and maybe more bats!

Jeanie **LeLacheur**

SOS Bats has taken flight for the second season with what appears to be a little good news for local bat populations that are being decimated by the White-nose syndrome virus which has killed 6 million bats in North America since its detection in 2006. The conservation initiative that is funded by the Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk and co-managed by Gespeg and Contact Environment has already confirmed the presence of bats in the region and will continue its work throughout the summer and fall migration period. The Anabat Express monitor which registers bats echolocation during nightly

forages for insects allows the group to confirm the presence or absence of bats in the area and to identify species. The first year that this equipment is available to the group it will provide crucial baseline information and allow for a clearer long-term picture of the region’s bat reality.

One maternity roost (where mother bats have babies and spend the summer) has been reported and is being monitored. A couple of years ago it was home to more than 250 individuals spending the summer there while this year’s count revealed approximately 50 bats.

Although the primary objective of the species at risk project is data collection, the

group continues to create awareness in local communities. After what seemed a long stretch of a bleak road for those following the SOS Bats activities, participants of the Camp Fort Haldimand got to help set up a monitor and confirm that bats made an appearance at the camp during the evening of July 13th.

The conservation group would like to ask for the continued help of the general population by signalling bat sightings and especially to share information about where bats are spending their nights. For more information or to signal bat activity, call 581 887 2763, visit www.contactenvironnement.ca or the facebook page of the same name.

Gaspé Spec Vacation Guide 2017 Scavenger Hunt Answers

Here you go! These are the answers to the Gaspé Spec Vacation Guide Scavenger Hunt. Now that you have searched through the 2017 Guide, with all new material, go and get out there on the Gaspé and enjoy some of the amazing opportunities that await you.

1. Miguasha is recognized because of the presence of fossils, which provide excellent examples of the era known as the “Age of Fishes.”
2. The secret to a positive hiking experience is being prepared.
3. There are 3 First Nations’ communities on the Gaspé Peninsula.
4. The first Europeans in New Richmond were from Scotland.
5. The museum is the Cascapedia River Museum.
6. The site is the Bioparc.
7. United Empire Loyalists founded New Carlisle around 1785.
8. Charles Robin established Paspébiac’s historic fishing centre.
9. The ‘Perfect Picnic’ requires a basket, a blanket, sandwiches or wraps, raw veggies, beverages, fruit and serviettes.
10. Tools for eating a lobster : seafood scissors, bowl, lots of serviettes, seafood crackers, metal picks, and bibs.
11. Hope Town derives its name from Henry Hope, who was born in Scotland around 1750.
12. Three scientific theories to explain the Phantom Ship sightings are: St. Elmo’s Fire, swamp gases and electrical forces.
13. The population of Chandler is 7,700.
14. Percé includes the communities of Barachois, Cap-d’Espoir and Val-d’Espoir.
15. Avoid the double chin selfie by pushing your neck forward. Shoot from above and look upwards. Try tilting your head.
16. A barachois is a coastal lagoon, which is separated from the oceans by sand formations.
17. The cliffs at Forillon are over 90 metres in some places.
18. To buy a Spec subscription online go to www.thegaspe-spec.com
19. There are approximately 350 species of birds found on the Gaspé.
20. To celebrate Canada’s 150, free admission to Parks Canada is offered to visitors.



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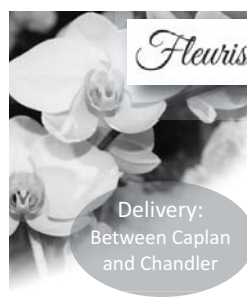
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Announcements...

Obituaries



BOYLE: Edmund

Most people wish to be either 20 or 30 again, but Daddy's words on his 90th birthday were "I wish I was 89 again. I could mow my grass. I was perfect." Oh how he loved to mow the grass with his tractor.

Just six days after celebrating his 90th birthday at his home in Barachois, our father passed away peacefully at the Hotel Dieu Hospital in Gaspé. Born on June 25, 1927 to the late Gordon Boyle and Ida Cabot; he was part of a large family. He is predeceased by his sister and four brothers and survived by his brothers: Leonard, Elmer, and Steve.

He married our mom, Iris Snowman, on November 27, 1948. This fall would have marked their 69th wedding anniversary. He was a father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

The funeral was held on July 5, 2017, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Barachois. Afterwards he was laid to rest next to his mother, sister, and brother in the parish cemetery.

Our family would like to thank HG Division Funeral Home under the direction of Mr. Alain Dunn for the professional and respectful funeral arrangements, Father Cayouette for the lovely mass, Mr. Isaac Lemieux for helping with the music selection and leading the choir in song as well as the prayers at Daddy's wake, the choir for their beautiful voices and Shirley Mitchell who so gracefully played the organ at the service. Daddy loved the fiddle so thank you to Jack Gaul for playing and Owen Gaumond who added inspiration on the guitar. To the CLSC nurses, especially Marc, who made domicile visits. We would like to express our appreciation for providing such excellent care. A special thank-you to Janice Vardon for taking the time to listen to Daddy tell stories of old times and looking after him with such devotion.

On behalf of his wife, Iris, his family, as well as Will (his furry companion), we would like to express our gratitude for the offering of condolences and the numerous cards we received. The visits, flowers, food, donations, and to those who attended Daddy's wake and/or funeral are greatly appreciated.

Our house and lives will never be the same after the loss of our father. We have been truly blessed to have had him as a father. He will be sadly missed and lovingly and respectfully remembered.

Thank you

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our family and many friends for coming to the benefit supper held Friday, July 14, in Shigawake after fire destroyed our home. A huge thank-you to all who helped decorate the community center and to those who supplied dishes of food and helped serve the people. Thank you to the businesses who donated gifts for prizes, as well as to those who made donations. Without this huge community effort, it would not have been possible. A heartfelt thank-you to all.

Alison and Bert Hayes

In Memory



HAYES: Larry

In loving memory of our son and brother who passed away August 11, 1992 - "25 years" - still missing you.

*We think of you in silence,
We often speak your name,
Life here without you, Larry,
Has never been the same.*

Love Mom (Joan Hayes) and sister (Brenda Morrison).

MARION:

In loving memory of Ena Syvrette Marion who passed away on July 28, 2015.

*Two years have passed
Since God took you away.
We missed you then,
We miss you now.*

Loved and missed by her husband York. R.I.P. Ena.

WARD: Elliott Clarence

In loving memory of a dear father, father-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather, who passed away on August 13, 2003.

*You held our hands
When we were small.
You caught us when we fell,
The hero of our childhood
And later years as well,
Every time we think of you,
Our hearts fill with pride,
And though we'll always miss you, Dad,
We know you are by our side,
In laughter and in sorrow
In sunshine and in rain,
We know you're watching over us
Until we meet again.*

Sadly missed and forever loved by daughter Frances (Bernie); grandson Mark (Erin) and great-grandsons Reid, Cole and Benn; grandson Kevin (Courtney) and great-granddaughters Avery and Carys; sons Ken (Chris); Everette; Wayne (Monique) and grandsons Dave (Josie Anne) and Brian (Catherine).

Celebration of Life



Join us for a celebration of life for Jessie Munro Watt which will take place at St. Andrew's United Church in Hope Town, on Saturday, August 12, 2017, at 2 p.m. followed by the interment of ashes at St. Andrew's cemetery.

Card of Thanks



REEDER: Cecil (Dee)

Passed away July 5, 2017

We, the family of the late Cecil (Dee) Reeder would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation for the outpouring of love and support that we have received during his sickness and after the loss of a very special husband, father, brother, uncle and brother-in-law.

We are grateful for all the family and friends who travelled from away to be with us and those who called and brought food.

A special thanks to Dr. Lacombe for his many years as a doctor to our family and his house visits; to Annie, Caro and Karine the inhalotherapists who helped us deal with the COPD; to the staff at the CLSC, especially Jennie, Helena, and Judy who did everything they could to help us keep and look after him at home; to Delphine and Bev whose help was invaluable; to the staff at the Pharmacie Uniprix Carrefour for their service and for answering our many questions; to the funeral parlour for their courteous service - thank you, Francois; and to Rev. Cynthia Patterson, Pastor Dominique Ourlin, Debbie Sams, and Keith Herron for their part in the funeral service. Thanks as well to the Legion members and the Gaspé Fire Department for coming to honour his passing - it meant a lot to us.

All of you helped make this difficult time easier for us. Thank you.



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Recent Graduate



Amber-May Astles, daughter of Dean and Kim, granddaughter of Ray and Mary Beth and Kim's mom Phyllis, graduated from a four-year program at Sheridan College with high honours in Early Childhood Leadership. She is attending Western University this fall to obtain her Bachelor of Education in Primary / Junior Education specializing in advance studies, psychology and mental health.

We all wish you the very best! Nanny & Grandpa

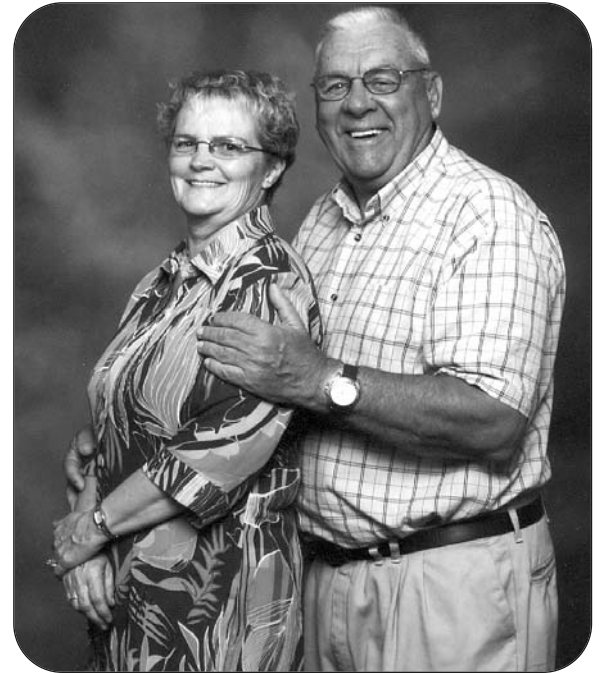
Family Gathering



On the weekend of July 30, 2017, Linda Ward from British Columbia met at the home of Don Steele in Sainte Luce, Quebec for a family gathering.

Shown above are sisters Elva Steele and Linda Ward.

50th Wedding Anniversary



In honour of their 50th Wedding Anniversary, Margaret and Allyn Flowers, their children and grandchildren request the pleasure of your company at an Open House on Sunday, August 20, 2017, at the New Carlisle Town Hall at 3 p.m. Enjoy music, lunch and reminisce

Social notes...

It is so nice seeing all the regular summer visitors back for the holiday season.

Congrats to all those who graduated from High School in June and are now preparing for the next chapter in their life story. Good luck to you all and God's blessings.

Congrats to Brittney Bedford who just graduated with her B. Ed and is preparing to head off to England to teach for a year.

My sister Ruth Dugdale and I recently spent five days in the Big Apple with Collins tours out of St. John, N.B. We did a city tour and were fortunate to be in a hotel a short walk from Times Square. One of the highlights was a Broadway show - Bette Midler starring in Hello Dolly. On the second night we chose the show Kinky Boots. Both shows were great. As usual we met someone who knew friends from Paspébiac. Small world.

Aaron Court and family spent a short vacation on the coast with grandparents.



Anne MacWhirter
HOPETOWN
NEWS

Once back home, Emma and Tessa traveled with Grandma and Jim for a short stay in Whitefish Falls. A weekend at the Harvey Lake cottage followed, where Arden, Haley and girls joined everyone. Grandma then drove back east with Macy and Hannah. Arden arrived a day later for a short visit before heading back to prepare for an extended family camping trip.

It has been a busy summer for all! Lots of family fun!!

Recent guests at the home of Clyde and Lynda MacWhirter were Linda Macwhirter, Niagara Falls, Ontario, daughter of Gilbert MacWhirter and grand-

daughter of Estwell MacWhirter and her fiance Daryl Flowers, New Carlisle. Linda had not visited the coast for 31 years. One of her wishes was to dip her toes in the Bay of Chaleur and she did it! She was able to connect with many cousins and friends as well as meet Daryl's family. They visited with her uncle and aunt Bill and Lynn MacWhirter in Gaspé. Linda and Daryl's love story is remarkable in that they had not seen each other for 45 years. After reconnecting on the internet earlier this year, Daryl travelled to Niagara Falls to propose to Linda. She accepted and the wedding is to take place later this year.

Three Hopetown couples shared the same date for their wedding anniversaries on July 15. They are Clyde and Lynda MacWhirter, Herb and Margaret Hackett, and Colin and Amanda Major.

August birthdays are Cyril Ross, Clyde MacWhirter, Emilie Woods, Nelson MacWhirter, Sandie Mace, Marjorie Buttle MacWhirter and Alain Woods.

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STUDENT SPECIAL

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Address: _____

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Photo: John Paul Nanowski



CLASSIFIED

For Sale: 97.5 acre woodlot on Vaquelin Road/Malbaie River, Barachois. Price \$25,000. Call 613-354-2369 or 613-331-3386 for more information. (A16)

Buying: Antiques of all kinds; furniture, dishes, frames, tools, toys, antique wood and metal boxes. From Gaspé to Carleton. Call 418-368-9167 and leave a message if not available. (A30)

Land for Sale: New Carlisle: Great views of the town and Chaleur Bay 1.376 acres / 0.553 hectares in Residential (white) zone; close to services. On south side of Normandy, just west of Church Street. Asking \$23,500. Serious buyers only. Call 1-819-363-2023. (S6)

COAST ROUND-UP

POINTE-NAVARRÉ: Mass

A solemn mass will be celebrated by Gérard Ste-Croix on **Sunday, August 13**, at 4 p.m. at the Sanctuary of Pointe-Navarre, for the Feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary. On **Tuesday, August 15**, at 7 p.m. A mass will be celebrated by our Bishop Gaétan Proulx. Welcome to all.

GASPÉ: Gaspé County WI Fair:

There is still time to register as a public exhibitor for the 2017 Gaspé County WI Fair. If you are interested in entering the fair please contact Rhonda Stewart at rhondals@hotmail.com. The fair will be held on **Saturday, September 9**, at the York River Community Hall and the registration fee is \$15.

**GASPÉ:
90th Birthday Celebration**
 Hilda Adams is going to be 90 years young! Come celebrate with family and friends **Saturday, August 19**. Open house 1 - 4 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 25 Cathedral Street, Gaspé. Please no gifts.

**ROSEBRIDGE:
Breakfast**
 There will be a breakfast at the Rosebridge United Church Hall on **Saturday, August 19**. It will begin at 7 a.m. and last until 11 a.m. The cost is \$9 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. There will be fruit, eggs, bacon, pancakes, beans, fried potatoes, toast, muffins, tea, coffee and juice. Everyone welcome.

**YORK:
Canada's 150 Celebrations**
 The York River Seniors' Club will be taking part in different events this summer at O'Hara's Point as part of Canada's 150 Celebrations. **September 4** - Annual Corn Boil.

**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.

COIN DU BANC: UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Open: Corner of the Beach Cultural Museum will be open daily (except Mondays) during August from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

August 5 - 13: Coin du Banc en folies - Land's End Summer Music Camp

August 23: Annual General Meeting of *La société historique de Coin du Banc* - Corner of the Beach Historical Society - Starting at 7 p.m.

COIN DU BANC: Important Notice

Notice to anyone who has family buried in St. Luke's Cemetery at Coin du Banc. The cost for cutting the grass in the cemetery last year was eight hundred dollars (\$800) and the cost of liability was another eight hundred (\$800) not to mention maintenance of the fence. Please consider assisting with these costs by making a donation, by cheque, to *La société historique de Coin du Banc* - Corner of the Beach Historical Society. All donations over twenty dollars (\$20) will be given an income tax receipt. The address is 350 rue de la Plage, Coin du Banc, Percé, QC G0C 2L0. Any help you can give would be greatly appreciated by the directors: Alex Vibert, Shirley Boyle and Janet Harvey.

COIN DU BANC: Quilt Exhibition

The second biennial quilt exhibition will be held at Corner of the Beach Cultural Museum on **August 18 - 20** from 1 - 4 p.m. Various quilted items will be available for viewing and sale. Tickets available on a king/queen size quilt. Winning ticket to be drawn August 20. For further information, please contact Pat Vibert at 418-782-7049.

PORT DANIEL AND SHIGAWAKE: Bible Study

Evening Prayer and discussion will be held at Shigawake Town Hall every **Wednesday** (unless otherwise noted) at 7 p.m. and at St. James, Port Daniel, every **Friday**.

SHIGAWAKE: Harvest Supper

St Paul's Anglican Church And Shigawake Community Centre will be holding their annual harvest supper on **Saturday, September 9**, at the Shigawake Community Centre (across from St. Paul's) Adults \$15, children under 10 \$6. Takeout available. Everyone welcome.

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.

HOPE TOWN: Whist Party

A whist party will be held on **Saturday, August 12**, at 8 p.m. at the Hope Town Community Centre. Come out and join us for a night of fun.

HOPE TOWN: Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School at Hope Baptist, 305 Route 132 West, Hope Town on Monday, August 7, to Wednesday, August 9 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. All children ages 5-12 are welcome. There will be games, singing, snacks and exciting Bible lessons. (all snacks and treats will be peanut and tree nut free). Free admission.

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: Julia's Tea Corner

You are invited to "Julia's Tea Corner" at the Kempffer Cultural and Interpretation Centre every Wednesday this summer from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. For only \$5, come and enjoy a cup of tea accompanied by treats cooked by our volunteers. The Kempffer Centre is located at 125, G.-D.-Levesque Blvd. To reserve for 2 p.m. or 3 p.m., please contact us: 418-752-1334.

NEW CARLISLE: Local Market

The market season runs until **September 23** (garlic festival). Hours are from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Come and shop locally for everything from fresh strawberries to jewellery. Be entertained as well. Contact us through our facebook page or call Sandi @ 581-233-0658 or Carol @ 418-752-8555.

NEW CARLISLE: Harvest Supper

St. Andrew's Anglican Church will be holding its annual harvest supper on **Saturday, September 23**. More information to follow.

NEW CARLISLE: Church Service

Knox Presbyterian Church will be holding a service on **Sunday, August 20**, at 3 p.m.

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 - 7 p.m. "*You Must Be Born Again.*"

NEW CARLISLE: Shipbuilding conference

You are invited to a conference given in English by Lynden Becher-vaire on Shipbuilding in New Carlisle, **Wednesday, August 16**, at 7 p.m., at the Municipal Hall, 138 G.-D.-Levesque Boulevard, in New Carlisle. Prices are \$5 for Heritage New Carlisle members and \$6 for non-members. Proceeds go to Heritage New Carlisle nonprofit organization.

NEW CARLISLE: Monthly Breakfast

The New Carlisle 50+ Club will be holding its monthly breakfast at the Heritage Restaurant on **Wednesday, September 13**, at 9 a.m.

NEW RICHMOND: United Church

October 21: Turkey Supper
December 15: Christmas Concert.

NEW RICHMOND: Friperie Notice

NEW schedule: The Friperie Entraide de l'E.P.E. will open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 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: Garage Sale

A garage sale will be held on **August 19** at 256 Boul. Perron, New Richmond, starting at 8 a.m. A Nordic Trac will be available as well as other household items from two residences. For further info., please call: (418) 392-2725.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: Exhibition by Barry Le Blanc

From **August 2 to 25** at the Cascapedia River Museum, the landscape photographer, Barry Le Blanc, will exhibit striking images of this internationally renowned salmon river. Opening night, Barry Le Blanc will present an audiovisual documentary of 45 minutes where the guests can view nearly 300 photos and listen to seasoned guides speak about their experience on the river. Refreshments will be served. Admission: \$4 members, \$6 non-members.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: 50+ Club Activities

Every Thursday: Dame de Pique at 1 p.m. \$5 per person.
Sunday, August 13: A barbecue will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$10 for adults and \$8 for children under 12 years old.
Friday, August 18: Music Nights. Doors open at 7 p.m.

GESGAPEGIAG: Community Market

A community market will be held in the Galgosiet building on **Saturday, August 26**, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. To reserve a table for \$5, call the band office (Bonnie Jerome) 418-759-3441.

UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, August 13
 New Carlisle, 10:30 a.m.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, August 13

New Carlisle

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Hopetown

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Shigawake

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Port Daniel

7 p.m. Evening Prayer

PARISH OF GASPE

Sunday, August 13

Wakeham

9 a.m. Service

PARISH OF ALL SAINTS BY THE SEA

Sunday, August 13

Malbay

11 a.m. Service

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If your organization is a frequent user of our Coast-Round-Up section of the Spec, we would like to offer you a special deal! For a flat rate of \$60 per year, we will publish all your coast round-up announcements for one year. This should prove financially beneficial and more convenient for you.

If you would like to take part in this deal, just send us your cheque for \$60, with the name and address of your organization. All you have to do is call, email or fax your messages without having the hassle of making individual payments each time!

Please keep in mind that Coast round-ups are \$5 per week, making this plan an even more profitable deal!



Gesgapegiag Mawiomi July 28 - 30, 2017

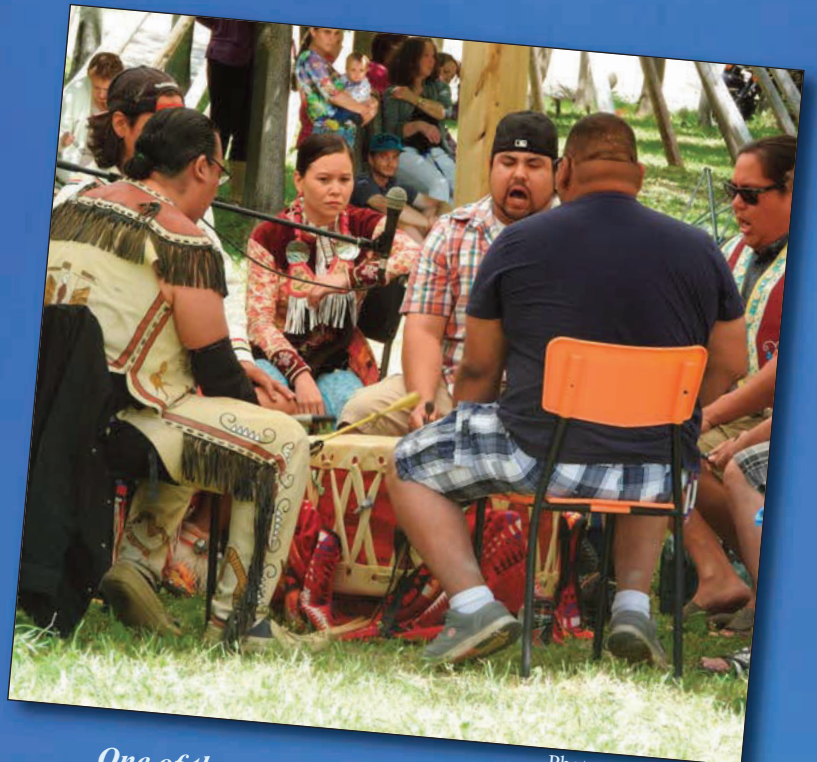
Marshall Billingsley-Leblanc

GESGAPEGIAG - During the weekend of July 28, I had the pleasure of attending a traditional Mi'gmaq gathering in Gesgapegiag. It was the first time that I had seen such an event. I can surely say that it was quite the experience. Knowing very little of what goes on at a traditional Mawiomi gathering, I was certainly impressed by the skills of the drummers and by the intricate outfits that many of the dancers wore in celebration of their culture. The amount of detail in each and every one of these outfits surprised me greatly.

I also had the pleasure of browsing over the many vendor displays. Seeing individuals such as Stephen Jerome and his skill in basketmaking certainly made me glad I decided to attend. You can certainly see the pride that these individuals felt while hosting the annual Mawiomi.

I was very welcomed there and I am forever grateful to those who took the time to explain and talk to me about the events. Their explanations helped me understand how passionate the community is.

Overall, I can say it was certainly an experience and an event that I would attend again! The display of cultural and traditional ways moved me, and I was so glad to see the many cultures in attendance. I would recommend that anyone who has not experienced a POW WOW should do so as soon as they can! You can find a list of dates and locations by searching "Atlantic POW WOW Trail" online.



Photos: M. Billingsley

One of the two drummer groups that attended, "Stoney Bear", from Cape Breton Island, undertook a nine-hour drive to be at this Mawiomi.



A young dancer in traditional regalia performing a grass dance.



More than a dozen vendors were present at the gathering. This photo is an example of a vendor selling sweetgrass braids and handmade decorated baskets.



One of the head dancers of the event, Craig Isaac with another grass dancer.



Background Photo: Darlene Dimock

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