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'My Father's Tools' selected for Sundance Film Festival

Gilles Gagné

GESGAPEGIAG: - My Father's Tools, a short documentary produced in June by Heather Condo of Gesgapegiag, has been selected to be screened at the famous Sundance Film Festival, which will take place between January 19 and 29 at Park City, Utah.

The movie was shot during a session held in Gesby Wapikoni gapegiag Mobile, Quebec's organization supporting Native movie production. Based on a suggestion made by her son, Heather Condo decided to film Stephen Jerome, her boyfriend, working. He is a talented handyman who still produces baskets the way his father taught him.

"I wanted to make the film for years. I have been going out with Stephen for 11 years. I have been watching him work all that time. I wanted people to recognize his work and see the process. I know a filmmaker, Eli Laliberté, who lives close to my place but we could never get our schedules free at the same time.

In 2014, my son Zachary Condo shot 'Where the River Widens' with Wapikoni Mobile. In 2015, Wapikoni didn't visit. I said: "This year, if Wapikoni comes, they will hear from me. I was ready," says Heather Condo.

Born in Gesgapegiag in 1971, she was adopted by her aunt and uncle, and raised in Massachusetts. She came



Photo: Kayla Caplin Photography

Heather Condo.

back to live in the community in 2005.

"I always visited the area. I came for the summers to visit my grandmother and my cousins. I was always rooted here. I moved back after I divorced," she mentions.

'My Father's Tools' was presented on June 30 in Gesgapegiag along with the other short films produced during Wapikoni Mobile's passage. The short film was presented two months later at the Percéides, Percé's international movie festival.

Heather Condo's film won an award and a \$3,500 bursary at the Percéides.

She intends to attend the Sundance Film Festival. "I well.

don't know how yet, but I will go," she says.

'My Father's Tools' is the first Wapikoni Mobile film to make it to the Sundance Film Festival.

The Sundance Film Festival is the biggest event featuring independentlyproduced movies in the United States.

It is a showcase for new work from American and international independent moviemakers.

The last festival drew close to 47,000 attendees.

Stephen Jerome is also very happy about the Sundance outcome. He has been making baskets for 35 years, a trade passed on to him by his father Francis, who passed away in 2002.

"He told me to keep the culture going. It is too bad that I am the only basket maker in the family," he says. However, he has been teaching basket making in his workshop for a little while and there are youth interested in continuing the production.

Stephen Jerome was taught by his father when he was "eight or nine years of age. I helped my father. I was able to make complete baskets at that age.

They are working baskets. They are solid. You can throw them out of a car and they will not be damaged. They used them for potato picking and things like that," points out Stephen Jerome, who wants to go to Utah as

Inside this week



2016 moose hunting season bountiful on the Gaspé



Port Daniel lighthouse receives facelift



Gaspesian forests in good health

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Gilles Martin participates in parade honouring Korean veterans

Gilles Gagné

BONAVENTURE: - Gilles Martin, a Bonaventure veteran who served in the Korean War for over a year (1952-1953), was invited to participate in the Busan Remembrance Day parade in Korea. Former soldiers from 14 countries took part in the South Korean

Mr. Martin was deeply touched by the tribute regarding his contribution as a member of the Canadian Armed Forces, 64 years ago, first as a soldier and later as a member of the peace keeping unit that stayed in Korea until November 1953, several months after the end of the conflict.

"I was honoured to be placed in the front row of veterans walking in the parade. Only five veterans were placed there, in the first row. I was glad to be part of it," says Gilles Martin.

He was in Korea between November 7 and 13. He travelled with his brother. Their stay began with two days in Seoul, and from there, they travelled to Busan for the November 11 Remembrance Day ceremony.

"We are always greeted with a big ceremony at the airport. (...) This year, 14 countries were represented. There were 89 guests, including three Canadians. All together there were 40 veterans. The other guests were people who accompanied us, such as my brother. The Government of Korea paid 50% of my plane ticket fees and 30% of my brother's. Once in the country, there was no cost for us. Transportation, meals and lodging were all free. They gave us gifts and we stayed in upscale hotels," points out Mr. Martin.

The Remembrance Day ceremony was held at the United Memorial Cemetery of Korea, in Busan. "There are 379 Canadians buried there, including some people from my division," he says.

He was especially happy to take part because he spent a good part of 2016 recovering from a very serious mid-January surgery during which he had his bladder, one kidney and his prostate removed.

"I spent 13 hours on the operating table and then in the intensive care unit at the Hôtel-Dieu hospital (in Quebec City). So my presence in Korea was doubly emotional,



Photo credit: Courtesy of Gilles Martin.

Mr. Martin appears on the left, with the Canadian flag.

considering the state of my health in January. I didn't think I would make it back to Korea at the time. I recovered fast because I am well surrounded, by relatives and friends. If I had been alone in life in January, I would have stayed in my living room and waited to die," explains Gilles

He thinks "it probably was my last trip to Korea." He pauses and adds, "it was surely my last trip." At 83 years of age though, he is still considering making a parachute jump two years down the road, the year of his 85th birthday. "If I am still healthy, I will," adds the man who has been making parachute jumps every fifth year for decades.

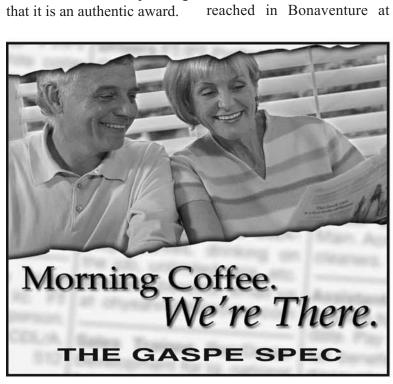
In 2013, Gilles Martin was also in Korea, to receive the Ambassador for peace medal, and a certificate explaining

Speaking of the medal, he takes the opportunity to remind Gaspesians who have deceased relatives who were stationed in Korea during the 1950-1953 war that they can apply for the Ambassador for peace medal.

"Living veterans have received the medal. The Government of Korea is looking for veterans that have not received it during their lifetime. Korea is giving it out posthumously," says Mr. Martin.

Since he received the medal in 2013, his efforts and the work of some other veterans to find other recipients have yielded good results, as 39 residents of the Gaspé Peninsula, Lower Lawrence and Northern New Brunswick who served in Korea have also received the Ambassador for peace award.

Gilles Martin can be





Promoting winter tourism

Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ PENINSULA: - For a second year, the Gaspésie Tourism Association is launching a campaign that promotes the Gaspesian winter and its activities. All in all, \$85,000 will be invested over the next few weeks in different platforms, including social media, websites and printed newspapers. The Association will also be present at a snowmobile exposition. "We have to promote our beautiful region in the winter season also. There's so much to see and to do. There's great skiing and snowmobile trails," said the Association's spokesperson, Stéphanie Thibaud, to Spec. The markets and the clientele targeted according to Ms. Thibaud are Montreal, Quebec, the United States and New Brunswick.

Can you help a child?

Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ: - The Greater Gaspé area is in desperate need of families that could host a child. The Gaspésie Health and Social Services Center says that a minimum of three to five hosting homes are necessary to fill the need. "We have children of all ages, from a few weeks old to seventeen. If families outside of the Greater Gaspé area can help out, we would be glad to hear from them," the CISSS' spokesperson, Connie Jacques, told Spec. For further information, please call Caroline Cyr at 418 368-2306 (ext.5010)

Students win provincial contest on digital citizenship

Averill Huxter

ESCUMINAC: - The students in Mrs. Averill Huxter's class at Escuminac School were asked to write scripts about a digital citizenship issue. Students wrote on several different issues, but the script by Mason Clement about online bullying was chosen to produce and record. The completed video starring Cassy Court, Sara Jerome, Allie Coburn and Julian Fitzgerald was recorded at school and then edited and submitted to a contest created by digitalcitizenshipquebec.ca

The contest invited teachers in the nine English School Boards to create and submit projects that explored an aspect of digital citizenship. The video Mrs Huxter's class submitted was the winning entry in the provincial contest. The students won a gift certificate to be spent on something for the class- they have chosen to buy a screen printing press. Their winning video can be viewed at www.digitalcitizenshipquebec.ca

The website digitalcitizenshipquebec.ca is a site developed by teachers and librarians of the English education community of Quebec in collaboration with the Ministry of Education.

How a person behaves in the online world is digital citizenship. Digital citizenship is a skill like all other skills that must be practiced to be learned. While most programs on computers and tablets may be plug and play, or swipe and scroll till you figure it out; how a person acts ethically online must be taught. Plagiarism, phishing, online footprints, advertising and cyberbullying are all terms that students must understand so that they can maintain their psychological well being in the real world once the computer is turned off.





Photo: G. Gagné

The CHNC Radio building is for sale, management is looking for a smaller place to rent.

CHNC building for sale

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: – CHNC, the radio station established in New Carlisle since 1933, could move to a neighbouring town, either Paspebiac, Bonaventure or Saint-Siméon. The management of the company has been trying to sell its building since the beginning of 2016. The price tag is \$149,000.

CHNC director general Brigitte Paquet points out that the first choice of the cooperative would be to find a buyer for the building, a buyer that would renovate it and rent out part of it to the radio station.

"We would rather stay in the New Carlisle building but as a tenant. We would be relieved of the maintenance chores. It would take a new owner willing to renovate it and renting part of it to us. Another tenant could rent the second floor. We have weighed many options and we don't want to deal with the \$100,000 to \$250,000 that would have to be invested in the building. For us, it wouldn't be profitable, considering that our core business is operating a radio station. We want to concentrate on that aspect, not real estate," explains Ms. Paquet.

CHNC was bought in 2007 by its employees, who acquired it from former owner Arthur Houde, the son of the founder. The radio station switched to the FM band in December 2008 after a significant investment.

Brigitte Paquet was hired in 2010. She and her work colleagues then realized that another investment was necessary in the short term.

"Our supplier of broadcasting equipment, a company based in Montreal, made some big mistakes and we had to reinvest \$300,000 in equipment, antennas, towers and transmitters. We didn't receive any grant for that. It was urgent work because the reliability of our broadcasting is our image. We also had to extend our territory to Rivière-au-Renard. The money we had to invest went there. The actual building is not well divided for our needs and it is not well insulated, sound-wise. It is also too big. We need 2,500 square feet and we have 3,500 on the main floor and a total of 6,000 square feet if we include the second floor, unused at the present time," says Brigitte Paquet.

"We have met the Town of New Carlisle twice to check to see if another building could suit our needs. So far, we haven't found any. We are not giving up but I must say that some business people from neighbouring towns are interested in having us as tenants," she adds.

"It would make me sad to leave New Carlisle. We have been here for 83 years, since Charles Houde, a dentist, founded it in 1933. It was his home too. That's a long tradition. It wouldn't be called "CHNC New Carlisle" anymore," she points out.

"We cover the territory between Matapedia and Rivière-au-Renard. Our
geographical centre is Chandler. However, 11 of our 12
employees live in the Baie
des Chaleurs area. A move to
Chandler would not make
sense for our employees.
They have families and their
wives or husbands wouldn't
be in a position to move too,"
says Ms. Paquet.

CHNC is profitable. However, Brigitte Paquet explains that the radio world is changing rapidly.

"We have to manage tightly and soundly. We are operating in a saturated market. Social media is competing with regional radio stations. Renting space makes sense because if we need improvements, we only have to ask our landlord," she emphasizes.

The management of CHNC wanted to deal with the building issue in 2016 but it didn't pan out. "We now want to make a decision about the building and our space in 2017. We want to sell the building before the end of 2017," says Ms. Paquet.

Police report

On December 9 and 10 at the New Carlisle courthouse, Attorney Marcel Guérin, representing Réal Savoie in the Sonia Raymond murder case presented a motion for change of venue and a motion to have the defendant charged separately on one or more counts. Superior Court Judge Louis Dionne disallowed both motions.

On the motion of change of venue, Attorney Guérin argued that because of the media attention in the case, and weak demographics sampling in the Bonaventure judicial district, it was unlikely to empanel an impartial jury and have a fair trial. He argued that press clippings of April 2014, and the December 5, 2016 vigil in front of the courthouse regarding the Polytechnique School massacre was prejudicial to the defendant. Crown prosecutor Gérald Maltais replied that the press clippings date back to April 14, 2014, practically three years before the March 2017 jury selection, and that potential jurors will not remember the details of the clippings after such an interval. He also pointed out that the December 5 vigil was motivated by the commemoration of the Polytechnique School massacre not the trial.

"To justify a change of venue, one must prove damage to reputation, a lot of publicity before the trial. We don't see that here. Potential jurors could have heard about the case and still be in a position to make decisions with regards to admissible evidence," noted Gérald Maltais.

Regarding the weak demographic sampling Gérald Maltais mentioned that the 32,725 inhabitants of the judicial district of Bonaventure were sufficient to find 12 impartial jurors given that Sonia Raymond was murdered in July 1996.

He also pointed out that it was possible in 2006 and 2010, in the judicial district of Bonaventure to find two juries for the first two trials of Bertram Dow, accused of murdering retired teacher Russell Duguay. The jurors were found in the Anglophone community, much smaller than the Francophone community. "There is a way to find 12 jurors amongst the Francophones," said Mr. Maltais.

Judge Dionne allowed the arguments submitted by the crown prosecutor and added that the first five weeks of the trial, which consisted essentially of voir dire testimonies, were conducted "in calm and serenity."

Judge Dionne disallowed the motion of Attorney Guérin to have the accused tried separately on the count of murder and on the counts of sexual assault and forcible confinement. The judge ruled that the events occurred during the same sequence of facts and that the three counts were part of the same event.

The case will resume on Thursday, December 15 at which time Judge Dionne will render a decision regarding the admissibility of the evidence heard since the beginning of the trial on November 7. If the evidence is ruled admissible, the continuance of the trial will be set to March 13, 2017, beginning with jury selection. Five weeks are scheduled for that second part of the trial.





Editorial page



Commentary Gilles Gagné

Quebec government's report card

Very few Quebec government cabinet members dealt directly with Gaspé Peninsula issues in 2016, a bad sign for Philippe Couillard's regime because it means that his government has failed to address very important topics, not only at the regional level but provincially.

The list of ministers that have flunked their year regarding regional stakes is staggering. It is a sign that they hardly understand the issues, when they have to deal with topics that are of concern outside Montreal and Quebec City. It goes like this, in alphabetical order:

Dominique Anglade, minister of the Economy: She intervened in June to "save" the Port Daniel cement plant project, marred by a \$444 million cost overrun. She and the other members of Philippe Couillard's government probably think that they have thus dealt with the only issue of importance to the Gaspé Peninsula. They seem to ignore that much smaller finely tuned interventions could give significantly better results, proportionately. Grade: C

Gaétan Barrette, minister of Health and Social services: He cannot support any question regarding his decisions. His Optilab reform, which will lead to the concentration of most laboratory tests in a very limited number of hospitals, none in the Gaspé Peninsula, can only yield disasters, considering the distances between Maria, Gaspé, Chandler and Sainte-Anne-des-Monts, on one side, and Rimouski, where a super laboratory is supposed to be set up. Three weeks away from

the official implementation of Optilab, we have yet to get the information on how it will be applied. Besides that, most people working in the health sector are demobilized. It is the last thing you want to see when a reform like the one pushed by Minister Barrette is being organized. He needs followers but his autocratic demeanor is turning people away. Grade: F

Martin Coiteux, minister of Municipal Affairs and Public Safety: The former minister of Treasury Board looked light years away from being interested in his new responsibilities. Yet, he passed the test, despite being cold-mannered in a field where he has to multiply exchanges with human beings like mayors and prefects. He recently submitted a bill that will increase the autonomy of municipalities. Now, at the regional level, such a law must be backed by rules that will encourage younger mayoral candidates to make the jump without jeopardizing their professional future. In other terms, the government must encourage the candidacies of full-time mayors, even in small towns. We are still far from that. Grade: A-

Phillipe Couillard, Premier: Every premier should make sure to stay connected to the 17 regions of Quebec by visiting each of them, however shortly, once a year. In 32 months since the April 2014 poll, Premier Couillard has not once set foot on the Gaspé Peninsula. He probably figures that coming on the last day of the electoral campaign cleared him from coming back for one term, especially considering that his party has not been able to get one candidate elected in the Gaspé Peninsula. Mr. Couillard has been desperately weak on solving regional issues over almost three years of power, except for his Lac-Saint-Jean riding. He also bears some responsibility for the positions taken and the decisions made by other cabinet members, given the level of centralization of his government. Grade: F

Laurent Lessard, minister of Transport: He has only been there since the end of August, and the last few months were somewhat ruined by an investigation on his ethics, or lack thereof, over the last few years. He was almost cleared but he remains a potential liability for the government. His lack of action regarding all aspects of regional transport, not only the railway but bus services, aerial services and the survival of regional wharves is distressing. He is far from a leader. Grade: F

Pierre Paradis, minister of Agriculture and Fisheries: He is almost invisible, despite the economic importance of his department for Quebec's rural regions. He has reached a point of no-return regarding his relations with Union des producteurs agricoles. Most Quebec farmers have lost faith in this government's capacity to understand them. Mr. Paradis should have retired two terms ago. He seethes indifference. His involvement in commercial fisheries is null, except that he attended the Magdalen Islands' lobster trap laying ceremony on a couple of occasions. It is a highly symbolic gesture that has not yielded significant overall results for the fishermen. He is sort of saved because commercial fisheries are experiencing a good swing, economically. Grade: F

Sébastien Proulx, minister of Education and minister responsible for the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands: As minister of Education, he has shown a better approach than his predecessor, François Blais, a rather hermetic former Université Laval administrator. However, his consultation on educational success thoroughly lacked planning and room for the field's stakeholders. As minister responsible for the region, he has shown an incredible lack of vision, efficiency, action and availability, not necessarily in that order. The fact that he has filled that responsibility for almost 11 months now without announcing any significant investment for the Matapedia to Gaspé railway justifies amply his failure grade. He will probably stay as Education minister but we can only hope for another person in charge of the Gaspé Peninsula following the expected January cabinet shuffle.

etters to the Editor

I 'd like to acknowledge Gilles Gagne's Editorial Commentary, (A double defeat in Percé) in the Dec.07, edition of the Spec.

It was well written and provided an informative and non biased account of the issues. However, I believe it was unfair to say the no vote "has backfired in Mr. Daniel and Mr. Methot's faces because they have lost their power."

We all live in a democracy, a system of government that we cherish and protect, a government for the people - by the people. Referendums are very much a part of our governing institutions to the mayor and his councilors. There were alter-

providing the process that insures governing by the people.

We place high trust in our elected government representatives and expect that they will carry out the wishes of the people to the best of their abilities.

Strong leaders do not abandon, give up or disown those people who put that trust in them. Strong leaders know how to accept and deal with criticism, disagreement and even defeat.

To place any blame on Mr. Robert Daniel and Mr. Methot is totally unjust. They had every right to express a difference of opinion on building a commercial street. They had every right and did a good job of bringing the voice of their constituents natives put forward; the wharf in Percé, the shoreline in Percé, additional municipal improvements.

In my opinion Mayor Andre Boudreau and his five councillors acted totally irresponsibly and unprofessionally. They did not acknowledge or accept the voice of the people and move forward to fulfil their responsibilities. Instead they jumped ship and left a lot of people to fend for themselves.

I am confident that at the end of the day the people of Percé will prevail and good will come from this. As Mr Gagne says "If the next municipal council can work on building bridges, Perce will progress significantly."

Tony Conoley, Douglastown, Quebec

The spirit deepens in the "Deck of Halls" when you hear that Christmas soft music in living rooms, kitchens and in stores. New Carlisle reaches out enormously with that warm feeling of festival season when we see many homes lighting up with flashing lights and Christmas symbols of blessings and peace. When we drive our vehicles in the frosty still nights, imagining or hearing the echo of Christmas carols in the distance, New Carlisle residents can experience the true meaning of yuletide blessings with family, friends and love ones. With many colorful tightly wrapped gifts under each decorated tree and the fresh smell of homemade goodies hidden somewhere near by, we will surely feel that optimism of true joy and happiness of today and tomorrow. Why not extend the meaning of "deck of halls" in New Carlisle with the continuous symbols of happiness, peace and unconditional love throughout 2017 and beyond...

> Ken Ross New Carlisle, Quebec



128 Gérard D. Levesque, New Carlisle, Que. G0C 1Z0 Tel: 418-752-5070, 752-5400 FAX: 752-6932 specs@globetrotter.net www.gaspéspec.com

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Gaspé's Home Page: www.gogaspé.com

2016 moose hunting season bountiful on the Gaspé

Gilles Gagné

CAPLAN: - Up to 4,937 moose were killed by hunters during the 2016 big game season in the Gaspé Peninsula, a slight decrease of 2% compared to 2015 and a 6% decrease compared to the average of the last five years. Gaspesian biologist, Martin Dorais nevertheless qualifies this year's season as excellent.

Of the 4,937 moose killed, 921 were from wildlife reserves and 35 were hunted by the Natives of the Gaspé Peninsula. The reserves are Dunière, Matane, Chic-Chocs and Port Daniel. Dunière and Matane bear the highest concentrations of moose.

"We are talking about minor variations. The harvest has been really strong since 2007. It (the slight decrease) is not a cause of concern. We will see how it goes next year. The decrease is slight and could be tied to the way the hunting packages are designed on the reserves. Some years, they change the modalities in order to increase or reduce the number of females, for example, and it has an effect on hunting results," explains Mr. Dorais.

The 921 moose killed on the reserves of Dunière, Port Daniel, Chic Chocs and Matane represent a slight increase of 5% compared to 2015, but a decrease of 11% compared to the average of the last five years. "There, as well, the variations could stem from the way the reserves determine their hunting patterns and the goals they want to reach, like a reduction in the number of males or females," explains Mr. Dorais.

The moose herd is in good shape, he insists. "There are between 11 and 15 moose per square kilometre in the Chic Chocs Reserve. The Matane Reserve concentration is between 30 and 33 moose per square kilometre. It was 48 back in 2006 but it was decided to reduce it. It was too high of a concentration," adds Mr. Dorais. He emphasizes that the number of moose killed in the Gaspé Peninsula far surpasses the proportion of the Quebec territory representing the habitat for that species.

"The harvest in the Gaspé Peninsula represents more than 20% of the moose killed in Quebec. We only have a territory of 26,000 square kilometres. The wood cut in our forest makes it younger and that condition is good for moose," remarks the biolo-

Precisely, the Gaspé Peninsula harvest is 22.8% of Quebec's total, which amounts to 21,649 moose. In the region, the number of females killed was 1,376, while the number of males was 2,954, slightly more than twice as many. The number of calves amounts to 607 animals. Up to 777 moose were killed by hunters using crossbows, while 87 animals were killed with a bow and

The Gaspé Peninsula was the region in Quebec where the highest number of moose were killed. Lower Saint Lawrence came in second place with 4,280 animals.

Moose hunting represents big spinoffs in the Gaspé Peninsula, especially considering the proportion of hunters coming from elsewhere and converging to the area in September and October.

"The spinoffs total at least \$25 million, based on the fact that the number of permits is 25,000 annually and that surveys have shown that each hunter spends at least \$1,000 on that hobby annually," says Mr. Dorais.

Ticks are still quite present

Martin Dorais points out that between 95% and 97% of the moose are carrying ticks, a parasite that sucks the animal's blood to such an extent that sometimes he becomes very weak and displays erratic behaviour.

"On the average, it is not a worrying presence. Most moose have the capacity to deal with ticks. The tick concentration becomes higher when the spring is mild. The eggs develop on the ground where it is not covered with snow and then the ticks find an animal. Fall's mating period is likely to increase the propagation of ticks from one animal to the other. Ticks will go from one animal to another when they are confined to a small area. So installing salt blocks will keep the animals in a small area. It would be easier to reduce the number of ticks in tough conditions like the winters of yesteryears but we have no control over that factor. Diminishing the concentration of moose in some areas would help, but it would not please some hunters," concludes Martin Dorais.

Canadian Wildlife Federation brings environmental education workshops to Gaspé

Jeannie LeLacheur

DOUGLASTOWN: - The Canadian Wildlife Federation recently brought its Project Wild and Below Zero workshops to the coast. With the help of Contact Environment, SOS Bats and facilitated by Fletcher Jerome of Listuguj. A bilingual professional development training in environmental education was held on November 5 at the Douglastown Community Centre.

Sixteen participants from diverse backgrounds took part, and Mr. Jerome was "especially happy to see the English French and Mi'kmaq communities come together to work towards a healthier environment in the region."

"Currently at least 600 plus species of plants and animals are at risk of being lost from Canada and the Canadian Wildlife Federation works to provide the means for individuals and communities to take action and be a part of the solution."

The Project Wild and Below Zero workshops were the first of their kind in the area; an activity designed to introduce the guidelines and



Photo: J. LeLacheur

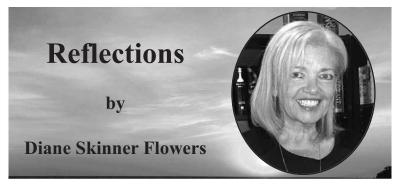
Participants in the Canadian Wildlife Federation Project Wild and Below Zero professional development training. Far right Fletcher Jerome, facilitator from Listiguj.

program materials during the foray into the wild world of environmental education. According to participants it was also an incredible opportunity to meet like-minded individuals and to share future aspirations for environmental The gathering education. marked the beginning of a network of committed advocates for giving back the love of nature to children and adults and creating awareness about the pressing issues including species at risk. WILD Education which is also aimed at youth group and community leaders had three young participants: Dylan Clark, the species at risk technician in the SOS Bats project, high school student, Taylor Clark, who is doing a work training with SOS Bats and Amy Fournier, all took part in preparation for a future role in a developing environmental youth group.

The training was well received by a variety of educators and concerned community members; all with an interest in future environmental education activities. The group shared the excitement of discovery and the knowledge that they were not alone in their quest to re- connect youth to nature and offer concrete support to the earth and its species program activities that focus on wildlife and the environment.

Requests for future workshops have already been requested and a representative of Contact Environment will take part in the facilitator training in the new year. For more information about the Canadian Wildlife Federation and its programs and activities please visit their website or to set-up a local training call 581-887-2763.

"In the end, we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand and we will understand only what we are taught."— Baba Dioum



A Plump Little Partridge...

'Twas the night before Christmas, all along the Gaspé, Not a creature was stirring even out on the Bay. The stockings were hung up with binder twine. We were eating grandma's cookies, that suited us just fine.

A plump little partridge stood out in the snow, A proud father buck and a cute little doe. A light dusting of snow covered the bales And grandmas were telling the wee ones some tales.

"On the Coast, little dears, some 200 years past, Came settlers so hearty and also steadfast. They were tough and brave: struggling to survive After harsh, stormy seas they were grateful to be alive.

They came to the Gaspé from far, far away, From Scotland, France and Ireland. I'd like to say That some lived here before us in this gorgeous land -Mi'kmaq: They're natives, something you should understand.

Some were Acadians who settled here too From what is now Nova Scotia. New Brunswick, maybe you knew? From Islands called Guernsey and Jersey my child They came here to these shores where the forests grew wild.

And then there's the Loyalists, loyal to the Crown Loyal to Britain, they came here...not even a town. They were given 200 acres and some grain and an axe They worked very hard. No time to relax.

They farmed and they fished and they made their own way And the descendants of them live here to this day. And you must stand tall and be very proud. They fished in the lakes. The land they plowed.

So if you are Gaspesian don't ever forget, That the blood of these ancestors flow through you yet. You know who you are. You're from the Gaspé Whether you're living here or maybe away.

Now hush go to sleep for Santa is near. And when you awake in the morning my dear The sun will be shining on the new fallen snow But remember the Gaspé wherever you go!"

Merry Christmas to all Gaspesians living here or away.

Gaspesian forests in good health

"I want to reassure the Gaspé Peninsula forestry industry that your forests are in good health globally"

Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ PENINSULA: There's not always bad news in the Gaspé peninsula, there's also good news and this time it concerns our forests. They are in good health, confirmed Louis Pelletier, Quebec Forester in Chief to Spec. The only problem that has to be taken seriously is the spruce budworm epidemic that is slowly getting into the

Since 2005 the Forester in Chief has been in charge of calculating and announcing the number of cubic meters of forest that can be exploited in all 60 public units of the province. He publishes a report every five years and his scientific data is updated on a yearly basis. His latest report was published in November. It covers the period between 2018-2023. Thus, starting April 1, 2018 the exploitation of the forest is set at 34.3 million cubic meters per year until 2023. That's a small increase of 1.6 million cubic meters per year compared to the previous period (2013-2018).

Numbers for the Gaspé

On the Gaspé Coast the numbers are the following: the three public units (Bay of Chaleur, Pointe-de-la-Gaspésie and Haute-Gaspésie) can be exploited on a yearly basis up to 1 959 800 m3 (2018-2023) a slight in-



Photo: Government of Quebec

Louis Pelletier, Quebec Forester in Chief.

crease compared to the previous period (1, 923,300 m3 from 2015-2018). The type of trees are mainly birch, poplar, maple, thuya, red and white pine and spruce, "I want to reassure the Gaspé Peninsula forest industry that your forests are in good health globally. I visited your forests last fall. You have beautiful forests and they grow well. Therefore, the compilation of our data concerning your forests validates the fact that we can continue with the same amount of forest that can be exploited compared to the previous period. There's a slight increase," he said. He added that, "the problem that

has to be carefully looked at is the spruce budworm epidemic that has started on the North Shore. Then it reached the Lower St-Lawrence region and it has started to get in from the west side of the Gaspé Coast."

There are solutions to reduce the damage, he concludes. One of those is to cut and recuperate the wood as quickly as possible in order to diminish the epidemic and generate an economic activity. The other solution that is used is spraying a biological product called the BT. "It doesn't eradicate the problem, but it diminishes its consequences."

Group draws attention to violence against women

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: - 35 people, mostly women but also a few men, gathered in front of the New Carlisle court house on December 6 to commemorate the Montreal Polytechnic School massacre, which occurred on the same date in 1989, claiming 14 lives.

The vigil had many purposes, such as informing the population of the necessity to eliminate violence against women and convincing the government to strengthen the tools to counter that violence. In 1991, December 6 became Canada's National Day of commemoration and action to eliminate violence against women.

The vigil was organized by



Photo: G. Gagné

Approximately 35 people participated in the vigil, including Gesgapegiag's Jeannette Martin and Darlene Jerome, on the right.

Bonaventure's Femmes en mouvement and Carleton's Centr'Elles, the two Bay of Chaleur organizations providing support to women. The event began with a song performed by Gesgapegiag's Darlene Jerome and Jeannette Martin and also included a theatre skit about consent. The consent skit was about being offered a cup of tea and comparing it to a proposal to have sex. A woman can say yes, and might change her mind by not drinking it, or not even accepting the cup despite the tea being prepared. One shouldn't make a woman drink tea if she is unconscious. Lastly, a woman that accepted to drink tea a week ago will

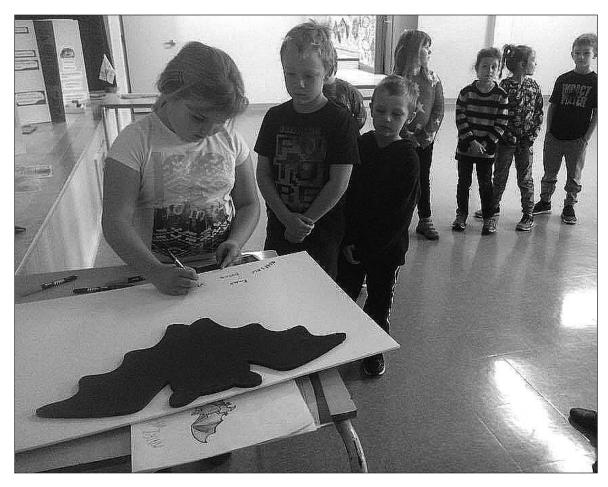
Cont'd on page 10

Did you say you adopted a bat?

Jeanie **LeLacheur**

BELLE ANSE: - As part of an awareness campaign and efforts to change public opinion concerning bats, Contact Environment and SOS Bats recently carried out symbolic adoptions of the little brown bat at Belle Anse and Gaspé Elementary schools. Dylan and Taylor Clark of the SOS Bats project lead the students through the Symbolic Adoption, patiently taking time to answer questions and perhaps more importantly listen to the ideas and stories of the students. A highlight for Taylor was when one of the students explained how, "bats swoop down and skim the water to drink." The adoption kits purchased from the Canadian Wildlife Federation include a plush little brown bat, an All About Bats poster, information about White-nose syndrome and an official adoption certificate. The kits will remain in the school as a means to continue discussions and create awareness about the little brown bat and the conservation needs of species at risk bats in general.

The first time an activity of this kind took place in local schools it was welcomed and supported by Principal Beryl Boyle who played a major role in preparing for the events. Students



Belle Anse elementary school signing the adoption certificate poster - grade 1 and 2.

and teachers alike were enthusiastic about the presentation and even teachers who admitted to being a little afraid of bats were on board to try and help spread the word.

Teachers at both schools were asked to "prep" their students by introducing bats before the activity and it would seem took the request very seriously as hands flew up as students were asked what they knew about bats and eagerly shared their new found knowledge.

SOS Bats wanted to share the seriousness of the bat situation with students but also wanted the activity to be fun so used information centres in an interactive activity where students could ask questions and discuss their bat knowledge in an informal setting.

Stations included the First Nations community Gespeg and its role in the project, migratory and resident bat species of our area,

and of course the infamous Vampire Bat that doesn't live here. An echolocation and acoustic monitoring station allowed students to hear a bat call and see it in real time with an Echo-Meter 3 that is used extensively in community bat monitoring grams. White nose syndrome was also discussed and students got to see a picture of the bat that confirmed WNS in the Gaspe.

On a happier note students got to sign the adoption

poster and color a take-home bat picture to initiate discussions with parents. The main message to students was that bats are useful (they eat mosquitoes), and a special emphasis was placed on the fact that they should never ever under any circumstances touch a bat (or any wild animal) they may find but instead tell their parents or another adult who will know what to do.

How can we help?, is the big question and although there is admittedly no magic wand, awareness that there is a problem is the first step and a willingness to help is in fact a start. In the coming weeks and months SOS Bats will be initiating other activities and an awareness campaign. Please stay tuned. Contact Environment would also like to acknowledge the Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk who is funding the SOS Bats initiative.

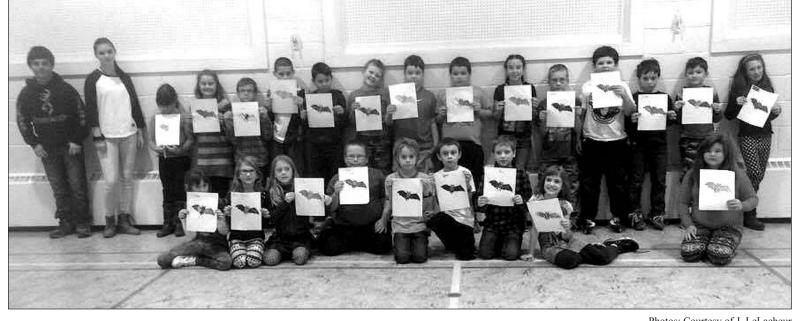


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Photos: Courtesy of J. LeLacheur

Gaspe Elementary School Grade 4 far left Dylan Clark and Taylor Clark.



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Family Ties – A stepping stone becomes a foundation

Wendy **Dawson**

NEW CARLISLE: – Little did Heather MacWhirter know, embarking on what was a nine-month pilot project with the CLSC in 1995, that she was setting out on the first step of a long career in community service.

Now the agency's executive director, Heather MacWhirter has seen Family Ties grow from what was at its inception a small and simple playschool, to a pillar of the New Carlisle Community. "In the beginning and for a variety of reasons, there was an image problem," says Heather, "but, before long more people came to Family Ties than did not, which proved there was a real need for the services that we were offering."

The idea behind Family Ties came from the inspiration and with the support of the CLSC and ESSB. A small team comprised of Andre Marcoux, Alain Mailloux, Tammy Leblanc, Terry Maloney and Margaret Leblanc came together to provide and recommend a solution to an observation that Anglophone children showed wide discrepancies in their level of preparedness when entering pre-kindergarten.

Terry Maloney, who represented the school board on the original committee and who sits on Family Ties board of directors today, explains, "The CLSC was presented with the challenge of addressing the preparedness of kids heading into school, and they really came through big time. Nothing would have taken off without their support and their ability to provide the infrastructure that was needed to set-up Family Ties. "However the way it has blossomed from there is because of the commitment of the numerous volunteers and employees over the years."

The original daycare was modeled after and loosely based on the Headstart program – a program that offers early learning in the style of

the famous childhood television program called Sesame Street. There were two groups of 10 children that attended the daycare every day.

As Heather MacWhirter points out however, the day-care was not just about the children, it was also about the parents. "They were coming together, they were participating, they were socializing."

In those exchanges, Family Ties could identify another priority in the region and that was to address food security. Before long, Family Ties was able to set-up a garden on a property that had been loaned to them by the family of Curtis Huntington. Mothers whose children were participating in the play school cleared and prepared Family Ties' first food garden.

It was only a short time after its legal incorporation in November of 1996 that Family Ties was able to purchase the building in which the organization currently resides.

"That was a big step," explains Heather MacWhirter, "Purchasing the building gave us a real physical foundation and with it some leverage." The permanence of the organization's structure made it easier to approach potential funding partners and acquire funding.

The early goal of the CLSC and the Family Ties organization to provide local Anglophone families with a solid foundation has clearly materialized.

When asked about its longevity, Heather MacWhirter explains, "Family Ties is really about the families and we have taken our cues from them over time. When the first group of children aged out of daycare and into school, the parents were still interested in doing something together and for their children, so we started youth groups. There was a need for a library so we developed a library – the only English library on the Coast. There have been parenting workshops and collective



Photos: Courtesy of Heather MacWhirte

The first group of children at Family Ties in 1995.



Photograph of the Culture Club, taken in May 2016. Culture Club is for youth ages 5-8.

cooking. It's always been about the families."

A long way from its original beginnings as a daycare, Family Ties is now a model community organization, an

award-winning agency whose impact can be felt among a full generation of families on the Coast.

Over the course of the next year, community mem-

bers and families alike can help celebrate the important contribution that Family Ties has made to the community and help shape the vision for its future.



Christmas Memories

Christmas time then wasn't the same as it is now.

I remember when I got my first toboggan, which Danny and I shared, and my sister got a doll that year. I remember every year we had a big party at Dad's house, because he had a big house; the party was always there.

Mr. Leo Hottot and Mr. Alfred Hottot used to come back with Mr. Jack Ross to the Christmas party every year.

Everyone back then drove a horse and sleigh. I remember Danny and I would go outside and listen for the horse bells coming back the lane. We could hear the horses coming with their bells.

We would get so excited to have people coming for the party.

Watching and listening for the horses and their bells is one of my favorite Christmas memories.





Grade 4 students learn about the Battle of Hong Kong

Tom Eden

NEW RICHMOND: - 75 years ago this month, over 200 Gaspesians, for the most part members of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Rifles of Canada, a unit which made up half of the Canadian contingent sent halfway around the world to defend an isolated British colony, took part in the Battle of Hong Kong.

Philip Doddridge of New Richmond, now 94, was a 19year-old, rosy-cheeked, infantryman when forces of the Japanese Imperial Army attacked on December 8, 1941. He was one of 52 men from the immediate vicinity of his hometown to have fought in Hong Kong. After weeks of fierce fighting, on Christmas Day 1941, the British Governor of the colony surren-

Gaspé. All were members of the Royal Rifles of Canada.

This past Remembrance Day, teacher Darlene Dimock's New Richmond High School grade 4 class attended the annual ceremony at the local Cenotaph, along with students from grades 5 to 9. In attendance, was Mr. Doddridge, and an immediate connection was made between the Battle of Hong Kong Veteran and the students. Given Mr. Doddridge's career in education, as a teacher, school principal and school board general director, he is a natural at interacting with kids, and it didn't take long for a connection to be

"The class was very excited to see him. Some were impressed by the medals,



Photos: Courtesy of Tom Eder

Veteran Philip Doddridge with grade 4 students.

the battle, this seemed an opportunity to take the learning just a couple of steps further.

5-6 teacher, Lucy Jane Casey-Campbell, on her travels to Normandy," Ms. Dimock said. "In addition to watching YouTube videos featuring Mr. Doddridge, they watched

> the War Amps film entitled 'We Are Remembered'. Finally, it was decided that the class would write Mr. Doddridge a letter, and that a

copy would be left at the Sai Wan Cemetery in Hong Kong. A short video was made of the delivery, which the students then watched on YouTube. "You just know that it will be something that

the students will remember

for a long time," said Ms. Dimock, "It is important that their contribution (Canadian Veterans) be remembered and that the students of today be able to pass on their sto-

For his part, Mr. Doddridge, who received the letter from Ms. Dimock as a copy was left in Hong Kong, reacted this way. "I am overwhelmed. This is the best Remembrance project."

The video, which contains excerpts from the letter, can be viewed by using the search terms "NRHS, Letter, Hong Kong" at YouTube.com



The letter was left at the Stone of Sacrfice at the Sai Wan Cemetery in Hong Kong.

dered, and the Canadians were taken prisoner. 44 months of hard labour, physical and mental abuse, starvation, and disease would follow.

The New Richmond area alone saw thirteen of its sons lose their lives either in the fighting or in the prisoner of war camps. Today, only 17 Canadian Veterans of the Battle of Hong Kong remain. Four of them live on the Gaspé Coast, Mr. Doddridge, Messrs Robert Barter of Grand Cascapedia, Paul Dallain of New Carlisle, and Hong Kong for the 75th an- in general. "The class was William MacWhirter Sr. of niversary of the beginning of given a presentation by Grade

some remembered seeing interviews that he had given which are on the internet and knew how much he had done," said teacher Darlene Dimock, adding, "Others just felt respect for the man. He was so open with the students and willing to answer their questions."

Shortly thereafter a series of photographs taken that morning made their way around social media. As a friend of Mr. Doddridge, who was in the midst of final preparations for a trip to

I contacted Ms. Dimock and asked if there was any way we could develop a project that could get the kids to learn a little more about Hong Kong, with special attention to the price paid by the local soldiers, and make it coincide with the trip? The answer was a quick "Yes."

Over the next few weeks, the kids learned more about not only the Battle of Hong Kong, but of the remarkable military service tradition of the New Richmond/Gesgapegiag/Cascapedia St-Jules area

AVIS D'OBTENTION DE CLAIMS

AUX PROPRIETAIRES LOCATAIRES DE L'ETAT ET TITULAIRES DE BAUX **EXCLUSIFS** D'EXPLOITATION DE **SUBSTANCES** MINERALES DE SURFACE A LA MUNICIPALITE DE CANTON



Mesdames, Messieurs

Conformement a l'article 65 de la Loi sur les mines, nous vous avisons que nous avons obtenu le ou les claims suivants : CDC numeros 2466700, 2466701, 2466702, 2466703, 2466704, 2466705, 2466706, 2466707, 2466708, 2466709, 2466710, 2466711, 2466712, 2466713, 2466714, 2466715, 2466716, 2466717, 2466718, 2466719, 2466720, 2466721, 2466722, 2466723 sur un terrain qui vous appartient ou qui est visé par un bail que vous avez conclu avec l'État, et est situé sur le territoire de la municipalité mentionnée ci-dessus

Une claim est un droit exclusif de rechercher des substances minérales sur le terrain qui en fait l'objet. Sur les terres concédées, aliénées ou louées par l'État a des fins autres que minières ou sur celles qui font l' objet d'un bail

le titulaire de la revendication doit obtenir l'autorisation ecrite au mains 30 jours avant d'y acceder. Il peut acqueri de gre a gre tout droit reel ou bien necessaire a l'acces au terrain ou a l'execution de ses travaux d'exploration miniere. Le present avis n'est pas une demande d'autorisation ni une offre d'achat. Nous communiquerons avec les proprietaires des terrains et les locataires des terrains appartenant au domaine de l'État, le cas echeant, relativenent a une demande d'autorisation.

Vous trouverez des renseignements généraux sur les activités d'exploration minière sur le site Web du ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles à l'adresse suivante : http://www.mern.gouv.gc.ca/mines/titres/titresexploration, jsp Si vous avez des questions ou des commentaires relativement au présent avis, veuillez communique avec nous aux coordonnées suivantes :

Nom du titulaire de claim : 2498023 Ontario Inc. Adresse : 405 Queen Street. South. P.O. Box 75058 Bolton. Ontario L7E 1H6 Adresse electronique : a2498023ontarioinc@hotmail.com, Date: December 14, 2016. Canton Fauvel

NOTICE OF OBTAINING A CLAIM

TO LANDOWNERS, STATE LESSEES OF HOLDERS OF AN EXCLUSIVE LEASE TO MINE SURFACE MIN-ERAL SUBSTANCES TO, TOWNSHIP OF FAUVEL, ALL MUNICIPALITIES, TOWNS, VILLAGES, TOWNSHIPS, AND/OR ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

Dear Madam, Dear Sir.

In accordance with section 65 of the Mining Act, we hereby notify you that we have obtained the following claim(s): CDC numbers 2466700, 2466701, 2466702, 2466703, 2466704, 2466705, 2466706, 2466707, 2466708, 2466709 2466710, 2466711, 2466712, 2466713, 2466714, 2466715, 2466716, 2466717, 2466718, 2466719, 2466720, 2466721, 2466722, 2466723 on land owned by you or covered by a lease that you have entered into with the State and situated within the territory of the municipality shown above. A claim is an exclusive right to search for mineral substances on the land to which it applies. In the case of land that has been granted, alienated or leased by the State for purposes other than mining, or on land covered by an exclusive lease to mine surface mineral substances, the claim holder must obtain written authorization at least 30 days before accessing the site. The claim holder may also acquire, by agreement, any real right or property needed to access the site or conduct mine exploration work. This notice does not constitute a request for authorization or an offer to purchase. Where applicable, we will contact you separately with a request for authorization.

General information on mine exploration activities can be found on the website of the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles at the following address: http://www.mern.gouv.qc.ca/english/mines/rightslindex.jsp If you have guestions or comments about this notice, please contact us as shown below:

Claim holder's name: 2498023 Ontario Inc, Address: 405 Queen Street, South, P.O. Box 75058, Bolton, Ontario L7E 1H6 Email: a2498023ontarioinc@hotmail.com Date: December 14, 2016 FAUVEL Township

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Cont'd from page 6

not necessarily accept to drink tea today. "When we talk about tea or sex, what is important is consent."

Mireille Chartrand, coordinator of the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands' *Table de concertation des groups de femmes*, the organization supporting the six women's groups of the region, emphasized that remembering the Polytechnic School mass slaying is very important, given its very tragic side.

"Personally, I was marked by that event. I was studying in a nearby Montreal Cegep and we didn't know exactly what had happened but we knew it was tragic. We didn't know right away that women had been assassinated just because they were women," says Ms. Chartrand.

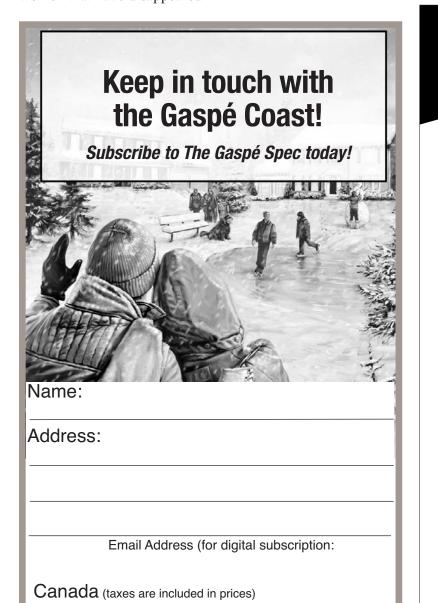
"A stronger gun control, the return of sexual education courses for children and the identification of the dangers of rape culture figure among the means that have to be deployed to improve society," adds Mireille Chartrand.

"There is violence against women here in the region as well, like everywhere else in Quebec. There are Native women that have disappeared here as well, and Native women who have been murdered. There is a trial here today, as we know, and it is important to remember, everywhere in Quebec but in this region as well, that there is violence there and here, also" she points out.

The vigil was held in front of the courthouse where Réal Savoie currently faces charges of murder, forcible confinement and sexual assault in relation to the slaying of Sonia Raymond, in 1996. That is the trial Mireille Chartrand was referring to.

A message was read to the vigil's audience. "Today, we remembering these women who died before their time. We are the voices for all women who have been victims of violence committed by a partner or because of religious beliefs in many cultures. We need to make society aware that crimes of honor, physical, verbal and psychological abuse and rape exist in many parts of the world. We cannot forget these women of hate crimes: we need to stamp out violence towards women. We need to together because we are stronger in numbers."

The audience held a minute of silence and solidarity for all women suffering from violence throughout the world.



Please enclose your cheque or money order, or call 418-752-5400 with your credit card information.

The Gaspé Spec, 128 Gérard D. Levesque Blvd New Carlisle, Québec G0C 1Z0



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Notice of Intent to Dispose of Waste or Other Matter at Sea

Notice is hereby given by Fisheries and Oceans Canada located at 104 Dalhousie Street, Québec (Quebec) on this 14th day of December 2016 that the above-named intends to apply to Environment and Climate Change Canada for a

DISPOSAL AT SEA PERMIT under the CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1999

to load 4 000 cubic metres (m³) place measure of dredged material at Saint-Godefroi harbour in Gaspésie (48.07310° N et 65.11478° W NAD83) for the purpose of disposal at sea at SG-2 (48.04500° N and 65.08333° W NAD83) by the following method mechanical excavator and towed scows.

It is proposed that loading and disposal activities will begin on March 15, 2017 and will terminate on March 14, 2018.

For further information regarding these activities, please contact:

Mr. Alex Harvey
Project Technician
Small Craft Harbours
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Quebec Region
104 Dalhousie Street
Québec (Quebec) G1K 7Y7
Alex.Harvey@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

The public may submit environmental concerns raised by this notice to, or obtain information on the issuing of permits from:

Environment and Climate Change Canada – Quebec Region Environmental Protection Operations Directorate Attn: Disposal at Sea Program Coordinator 105 McGill Street, 4th floor Montréal (Quebec) H2Y 2E7 Tel.: 514-496-2653 ec.immersionenmerqc-disposalatseaqc.ec@canada.ca

Canada

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to load 9 000 cubic metres (m³) place measure of dredged material at Anse-à-Brillant harbour in Gaspésie (48.72117°N and 64.28950°W NAD83) for the purpose of disposal at sea at ABR-1 (48.73200°N and 64.28200°W NAD83) by the following method mechanical excavator and towed scows.

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Canadä

1 year \$46, 6 mths \$25 Outside Canada: \$165



Photo: G. Gagné *The lighthouse on Port Daniel Point is being restored.*

Port Daniel lighthouse gets a facelift

Gilles Gagné

PORT DANIEL: – The Port Daniel Point lighthouse is hardly recognizable these days. The federal department of Fisheries and Oceans has chosen to restore it, which consists of thorough work on the exterior of the building requiring the installation of a protective covering around the entire structure.

The refurbishment contract was awarded to Groupe Diamantex, a company based in Saint-Augustin-des-Desmaures, near Quebec City. The value of the contract is \$270,000. It started in November and should be completed by the end of December. "The work will repair certain problems like the presence of mold inside the building, repairs of ladders and fences, as well as the ventilation system. The exterior of the building will be repainted as well, like the light," says Martin Bourget, of Fisheries and Oceans

The Port Daniel lighthouse remains active. It was built in 1919 to replace the previous lighthouse, destroyed by a fire in 1916.

The mayor of Port Daniel-Gascons, Henri Grenier, is following the situation closely, he thinks that Fisheries and Oceans could soon be tempted to cede the lighthouse, maybe to the Municipality.

"We hear that Fisheries and Oceans Canada might cede it to another party. It could happen during the spring," says Mr. Grenier.

When asked if municipal

administration would be interested in acquiring the lighthouse, he responded with,

"We will discuss it if we are approached. We could make a municipal campground in that area. Before that, we have to determine what kind of surface would be needed, the price of the property and analyze all that once we have those details. Why not?" says Mayor Grenier.

The immediate area surrounding the lighthouse belongs to Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The rest of the point belongs to Alice Hayes. That property has been for sale, for a while.

"Right now, everything is being done informally. After the Town's budget, we will pay attention to the scenarios. We still haven't spoken to Ms. Hayes," says Henri Grenier.

Port Daniel Point means a lot to many Gaspesians. Scuba divers consider it a spot of great value because of the richness of marine life in the vicinity. Schools of herring, seals and whales can be watched there simultaneously at certain times of the year, often around mid-September.

For many years Alice Hayes hosted Brownies and Girl Guides for dozens of young girls at her home on the Point. For those attending the activities, hiking and scavenger hunts along the trails to the lighthouse were frequent activities. According to former Chaleur Bay Brownie Guide Penny MacWhirter, "the real treat was visiting with the two seals that almost always showed up in the water near the lighthouse."



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to load 4 000 cubic metres (m³) place measure of dredged material at Port-Daniel harbour in Gaspésie (48.18233° N and 64.96150° W NAD83) for the purpose of disposal at sea at PD-6 (48.13500° N and 64.94167° W NAD83) by the following method mechanical excavator and toward scores

It is proposed that loading and disposal activities will begin on March 15, 2017 and will terminate on March 14, 2018.

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Quebec Region
104 Dalhousie Street
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ec.immersionenmerqc-disposalatseaqc.ec@canada.ca

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DISPOSAL AT SEA PERMIT under the CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1999

to load 9 000 cubic metres (m³) place measure of dredged material at Anse-à-Beaufils harbour in Gaspésie (48,47200°N et 64,30607°W NAD83) for the purpose of disposal at sea at AB-5 (48.45000°N and 64.25000°W NAD83) by the following method mechanical excavator and towed scows.

It is proposed that loading and disposal activities will begin on March 15, 2017 and will terminate on March 14, 2018.

For further information regarding these activities, please contact:

Mr. Alex Harvey
Project Technician
Small Craft Harbours
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Quebec Region
104 Dalhousie Street
Québec (Quebec) G1K 7Y7
Alex.Harvey@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

The public may submit environmental concerns raised by this notice to, or obtain information on the issuing of permits from:

Environment and Climate Change Canada – Quebec Region Environmental Protection Operations Directorate Attn: Disposal at Sea Program Coordinator 105 McGill Street, 4th floor Montréal (Quebec) H2Y 2E7 Tel.: 514-496-2653 ec.immersionenmerqc-disposalatseaqc.ec@canada.ca

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Obituary



CHICOINE: Emily

Emily Chicoine passed away at the CISSS de la Gaspesie, Gaspé Hospital on December 1 at the age of 71 years and 7 months.

Emily was a long time friend of Mr. Nelson Chicoine from Barachois.

The family received condolences at the Résidence Funéraire Valére Fortin in Barachois on Monday, December 5 and on Tuesday, December 6 before the funeral. Funeral services were held at St. Peter's Church in Barachois on Tuesday, December 6 at 10:30 a.m.

Emily leaves behind Mr. Nelson Chicoine, one son, Earl, two daughters, Lucy (Eric) and Brenda (Wilbert), also three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, two brothers, two brothers-in-law, nephews and nieces and many friends.



In Memory

GALLON: Arthur

In loving memory of a dear father, father-in-law and grandfather who passed away December 18, 2000.

Just a thought of sweet remembrance,

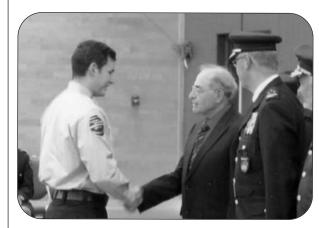
Just a memory sad and true.

Just the love and sweet devotion,

Of one who thinks of you.

Always remembered by John, Maria, Amy and Katie xoxo.

Congratulations





Congratulations Jason!

Jason has successfully graduated from (*Le Programme d'integration a la fonction d'agent des services correctionnels*) the Quebec Correctional Service Program in Nicolet, Quebec.

Jason is the son of Roger and Marlene (Flowers) Pelletier of New Carlisle. Jason's grandfather, Kenny Flowers, a long time employee at the Provincial Detention Centre in New Carlisle, was more than happy to be invited to present Jason with his well-deserved certificate at the graduation ceremony that was held on October 19, in Nicolet, Quebec.

Other guests attending this special event were Jason's parents and his uncle Wade Flowers from Fredericton, NB.

Best of luck, with your new job Jason!

Happy 85th Birthday



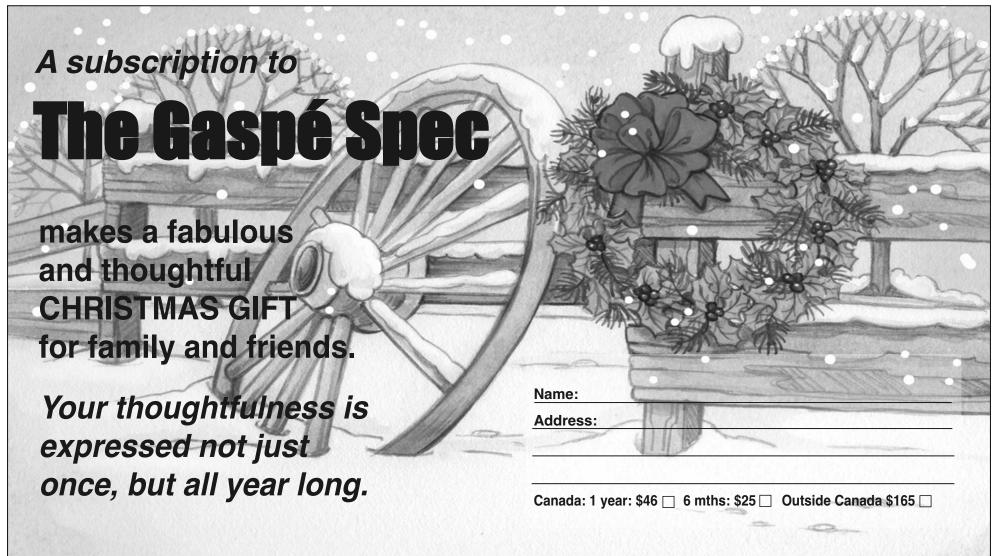
Happy 85th Birthday Rowena Mary Gallichan Love from the gang xoxo

Card of Thanks

To the women who light up our lives on a daily basis, friends, neighbours and family members, Kerry and I thank you. Your birthday wishes and presence at our recent birthday celebration held at the Heritage Restaurant make for lasting memories which we will always treasure.

An Irish blessing upon you all, "May love and laughter light up your days."

Sharon Murray Guignion and Kerry Murray Hayes.



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FOR SALE: Dry hardwood firewood. \$90.00 per small cord. Delivered between Caplan and Carleton. Five cord per load. Call 418-392-4686 (J15)

COAST ROUND-UP

GASPÉ:

Legion Branch 59 Upcoming Events Friday, December 16: There will be a supper from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, December 17: Come out and enjoy a night with Tammy Adams. Starts at 9 p.m.

YORK:

ACW

Upcoming Events Saturday, July 15, 2017: Summer sale. Details to follow at a later date.

Saturday, November 18, **2017:** Christmas sale. Details to follow at a later date.

DOUGLASTOWN:

Community Center Upcoming Events

Saturday, December 17: Join us for line dancing classes starting at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person, Teacher is Olivia Rehel, For more information call Stella Kennedy at 418-368-6425. Everyone is welcome!

Thursday, December 22: Join us for our annual solstice supper. Traditional Christmas supper. \$12 for adults (12 years and up), \$6 for children (5-11 yrs), \$3 for children 4 and under.

Saturday, December 31: New Year's Eve breakfast. Traditional menu. From 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. A voluntary contribution of \$7 for adults (12 and over), \$4 for children (5-11) and free for children under 4.

SHIGAWAKE:

Cookbooks for sale

The Marcil Branch W.I. has a cookbook that would make a perfect Christmas gift. The cost is \$12. The cookbook includes wonderful recipes from past and present W.I. members. To purchase a copy call 418-752-6564 or pick up a copy at the Spec office.

SHIGAWAKE:

SPDS Governing Board Meetings

Tuesday, January 31: There will be a meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Shigawake Port-Daniel School.

Tuesday, March 28: There will be a meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Hope Town Log Cabin.

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

SHIGAWAKE:

St. Paul's Anglican Church

Come, and bring your singing voices, to a Service of Lessons & Carols which will be held on Sunday, December 18 at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Shigawake, beginning at 11 a.m. A free will offering will be taken to replenish the Malcolm Evan's Pastoral Care Fund. If you wish a tax receipt please place your donation in an envelope clearly marked: The Malcolm Evan's Fund, including your name and the Church you attend so that your respective church may issue you a tax receipt. If donating by cheque please make your cheque payable to your Church and follow the above instructions. Lunch and a social time will folat the Community Centre. Everyone welcome.

SHIGAWAKE:

Community Centre Upcoming Events

Saturday, December 17: Children's Christmas bingo from 1 to 4 p.m. with a visit from Santa. Saturday, December 31: New

Year's Eve dance. \$12 per person.

HOPE TOWN:

Hope Baptist Church

Sunday, December 18: A Christmas concert will be held at 7 p.m. (Snow date is Monday, December 19).

Saturday December 24: A Christmas Eve service will be held at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 25: A Christmas Day service will be held at 3 p.m.

Sunday, January 1: A New Years Day service will be held at

"I was glad when they said to me, Let us go into the house of the Lord" (Psalm 122:1). We are a Bible-based, Christ-centered and family-focused church. Sunday School is for all ages, it starts at 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.; Worship service starts at 11 a.m.; Friday Kings Club (ages 5-12 yrs) at 3:30 and Young Peoples (ages 12-18 yrs) starts at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join us at Hope Baptist Church, 305 Route132, HopeTown.www.hopebaptistchurch1.com. 418-752-5838. Pastor Paul Bedford BTh. MTh

NEW CARLISLE: Bottle Drive

NCHS Grad Class of 2017 will be holding a New Year's Bottle Drive. Students will be collecting redeemable cans and bottles starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, January 2 in the New Carlisle area. To ensure pick up call Ann at 752-6378. Money raised will help fund their grad trip to Toronto.

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:

Legion Branch 64 Upcoming Events

Saturday, December 17: Ladies night with DJ Shannon Marsh. Starts at 9 p.m. \$5 cover

Wednesday, December 28: ONE BELOW and The Landsmen from 8 p.m. - 1 a.m. Cover charge

December 31: New Year's eve tickets now on sale, music by Gwezee, \$25 per couple, \$15 single. Only 70 tickets will be sold.

NEW RICHMOND:

Upcoming Events St. Andrew's United Church

Friday, December 16: The Christmas Concert will be held at St. Andrew's United Church at 7 p.m. A free will offering will be accepted. Everyone welcome!

Sunday, December 18: There will be a special Advent Service at St. Andrew's United Church in New Richmond at 10 a.m. in memory of loved ones. Hand crafted angels will be sold for \$5 each and if desired placed on the Christmas Memorial Tree during the service. For more information or to reserve an angel, please contact Kathleen Paquet at 418-392-4896 or Delena Powell-Bujold at 418-392-6813.

NEW RICHMOND: Friperie Notice

Friperie Entraide de l'É.P.É. will be closed for the holidays on Friday, December 23, and Saturday, December 24, and also on the Friday, December 30 and Sat-

Holiday Closure

urday, December 31. Will be open again January 6 and 7 from 1 a.m. to 3 p.m. We always have a large selection of clothing in all sizes for families as well as furniture. Couches, beds, dressers, etc. If you have items which are still functioning, don't throw them away before calling us because there are people who have need of a stove, fridge, washer, dryer, bed, chair, table, etc. For information: 418 392-5161 (Boul. Perron West, New

NEW RICHMOND:

Richmond).

Christmas Party

At the Full Gospel Church, Sunday, December 18, from 10 a.m. There will be Christmas songs, message on a real gift, a good holiday lunch, games and surprises for all. Free of charge. For information call 418-392-5161. Located at 248 Boulevard Perron West, New Richmond.

NEW RICHMOND:

Fundraiser

The Richmond Manor is the owner of a John Wiseman original that hangs in our living room and we also own all of the prints. As a fundraiser we are selling our prints for just \$50 each. This is an unprecedented bargain. What a wonderful Christmas gift it would be to offer someone a symbol of the Gaspé Peninsula. Please call Manjula at 418-392-4102

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: 50 + Club

Upcoming Events

Every Tuesday: Prize Bingo at 7 p.m. Entry (2 cards for \$5) and \$1 for each additional card.

GESGAPEGIAG:

Community Market

A community market will be held in the Galgosiet building on Saturday, January 21, 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, December 18

New Richmond

10 a.m.

Shigawake

11 a.m. Worshiping with Anglican friends

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, December 18

New Carlisle

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Hope Town

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Shigawake

11 a.m. Lessons and Carols with United friends

GREATER PARISH OF GASPÉ

Sunday, December 18 Gaspé

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist **Malbay**

11 a.m. Morning Prayer



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Host a delicious holiday brunch



Many people host friends and family during the holiday season. Holiday dinners may garner the bulk of hosts' attention, but overnight guests need to eat breakfast and lunch as well. Brunch can save hosts some work and give families a great opportunity to break bread without some of the formalities that may accompany holiday dinners. This holiday season, consider serving this ideal brunch recipe for "Farfalle with Crabmeat, Asparagus, Scrambled Eggs, Garlic, and Herbs" from Norman Kolpas' "Buongiorno! Breakfast and Brunch, Italian Style" (Contemporary Books).

Farfalle with Crabmeat, Asparagus, Scrambled Eggs, Garlic, and Herbs

Makes 4 to 6 servings

- pound farfalle 1/2 pound asparagus, trimmed and sliced diagonally, 1/4-inch thick
- extra-large eggs 10 tablespoons unsalted butter
- garlic clove, minced
- cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese, plus more for serving
- 2 tablespoons heavy
- pound cooked lump crabmeat, picked over to remove any bits of shell or cartilage
- cup finely chopped fresh chives
- tablespoons finely chopped fresh Italian parsley Freshly ground black pepper

Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Add the farfalle and cook until al dente, following the manufacturer's suggested cooking time. About 2 minutes before the pasta is done, add the asparagus.

Meanwhile, in a mixing bowl, beat the eggs with a fork or whisk until slightly frothy. Set aside.

When the pasta and asparagus are done, drain and set aside. Immediately melt the butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the garlic and sauté until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add the pasta and asparagus and toss briefly to coat them with the butter mixture. Pour in the eggs, add 1/4 cup Parmesan and the cream, and stir and toss the mixture until the eggs just have begun to form moist curds, about 2 minutes. Add the crabmeat, chives and parsley and continue cooking and tossing until the eggs have formed more solid curds that cling to the farfalle, 1 to 2 minutes more.

Serve immediately, passing freshly grated Parmesan and black pepper for guests to add to taste.

What's This Artifact?





Answer: Butter press was once used to form butter into brick size blocks. One of our readers said that soaking it in ice water helps prevent the butter from sticking inside.

Potpie with a twist - Tortellini & Pancetta Potpie

Makes 6 servings

- ounces pancetta, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon olive oil
- cup finely chopped onion
- 2 large cloves garlic, finely chopped

1/4 cup lightly packed, coarsely chopped fresh basil

3/4 cup chicken broth

(low sodium, if canned) 1/3 cup heavy whipping cream

1/4 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese

1/8 teaspoon salt

1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

- ounces cheese-filled egg tortellini
- 9 ounces cheese-filled spinach tortellini

Extremely Flaky Sour Cream Crust (see below)



- 1. Position a rack in the middle of the oven. Preheat the oven to 400 F. Rub 1 teaspoon olive oil inside a baking dish with an 8-cup capacity.
- 2. In a medium skillet, cook the pancetta pieces over medium heat until the edges brown, about 10 minutes. Transfer the pancetta to a large bowl. In the same skillet, heat the 1 tablespoon olive oil over medium heat for 1 minute. Add the onion and cook until it softens, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and basil and cook for 1 minute. Stir in the chicken broth and adjust the heat to cook it at a gentle boil until it is reduced to about 1/2 cup, about 5 minutes. Add the cream, bring to a boil, then immediately remove the pan from the heat. Stir in the Parmesan cheese. Stir the sauce into the pancetta in the bowl. Add the salt and pepper and taste for seasoning. Set aside.
- 3. In a large pot of salted boiling water, cook the tortellini for 5 minutes. Drain the tortellini well and stir them into the pancetta and sauce to coat them with sauce. Transfer the pasta to the baking dish.

Extremely Flaky Sour Cream Crust

- cup unbleached all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- stick cold unsalted butter, cut into 16 pieces 1
- 1/4 cup cold sour cream
- 1. To make the pastry in an electric mixer: Sift the flour, baking soda and salt into a large bowl. Add the butter pieces and mix them with an electric mixer on low speed until the largest of the butter pieces are the size of small lima beans, about 1 minute. The butter pieces will be different sizes and there will still be some loose flour. Add the sour cream and continue mixing until large clumps of smooth dough that pull away from the sides of the bowl form, about 30 seconds. Stop the mixer and scrape the beaters clean, if needed.

To make the pastry by hand: Sift the flour, baking soda and salt into a large bowl. Use a pastry blender, your fingertips or 2 dinner knives to combine the flour mixture and the butter until lima bean-size pieces form. Add the sour cream and stir with a large spoon for about 2 minutes until clumps of smooth dough form.

2. Form the dough into a smooth ball, flatten it into a 6-inch disk, wrap it in plastic wrap, and refrigerate for 30 to 60 minutes. You will see small pieces of butter in the dough. This is good and contributes to the flaky texture. The dough is now ready to roll and use in the recipe.

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, nothing can break your resolve, not even a worthy temptation. This will serve you well when you're faced with a difficult situation in the week ahead.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21 Take a lighter approach to the week, Taurus. You can benefit

from some rest and relaxation. Invite friends over if you need a diversion from the daily grind. GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, expect to be torn between two attractive options this week. Trust your instincts on this one, even if you must go against convention to do so.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, many people are rooting for you this week, and it can be eye-opening learning just how many people are in your corner. Remember to support your friends when they need you.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Clear out your schedule, Leo, because it could be a wild ride for the next few days. You probably will not have much time to yourself. When you get a break, make the most of it.



VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, friends will seemingly come out of the woodwork this week to visit with you. You will not be short on social interactions. Take a few minutes to catch your breath. LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Vacations are the order of the week, Libra. You can't get enough of travel lately, and you're apt to take as many people as you can along for the ride.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22 Scorpio, you may have to push yourself out of your comfort zone this week. It can be a little scary to do so, but with the support of a few close friends, you can benefit from

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21 Sagittarius, don't wait too long to take advantage of an opportunity that drops in your lap; otherwise, it may pass you by. Expect some friendly envy on the part of others. CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20 Support a family member when he

or she has some unconventional ideas, Capricorn. This may be just the catalyst needed to spark new conversations and actions. AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Your job may take up a considerable amount of your time for the immediate future, Aquarius. You must decide whether this is the path you want or if you're ready to move on.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20 Pisces, what you deem joking around may be taken seriously by someone else and hurt some feelings. Be careful with your words.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS DECEMBER 11 Nikki Sixx, Musician (58) **DECEMBER 12** Mayim Bialik, Actress (41) **DECEMBER 13** Amy Lee, Singer (35) **DECEMBER 14** Michael Owen, Athlete (37) **DECEMBER 15** Adam Brody, Actor (37) **DECEMBER 16** Krysten Ritter, Actress (35) **DECEMBER 17** Sarah Paulson, Actress (42)

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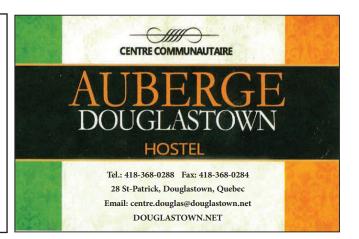
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