

CARRICKS SHIPWRECK:

Exhumed bones will be re-buried

Geneviève Gélinas

CAP-DES-ROSIERS: – The bones exhumed last summer close to the Monument to the Irish, in Cap-des-Rosiers, will be re-buried higher up on the beach, according to the community's wishes. They probably belong to eight victims of the Carricks shipwreck, and could be the last to be found among the 87 victims, as Forillon Park ended the search.

The Carricks ship left Sligo, Ireland, in March 1847, laden with 167 passengers fleeing from the Great Famine. It was wrecked a few weeks later, killing 87 people, who were found on the Cap-des-Rosiers beach and buried in haste. In 1900, a monument was erected on the approximate spot of the mass grave, now located in Forillon National Park.

Last summer, a Parks Canada archaeologist was in Cap-des-Rosiers to oversee the removal of rocks from the beach and the relocation of the monument, in the context of a project to manage erosion. That's how he found the remains of eight people, close to the monument.

The management of Forillon National Park surveyed the Cap-des-Rosiers people in regards to a resting place for the exhumed bones. The majority were in favour of re-burying them close to the Monument to the Irish which, in the meanwhile, was moved farther from the sea, 400 meters from its original location.

The second choice was to bury them at the Cimetière des Anciens, the Cap-des-Rosiers Catholic cemetery.

Once the beach restoration project is complete in 2018, a ceremony will be organized at the Monument to the Irish, in collaboration with the Cap-des-Rosiers Parish. Parks Canada will set up interpretation signs in the area, as well as a visual element with the names of the victims.



Photo: G. Gélinas

Parks Canada archaeologist Martin Perron, digging close to the Monument to the Irish, in Cap-des-Rosiers. A few days after this picture was taken, he found the remains of eight people not far from the Monument.

Other bones have been found over the years on the beach, among them remains of three people. The pathologist's conclusion is that they belong to three children having suffered from malnutrition and of European origin. Last summer, archeologist Martin Perron also found bones in a plastic bag when digging around the Monument to the Irish, probably a discovery made in the 1980s by a park employee, who didn't register his find.

Where are the other victims?

The bones of 13 different people were found, calculates Georges Kavanagh. "There were 87 victims. Where are all the others?", he wonders. "I was surprised when we were told that (the search) was over, that nothing else had been found," adds Mr. Kavanagh, a Gaspé resident who is a descendant of Car-

ricks' survivors.

However, the area has been greatly eroded by the sea over the years. The other bodies could have been washed away and dissolved by the sea, admits Mr. Kavanagh.

"We are not considering doing further investigation because surveys with a ground penetrating radar and archaeological monitoring have not led to finding more

graves," wrote Michelle Sinnett, spokesperson for Forillon Park.

Specialized analysis on the eight skeletons is underway by the *Laboratoire de bioarchéologie* of the *Université de Montréal*, to try to find a link between the remains and the Carricks passengers, adds Mrs. Sinnett. There are no results available yet because the bones were only sent at the beginning of March.

Documentary on the Carricks to be presented in Gaspé

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – The documentary "*Carricks: dans le sillage des irlandais*" (Carricks: in the wake of the Irish), by Viveka Melki, was presented on March 19, at 5 p.m., on Radio-Canada television. Those who missed it can see it on a big screen at *Vues sur mer*, the Gaspé documentary film festival, on Sunday, April 9 at 1 p.m. Ms. Melki will be present to answer questions from moviegoers. She filmed the quest of Charles Kavanagh, a resident of Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan on the North Shore and descendant of Carricks passengers. He searched for answers about his ancestors, trying to find the truth hiding under the myths of the Kavanagh family.

Inside this week



Mawiomi Café:
an opportunity to chat and share



Will Percé be better equipped to handle summer cellphone traffic?



OPTILAB:
Health minister responds to concerns

OPTILAB:

Health minister responds to concerns

Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ PENINSULA: - Health Minister Gaéтан Barrette responds strongly to criticism concerning the Optilab Project. In an interview with Spec, he reassured the population by confirming that this project will have positive effects on the health network.

Organizations representing seniors, such as FADOQ, the prefects of the Gaspé Peninsula, unions such as the CSN and other organizations representing health workers (APTS) have voiced in the past year, their strong opposition to the Optilab Project.

The Quebec government decided that in the near future, 70% of the region's health samples (urine, blood, biopsy and pap tests) would be centralized in Rimouski.

This worries many who are concerned about job losses, the foreclosure of the region's laboratories and the quality of the samples once analyzed in Rimouski after having traveled hundreds of kilometers.

As Spec reported in the November 9, 2016 issue, currently, approximately 90% of the samples taken in the Gaspé are analyzed locally. Approximately two million samples are taken annually in the region.

Minister Gaéтан Barrette assures Gaspésians that the catastrophe announced by the unions and other critics of Optilab won't occur. "Everytime we try to save money by restructuring the health system, we're automatically faced with union opposition that only be-



Photo: Quebec Government

Minister Gaéтан Barrette.

lieve in the status quo. My response to those who believe Optilab is a bad idea, is that, it will not be a catastrophe. There will be an Optilab in your region. Also, we won't close any laboratories, they will remain open."

Barrette also pointed out that there are many advantages to Optilab, such as saving the health system money and having a better assessment of the sampling analysis with state-of-the-art technology. "In effect, the quality of the treatment of each sample will be better, superior and it will save money, it's a question of viability (of the health system)," he added.

Asked about the loss of jobs given that only 30% of the samples will be analyzed in our region, he did admit that there will be some cuts, but through attrition. "Exactly. There are people in the health network that retire every year and that concerns laboratories also. Once people leave through attrition, there are jobs that won't be replaced." The implementation of Optilab will take three to five years.

Transportation

Two days after the interview with Barrette, Spec wrote to the CISSS de la Gaspésie (regional health board), as well as to Mr. Barrette's cabinet to obtain more information on the way the samples will be transported to Rimouski. An issue that is a cause of concern for many, including the health

unions. At the Minister's cabinet, they told us that "the transportation of samples will be completely secure. There are seven million samples that currently are transported in Québec. CLSC samples must be transported because CSLCs don't have laboratories." At the CISSS, they told SPEC that Optilab will have a rigorous traceability information system. They also stated that the

transportation of samples must follow strict rules recommended by the Medical Technologists Order of Québec (temperature, travel time, etc.) The highest standards will therefore apply, adds the CISSS. The organization also gave SPEC a list of samples that will be analysed in the region, they include trauma cases, emergency blood tests and glucose cases.

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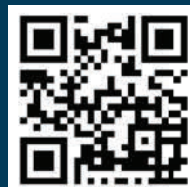
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News briefs

Well aware of the situation

Thierry Haroun

GRAND RIVEERE: - Regional Minister, Diane Lebouthillier, is well aware of the fact that the Employment Insurance Program can be better adapted to some situations. Spec met with her recently in Grand River. During that interview, she was asked if she was aware that the Social Tribunal (a board that studies cases that have been appealed by the unemployed who can't receive premiums) is lacking employees. Therefore, cases take much too long to get a hearing. "Yes, I am aware of that situation not only since I'm a minister, but since I was prefect of the Percé Rock MRC. I've made some representations on the matter to the minister responsible of the program, Jean-Yves Duclos." She also added that Minister Duclos will make announcements concerning the program this year, without detailing them. "I would like to remind you that our government has put an end to the reform of the program that was made by the previous government. We've lowered the minimum hours to get EI premiums to 420 and we've cut from the waiting time to get the first EI premium from two to one week."

Police report

On November 18, 2016 at the New Carlisle courthouse Lawrence Stevens, 74, a retired chemistry teacher from Bonaventure was sentenced to 36 months of penitentiary on rape charges and a charge of indecent assault committed between 1979 and 1982 on a minor girl who became pregnant. The accused is presently serving his sentence. His attorney has filed an appeal to the Quebec Court of Appeal, but the court has not yet ruled on the matter.

In 2014, in another case, the accused was found guilty of rape of another woman and gross indecency and was sentenced to 42 months of penitentiary. The accused appealed of the verdict to the Quebec Court of Appeal. The appeal was heard on May 10 and the Court of Appeal ordered a new trial.

The second trial began on March 13, 2017 at the New Carlisle courthouse. The victim refused to testify at that second trial and consequently the charges were dropped and the accused acquitted on all charges in that case.

Michel Leblanc, 66, from Chandler was arrested in Pabos on March 16 and charged the following day with indecent assault, gross indecency and bestiality. These crimes were allegedly committed in the 1970s. The victims were minors at the time.

On March 1, 2017 the accused had been charged with invitation to sexual contacts, of luring other youths to have sexual contacts with him and was using a computer to contact other people, mainly youths for sexual purposes. That prompted other people to lay complaints against Michel Leblanc.

Michel Leblanc was remanded in custody during March 16 and March 17 but was released under conditions following his appearance at the Percé courthouse. The investigation was conducted by the Percé Rock MRC detachment of the Sûreté du Québec.

On March 20, a house located on McInnis Cove Road in Port Daniel was completely destroyed by fire shortly after midnight. Four people, two adults and two children, were sleeping in the house when the alarm sounded. They barely had time to get out of the house and were barefoot outside when the firefighters arrived. Nobody was injured. "No foul play is suspected in this case," says Sgt. Claude Doreau, of the Sûreté du Québec. The cause of the fire is being investigated by the firefighters.

The trial of Réal Savoie, charged with the July 27, 1996 murder of Sonia Raymond on the beach in Maria is postponed again, due to urgent health problems experienced by crown prosecutor Gérald Maltais. The trial was supposed to resume on March 20, 2017 after an adjournment of one week attributable to the death of defence attorney Marcel Guérin's brother.

On March 20, Superior Court Judge Louis Dionne, after hearing the representations of Marcel Guérin and crown prosecutor Florence Frappier-Routhier, set the continuance of the trial to April 10, a delay that should allow the Department of Justice sufficient time to find a senior crown prosecutor.

Attorney Guérin had suggested that the trial should start anew in September with the impanelment of a new jury while crown prosecutor Frappier-Routhier had suggested the appointment of another crown prosecutor for April 10. The judge ruled that the jury selected on March 6 and 7 will remain impaneled and hear the case.



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Will Percé be better equipped to handle summer cellphone traffic?

Geneviève Gélinas

PERCÉ: – Telus plans to install an antenna on the bell tower of Percé church by the beginning of the tourist season, to meet the high wireless internet service demand. Last summer, Percé tourists and locals experienced severe congestion in that regard.

In late July, text messages could take as long as two or three hours to be transmitted and cellphone calls were difficult and even impossible to make. The Town of Percé consequently asked Telus to adapt its equipment to meet the demand.

In the summer of 2016, Telus experienced an increase in internet demand that was six times the usual traffic in Percé, said the company at the time. The reason was a very good tourist season.

If there's such a demand next summer, will the network be able to meet it? "Yes," replies Clément Audet, Telus vice-president, consumers' market.

The addition of an antenna will increase the network capacity. In addition, the fact that the new antenna will be equipped with the standard LTE (long term evolution) system will also contribute to reducing the congestion. "It means that the system is managed in a way that reserves parts of the bandwidth for specific services, like voice, video

or for emergency services," says Mr. Audet.

The Percé bell tower isn't the best place to transmit the signal, because it's not as high as an antenna should be. "It seems high but (for an antenna), it's almost on the ground," he says. The service is going to improve in the village of Percé, but "there will still be wireless coverage gaps on Highway 132," he adds.

In Percé, it is difficult to find a place where an antenna can be erected without spoiling the view, Mr. Audet explains. Until now, the antenna serving Percé was on the land of former mayor and former Member of the National Assembly Georges Mamelonet, on Ireland Road behind the village. The antenna had to be shortened because of complaints from the neighbours.

"People want the wireless service but they don't want the towers," says Mr. Audet. Antennas in church bell towers, which is a solution commonly used by Telus, are hidden and bring revenues to parishes, he adds.

From copper to fiber optic

Over the last few months, Telus has connected the Percé and surroundings villages' residences to fiber optic for a total investment of \$2 million, including the new church antenna. The fiber optic service is

now available in the centre of Percé, L'Anse-à-Beaufils, Barachois, Cap-d'Espoir, Val-d'Espoir, Douglastown, and Gaspé.

Until now, the signal traveled through fiber optic up to a relay station in the centre of the community, then the copper network carried it to the customers. With the all-fiber optic network, high speed internet will be much faster, with a minimum of 100 megabits per second, which is ten times faster than before.

Presently, 40% of the Gaspé Peninsula is converted to fiber optic. Telus aims at reaching 70% within three years. Over the last two years, Sainte-Anne-des-Monts, Chandler and Paspébiac have been connected. Telus invested a total of \$20M in 2015 and 2016 in the Gaspé Peninsula, which includes money spent in the Matanie and Matapédia MRCs.

To connect the villages, the company receives financial aid from the federal government through the "Connecting Canadians" program for less populous sectors. In the Gaspé Peninsula, the government pays about 20% of the costs.

Another federal program already exists to help connect the rural sectors after Telus has reached 70% of the territory. The "Connect to innovate" program plans to invest \$500M up to 2021 to provide a reliable internet service to the rural communities of Canada.

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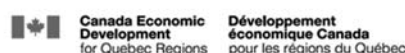
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Commentary

Gilles Gagné

You said storm ?

We live in a country marked by winter conditions. In some parts of it, you can expect to see snowflakes 12 months a year. So, when a storm triggers human reactions like last week in Montreal and Quebec City, it is often a bit unsettling, or some of them at least.

It is even more destabilizing when the stir comes from events that occurred in areas where nobody died, while the same storm, or conditions triggered by the storm, claimed seven lives.

On the average, Quebec's winters are not as harsh as they used to be, barring the exceptions of 2013-2014 and 2014-2015, unusually cold and snowy winters.

Collectively, in urban centres at least, a lot of people think that winters and storms are things of the past, that when March arrives, it is over and it is time to think in terms of drinking beer on a terrace. We know better in rural areas even though, the winters are milder, here as well by and large.

It was a major storm, one that had been announced three or four days ahead. March storms, for the people with a memory going back a few decades, are often the worst ones for a number of reasons, including heavier snow because of milder temperatures. March 1971 and March 1993 come to many people's mind. Most activities were

blocked for two or three days on both occasions. The fact that 300 cars and even more individuals were stuck on highway 13 in Montreal for up to 12 hours in certain cases is mindboggling. First, some people shouldn't have been out in the first place, considering the predictability of an event announced days ahead.

Secondly, even if the storm was a major one, the authorities' incapacity to deal with the emergency situation on highway 13 is staggering, considering today's communication means and the removal equipment available.

Thirdly, have we lost touch with human values? Does that factor explain why the communications were so poor between the authorities and the people stranded in their vehicles? Thousands of dwellings were five minutes away from those vehicles, a five minute walk at that; have people lost faith in the public's capacity to provide help in difficult situations? On the other hand, witnesses of the storm report seeing beautiful salvage gestures by hundreds of individuals.

Now after the snow storm, we are witnessing the political storm launched by the Opposition of the Quebec government.

Some aspects of that political storm are justified. One can be frustrated through seeing Transport minister Laurent Lessard looking completely unaware the morning following the storm that hundreds of people had been waiting for help in their car. He was blaming the media for dramatizing the events.

The leader of Coalition Avenir-Québec, François Legault, also had a bad attitude when he expressed a will to see some "heads roll" in order to have people pay for the storm's mess.

Montreal mayor Denis Coderre didn't fare better

by starting his city's intervention time line shortly before midnight. By so doing, he waved the first six to eight hours of the storm, in an apparent effort to make his administration look good. He should have acted differently, as his management of the crisis was far from flawless.

Premier Philippe Couillard did the right thing when he apologized on behalf of his government, midway through the day after the storm. He sounded like a statesman, for a change.

Truth be told, most provincial and municipal stakeholders involved in the emergency measures that had to be set up during the storm should go back to the population, apologize for real, like premier Couillard, and go back to the drawing board as well. There will be more snow storms in the future.

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Paramedics still fighting for new collective agreement two years after it expired

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND: – Approximately 30 Gaspesian paramedics demonstrated on March 16 along Highway 132 in New Richmond, unhappy that their collective agreement expired two years ago and hasn't been renewed. They are criticizing the lack of consideration shown by Health and Social Service Minister Gaëtan Barrette in the negotiation process.

The paramedics' situation is a Quebec-wide problem. Minister Barrette pulled out of negotiations at the end of 2016, a decision explained by his position that the collective agreement has to be discussed between the private owners of ambulance companies and the paramedics.

"We have been without a collective agreement for two years and the minister finds nothing better to do than pull out of the negotiations. Our claims are reasonable. We want normal shifts of 12 hours instead of spending 24 hours on call in our home, for seven consecutive days. We deserve normal working shifts of 12 hours," points out Keven Desbois, a paramedic based in Caplan.

Paramedics from the Bay of Chaleur area, Gaspé, Chandler, Grand River, Gascons, Sainte-Anne-des-Monts and Mont-Louis took part in the five-hour New Richmond demonstration.

"All the paramedics should be employed according to the same terms. On the Gaspé Peninsula, about half of the paramedics work regular shifts of 12 hours while the other half work according to the on call 24 hours a day for seven consecutive days, followed by seven off days," adds Mr. Desbois.

The New Richmond paramedics work shifts of 12 hours and are then off until their next working period. The Ca-



Photo: G. Gagné

Paramedics protested along Highway 132 in New Richmond during the March 16 five-hour long demonstration.

plan paramedics are on duty 24 hours a day for seven consecutive days, before being off for a week.

"Minister Barrette is creating three categories of paramedics in Quebec. The Urgence Santé paramedics in Montreal and Laval are government employees, while the rest of Quebec's paramedics are tied to private ambulance companies, with two different types of working conditions, regular shifts and on call from

home for seven days, 24 hours a day. It is unfair. It is the same work," comments André Nadon, a New Richmond paramedic.

In addition to work schedules, the 300 paramedics of the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands want a wage increase that is aligned to what the other civil servants are asking, a 9% increase over five years. "We would also like improvements to the pension plan," points out Keven

Desbois.

Officially, the paramedics of the Gaspé Peninsula and Quebec are on strike. Due to the nature of their work, the essential service clause prevents them from being on a full strike.

"We are doing more pressure tactics than anything else. They (the tactics) are administrative measures. We don't put the name of the patient on the form. We refuse to fill out the transportation form. We no

longer bring the nurse or the doctor accompanying the patient back. They have to take a cab. We don't wash the exterior of the vehicle anymore. We still put emphasis on health and safety for the patient though," explains Mr. Desbois.

A couple of deadlines might influence the course of the strike between now and the end of March. The agreement linking ambulance owners and the government will expire on March 21. Moreover, on March 30, a tribunal will render a decision on a court action initiated by the CSAQ, the organization grouping ambulance companies, which are contesting the \$125 million cut in the budget from the Quebec government over the next three years.

"We tried to have common cause with the ambulance owners at first but they feared government retaliation," says Keven Desbois.

The paramedics are represented by five unions in Quebec but the actions have so far been conducted simultaneously, no matter the allegiance of the workers. March 16 was the ninth strike day of Quebec's paramedics.

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\$1.5M through new FARR fund

“is disappointing and insufficient,” says Lelièvre

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – Gaspesian prefects are expecting to receive \$1.5 million through the new *Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions*. According to Member of the National Assembly, Gaétan Lelièvre, the amount doesn't come close to filling the gap left by the 2015 cuts in regional development organizations and budgets.

The FARR (support fund for regions), will be available in May, after the adoption of the provincial budget. The prefects don't know exactly what amount will be dedicated to their territory, but with the information they have, they estimate the Gaspé Peninsula portion to be \$1.5 million, from the \$30 million announced by the Liberal government.

“It's setting the table. They talk about tripling the amount within four years,” says the president of the Table of prefects and who is also the prefect of the Avignon MRC, Guy Gallant. When announcing \$30 million for all the regions, Quebec specified that \$100 million per year would be available in five years. “We'll return to higher levels than before the cuts,” Mr. Gallant states.

Parti québécois MNA Gaétan Lelièvre describes the \$1.5 million amount as “disappointing and insufficient.” Before the 2015 cuts, the *Conférence régionale des élus* (CRÉ) managed an aver-

age of \$10 million per year in projects and specific agreements. The cuts in local development centers have also led to regional losses of \$3 million per year, he adds, for a total of \$13 million per year.

According to Mr. Lelièvre, the Liberal government “adds insult to injury” by entrusting the FARR management to government authorities rather than to MRCs.

The CRÉ, an organization consisting of prefects, mayors and civil society representatives, “was able to challenge the ministries and get three or four times the amounts,” mainly through sectorial agreements, Mr. Gallant admits. However, the basic funding of the CRÉ was \$2.9 million per year, he adds.

The MRCs will have to establish regional priorities. Funding will be given according to those priorities. The prefects are asking the government to consider the FARR money as “community participation” in the projects' financial package.

Prefect Guy Gallant spoke to journalists after a working meeting with the minister responsible for the region, Sébastien Proulx.

Urgency to act

The Gaspesian prefects presented Minister Proulx with a resolution about the “urgency to act” on the Gaspé Peninsula, after the results of the last census showing a new decline in population. “It re-

quires more measures on top of the FARR. It takes measures which are specific to the Gaspé,” Mr. Gallant says.

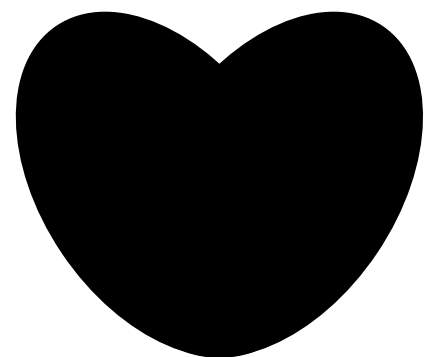
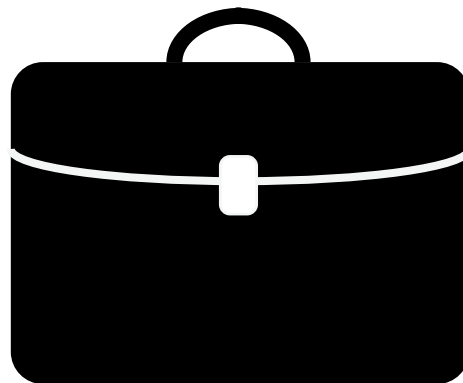
The prefects are asking, among other things, for the return of the income tax credit

for remote regions. The community portion in projects' financial packages should also be reduced, they think.

The prefects informed minister Proulx about their difficulties to communicate

with several ministers. “That's often long and complicated (...). We often get no answer. The files cannot progress. When you get a “No”, at least, you know what to work on,” states Guy Gallant.

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Rare chance to admire magnificent tall ships

Gilles Gagné

CARLETON: – The towns of Gaspé and Carleton will greet some of the 40 tall ships that will come up the Saint Lawrence estuary during the coming summer, as part of the 150 anniversary of Canada's Confederation.

The 40 ships will call in many ports of Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes. They will give an opportunity for tens of thousands of people to admire the “cathedrals of the seas,” as they are often called.

Quebec City will be the rallying point of the ships because a stop is scheduled there as part of a transatlantic race of 7,000 nautical miles taking place over the course of five months. Overall, the ships will stay in Canada between June 30 and as late as mid-August.

The race starts at the port of Royal Greenwich in Great Britain on April 13 and finishes in the port of Le Havre, France, which will welcome the grand winner between August 31 and September 3. There will be

stops in Portugal, Bermuda, the United States and Canada along the way.

Before and after the Quebec City stops, some of the tall ships will call at other ports for visits, like Gaspé and Carleton. Ships of the A and B categories should call in Gaspé while two smaller ships are expected to stop in Carleton, where the 250th anniversary of the town is celebrated this year.

“As a matter of fact, the Naval Rendez-vous of Quebec City receives the funding for the governments and manages the envelopes and the schedule. Our contribution is to make sure that there is an event in our town,” explains Daniel Côté, the mayor of Gaspé.

In Carleton, mayor Denis Henry points out that “two tall ships are expected to call”. However, the bad state of the wharf leaves some uncertainty as to whether the ships will dock or stay a certain distance offshore.

Rendez-vous 2017 also offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to become a crew



Photo: C. Forest

The tall ship Belem made a call at Sandy Beach in the summer of 2008.

member on one of the tall ships during the race or for one of the cruises in the Gulf of St Lawrence. Each race or cruise

presents trainee crew members with a special challenge. Trainees will also be able to visit the ports of call and dis-

cover their maritime and cultural heritage while taking part in the many group activities and festivities.

Conference for Alzheimer's Caregivers

Wendy Dawson

CARLETON: - An information session hosted by Dr. Megan McCallum will be held at the Douglastown Community Centre on Friday, March 24, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The conference is free to interested participants and the goal is to assist caregivers in the many stages of grief that accompany caring for their patients and loved ones suffering from Alzheimer's or dementia. The particular focus of the session is the idea of ambiguous loss, a loss that must be addressed without the normal accompanying stages of closure and grief. Other focuses of the conference will address, not only the losses to the patient, but also those of the caregiver who may find themselves facing the loss of their own plans and goals to focus on the care of a loved one.

There are an estimated 400 individuals suffering from Alzheimers in the Côte-de-Gaspé region.

Those interested in participating should contact Vision-Gaspé Percé Now to register.

SHARE *your* STORY



Story told by **DARYL BEEBE**
Interviewed by **TANNER WELLMAN**

That Old Chevy!

I have a story I want to share with you about a 1951 Chevy car. It's interesting because today there are a lot of technological things where kids are always on phones and video games, that sort of thing. When I was younger we had to make our own fun and in 1965 when the summer holidays started my friends and I didn't know what we were going to do.

My dad had this old 1951 Chevy in the yard on blocks and so I said to my friends “I'm going to ask dad if we can have it and we can drive it around.”

When I asked my dad, he said sure; since he didn't really ever say no to me. He gave me permission to take it because he thought we would never get it going. So we jacked it up, pumped up the tires and gave it a tune up. Dad gave us an old battery that he had out of the tractor and we tried it one day and got it going.

That started off an incredible summer! We used to live in a big house downtown behind the jail; it was called the Kelly House. When we moved from that house to the one we are in now, there were all kinds of old water pipes found, so we took a 2" steel pipe and used it; it went from the manifold right to the back of that car. What a nice sound!

We would take that car and drive it around the back field and when we went up the hill you could hear the car at the curb service across from the Maison Blanche. We did this every night of the summer and nobody complained because they knew that all the kids in New Carlisle were here at the Beebe's farm and were safe and having fun.

I remember one night there were 21 kids here in the yard; and my sweet mom used to make us

homemade French fries.

This night we had gone around the field and it was very dry and dusty. A guy by the name of Brent Walker, Kaye Walker's younger brother; was standing on the back bumper holding on to the trunk. When we arrived at the house all you could see were his eyes when he took off his glasses. He was covered in dust!

Gas back then was 25 cents a gallon and right next door we had a garage, owned by Lorne Astles' father, Mr. Astles and Dad gave me permission to drive across the main road. There was no traffic then, not like there is today. How did we afford the gas? We charged the girls 25 cents each to go for a ride and that's how we afforded our gas. Donna Renouf and Isabelle Goode were two girls who paid faithfully.


Another thing about that old Chevy is that it burned oil. A lot of oil.

We would get our oil from Jack Shearer's garage which used to be at the corner across from the Hamilton House. We would hop on our bikes with plastic jugs and when we got there Jack said, “boys, you've struck it lucky today! Judge Duguay just changed his oil in his Cadillac and it's just like new!”

We had this brand new used oil that we brought home and poured into the car and away we went.

It used so much oil we used to come around the barn every few turns and pour more oil in without even shutting the car off! That old car lasted all summer. It only died just before the long weekend when a piston rod came through the side of the motor.

What an unforgettable summer we had!





Municipality of Cascapedia-St-Jules
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The Municipality of Cascapedia-St-Jules would like to say Thank You to SADC for providing the funds to hire the Youth Center Facilitator at the Youth Center this winter.

The Municipality of Cascapedia-St-Jules would also like to say Thank You to CASA for providing the funds to hire the Day Camp Coordinator in 2016 at the Youth Center.

Many thanks are given to these organizations for helping us with our Youth Center Activities.




Former Olympic gold medalist and motivational speaker Bruny Surin to speak about “achieving new summits”

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND: – Bruny Surin, who won a gold medal for Canada in the 4 x100 metre relay at the Atlanta Olympic Games in 1996, will be in the Bay of Chaleur area on March 29 and will give two presentations, one in English at New Richmond High School and one at the Paspebiac Polyvalente School.

The title of the presentation is “Moving out of my comfort zone.”. It is closely linked to a childhood and overall life that included a significant number of challenges. Born in Haiti in 1967, Bruny Surin moved to Montreal in 1975 when he was eight years old.

He showed a positive attitude when he had to face the challenges prior to and following the migration of his family to Quebec. He is often asked how an individual can surpass what is reasonably expected from him or her and what kind of determination and commitment is necessary to achieve new summits. That will be the main topic of his presentations in New Richmond and Paspebiac.

Bruny Surin was just 20 when he first represented Canada in a major international meet, the Pan-American Games in 1987. He was a long jumper at the time and placed fifteenth, the same result he obtained at his first Olympic Games in Seoul a year later.

In 1989 a team manager, Enrico Dionisi, convinced that he was best suited for sprints, brought him to Italian coach Enrico Barucci, who suggested Bruny Surin opt for the 100-metre dash. About a year later, he was running that distance in 10.14 seconds at the Canadian Championships, winning the event.

He missed the bronze medal by a few hundredths of a second at the Barcelona Olympic Games, finishing fourth.

Bruny Surin really started to come into his own in 1993 at the World Championships where he placed fifth in the 100 metre and won a bronze medal as part of the Canadian relay team on the 4 x100 metres. That Canadian team won a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games in 1994 and a year later, Surin won a silver



Photo: courtesy of SADC

Former Olympian and motivational speaker Bruny Surin.

medal at the World Championships, behind another Canadian, Donovan Bailey, then the fastest human on earth. The Canadian relay team won a gold medal there.

The peak of Bruny Surin’s career occurred at the Atlanta Olympic Games in 1996, when the Canadian team in the relay 4 x 100 metres won the gold medal, beating the United States team by half-a-second, an eternity in sprint events.

Surin was already leading the race when he handed the baton to Donovan Bailey, unbeatable over that distance at the time. Robert Esmie and Glenroy Gilbert were the two other sprinters for Canada.

After Atlanta, Bruny Surin won two other World Championship medals, a gold one in 1997 as a member of Canada’s 4 x 100 metre relay, and a silver medal on the 100 metre dash in 1999. His time of 9.84

seconds in that race remains a Canadian record to this day, tied with Donovan Bailey.

Throughout his career, Bruny Surin criticized performance enhancing drugs.

The New Richmond High School presentation is only open to students while the Paspebiac presentation starts at 7 p.m. and is open to the public. The conferences are sponsored by the SADC Baie des Chaleurs.

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Reflections
by Diane Skinner Flowers

The Great Gaspesian Quiz

Here it is, the Great Gaspesian Quiz, 2017 edition. Feel free to use your own knowledge of the Gaspé, ask friends or research the answers. Don't get too frustrated as the answers will be in next week's column.

1. Gaspé comes from the Mi'kmaq word gespeg which roughly translates to _____.
2. The mountain range that extends onto the Gaspé Peninsula is part of the _____ Mountains.
3. The highway that travels around the peninsula is known as Route _____.
4. At the northeastern tip of the Gaspé is a large park called _____ National Park.
5. Murdochville has a varied history. Currently it is known for an alternative energy source - _____. Formerly it was a booming centre for _____.
6. What is a Loyalist? _____
What is an Acadian? _____
7. Miguasha has been named a World Heritage Site. Why?

8. In what year did Jacques Cartier first land on the Gaspé? _____
9. One of the most splendid gardens in the world can be found on the Gaspé Peninsula. What is it called and where is it located?

10. Percé Rock – How old is it? _____ How long is it? _____
How high? _____ How many tonnes of rock does it lose every year?

11. Charles Robin, a merchant from Jersey, set up a fishing post in _____ (town) in _____. (year)
12. In 1968 an award-winning movie was made here on the Gaspé, which starred Genevieve Bujold and Al Waxman as well as many local residents. What was the name of the movie? _____ Directed by _____. This director/author also wrote a series of 8 novels set on the Gaspé entitled _____.
13. During the Second World War, November 9, 1942, a Nazi spy named _____ landed in the town of _____.
14. In the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, the Gaspé was visited by pirates and privateers. What is the difference? _____
15. What extremely rare green mineral is named for the Gaspé? It was first found in Murdochville in 1968. _____
16. Mont Lyall, north of New Richmond and east of Ste. Anne des Monts, is a location where you can search for _____.
17. What are the following Gaspesians famous for?
Hazel McCallion _____
Gérard D. Levesque _____
René Lévesque _____
La Bolduc _____
Charles Houde _____
Cora Tsoufidou _____
18. The Gaspé Spec
Was founded in _____.
Was founded by _____ - _____ - _____
Is the only English community newspaper east of _____.

Well there it is and I won't pretend that I knew all the answers to these questions. But now I do. Give it your best try. This spring study up on Canadian trivia because for Canada Day I will have The Great Canadian Quiz; Gaspé Edition – and as in Double Jeopardy, scores can really change. Keep this edition of Spec so that next week you can compare questions and answers.

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Canada This project is funded in part by the Enabling Fund for Official Language Minority Communities and by the Government of Canada



Parents frustrated with lack of services available for their baby with rare syndrome

Gilles Gagné

PASPEBIAC: – The parents of Marianne Briand, a three-and-a-half-month-old baby suffering from the Cornelia de Lange syndrome, are trying to convince health authorities to supply the kind of professional services that could limit the handicap of their child.

Cornelia de Lange syndrome consists of physical and intellectual development deficiencies. It can lead to gastric problems, cardiac and kidney failure, autism and deafness.

“On January 31, the Maria hospital pediatrician recommended that Marianne should be supported through social work interventions. We have also made the same request... but so far, have not received the service,” pointed out Catherine Castilloux-Maldehy, Marianne’s mother.

Dominick Briand, Marianne’s father, and Ms. Castilloux-Maldehy knew before the birth of their daughter that there were abnormalities after consultations with experts. The slow growth of the fetus convinced the couple to opt for the birth delivery at *Centre hospitalier de l’Université Laval (CHUL)* in Quebec City rather than in Chandler, where a gynecologist was following Marianne’s case.

“She was born on December 6. She weighed 5 pounds, 10 ounces, but she lost some (weight) in the following days,” points out Mr. Briand.

“She did not react to eye contact and she did not latch when breastfeeding. A feeding tube had to be installed,” adds Catherine Castilloux-Maldehy, who is a nurse. Dominick and Catherine are both members of the popular local band The Clemville Kids.

The small size of Marianne’s head and her facial dysmorphism were noticed by the CHUL experts. The Cornelia de Lange syndrome was not diagnosed right away as it requires genetic testing before being confirmed. In Europe, the occurrence is one case for every 45,000 to 62,500 births.

“On December 14, the CHUL expert mentioned a syndrome but he did not say which one. On December 15, Marianne was transferred to Maria hospital by plane and on December 22, she was able to go to her home in Paspebiac, with the feeding tube,” explains the mother.



Photo: Catherine Castilloux-Maldehy

Marianne Briand has Cornelia de Lange syndrome.

“The genetic tests were carried out in the United States. It was supposed to take three months but we had the results after six weeks,” adds Dominick Briand.

The test was positive for Cornelia de Lange syndrome and the result was communicated on January 31. Steps were immediately taken by the parents to obtain specialized services from the Maria hospital, the Paspebiac CLSC and the Readaptaion centre in Bonaventure. Based on the recommendations made by the Maria hospital pediatrician, the file was submitted to the Readaption centre for treatment approval.

“The evaluation committee only meets once a month. It was February 17. They had lost her file prior to the meeting. I brought it to their attention just in time. Marianne’s case was accepted. The recommendation from the hospital asked for immediate intervention but we were told that the Readaptation centre would only provide the service in three months,” criticizes Catherine Castilloux-Maldehy.

She is very familiar with the health system and she doesn’t understand why the CLSC doesn’t intervene in the meantime with a social worker and a physiotherapist, while waiting for the Readaption centre to take control of the case.

“This is the result of the

health system’s restructuring! Before the restructuring, the CLSC would have assumed the physiotherapy and occupational therapy services. We are after the restructuring and it (the service) is cut. The CLSC and the hospital are getting rid of the case, knowing that the Readaptation centre will take

it. Nobody is taking cross responsibilities,” criticizes Catherine Castilloux-Maldehy.

In the meantime, she and her husband are doing what they think is best for Marianne.

“We are stimulating her a lot with the means we have. The lack of resources is frustrating. Are we stimulating her the right way? Are we leaving out treatments that would be better? An occupational therapist at Maria hospital is supporting us, a generous helping hand. Every day counts,” points out the mother.

Some Cornelia de Lange physical characteristics of Marianne have attenuated since January.

“For the moment, she is considered a mild case. She is reacting normally to stimulation. However, her genetic mutation had never been identified before, in the world! How will her disease evolve three months down the road,” asks Catherine Castilloux-Maldehy.

She and Dominick Briand have submitted a written complaint to the CLSC. The Maria hospital pediatrician also supported the parents’ complaint with a letter.

“The best support we receive comes from the Parents of Cornelia de Lange, sixteen Quebec families with a child suffering from the syndrome. It is a facebook group,” states Catherine Castilloux-Maldehy.

At the Integrated Health and Social Service Centre of the Gaspé Peninsula, Connie Jacques points out that the treatment recommended for Marianne has started. “The services are maintained. The services are in place (...) The hospital’s occupational therapist intervention is part of the treatment. We will put emphasis on maintaining the services. I can’t say that the four interveners (social worker, physiotherapist, special education worker and occupational therapist) are working on the case as of now.”

Dominick Briand and Catherine Castilloux-Maldehy were contacted shortly after the media started asking the Integrated Health Centre’s administration questions. They were given an appointment with a social worker. The parents will do a follow up with the media once they know more about future interventions of the health and social service staff.

Mawiomi Café:

An opportunity to chat and share

Wendy Dawson

CARLETON: – At the beginning of the year, the Mi’gmawai Mawiomi Secretariat launched the Mawiomi Café in all three Mi’gmaq communities of the region. The series of gatherings was established as a means for members of the community to share and exchange their thoughts, ideas and questions related to the actions and activities of the MMS.

The café formula was developed to provide members of the community with a relaxed and informal atmosphere where participants can freely express their preoccupations, thoughts, concerns and insights into the projects and plans put forth by the MMS and their respective Band Councils.

The Mawiomi Café wraps up with the final three gatherings to be held over the last weeks of March – in Gespeg on March 22, in Gesgapegiag on March 24 and in Listiguj on March 30.



Photo: facebook

The informal Mawiomi Café sessions provide an opportunity for members to share and exchange their questions and concerns about their communities.

Community members seeking to participate or find out more information about the Mawiomi

Café series can consult the Mi’gmawai Mawiomi Secretariat’s facebook page.

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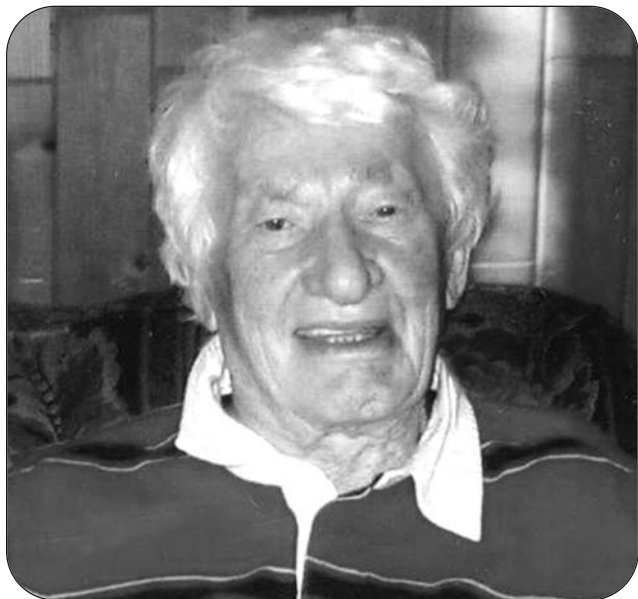
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Announcements...

Obituaries



FITZPATRICK: Leo

Passed away at his home, February 18, 2017 at the age of 86 years. Mr. Leo R. Fitzpatrick was the husband of Mrs. Ethel Hamilton from Gaspé.

Mr. Leo Fitzpatrick will be sadly missed by: his wife Mrs. Ethel Hamilton, his son Danny (Min), his daughter Sue (Peter), his three grandchildren: Tyler, Shannon, Erin, his brother Lewis (Vivian), brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and many friends

Interment to be held at a later date.

Professional services have been entrusted to Résidence funéraire Valère Fortin, Gaspé.

People who wish to do so, can make a donation to the Fondation du cancer de Gaspé, P.O. Box 6078, Gaspé, (Québec) G4X 2R6

GILKER: Robert Standford

Relatives and friends were saddened by the death of Robert (Bobby) Gilker which occurred suddenly at the hospital in Maria, Quebec on February 24, 2017 at the age of 83.

Bobby was pre-deceased by his wife Ann Woodman Gilker in 1987. Also five brothers Arthur (Lena), John, Samuel (Gwen), William (Marie), Peter (1st wife Gladys, 2nd wife Michelle) and four sisters Ann (Fridolan), Mary (Edward), Marion (Archibald) and Margaret (Clarke).

He is survived by one brother Bennie (Joan) and several nieces and nephews.

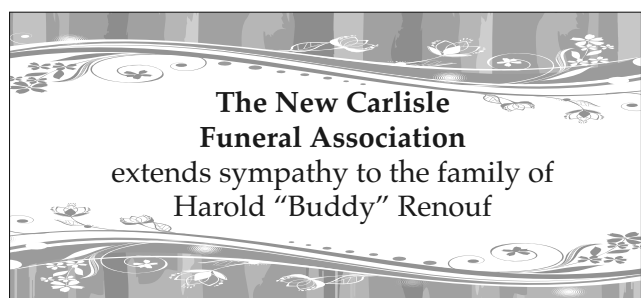
The funeral service was held February 28, 2017 at St Andrew's United Church with the Rev. Raymond Kraglund officiating. The organist was Sheila Starrak. Hymns sung were What a Friend We Have in Jesus and Shall we Gather at the River. The choir selection was Each Step I Take.

Burial will take place in the spring in Black Cape Cemetery. Thank you to all who donated to different charities and for the beautiful floral arrangement.

St. Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days, on the eighth day your prayer will be answered.

S.K.



HOTTON: Ralph

April 17, 1926 – November 17, 2016

Ralph passed away peacefully at the Hotel-Dieu Hospital on November 17, 2016 in his 91st year. Beloved husband of Melva Syvret for 65 years, loving father of Kenneth (Diane) and Dean (predeceased). Cherished grandfather of Jenna and Ryan. Ralph will also be missed by his brothers Floyd (Joanne) and Selwyn (Bonnie), sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews and friends. Predeceased by his siblings Cyril, Helen (Lewis), Mabel (Colin), Cedric (Barbara), Neville (Lorna) and Wilma (Roy).

Visitation was at the Valère Fortin Funeral Home on November 20, 2016. The funeral was held at St. Peter's Anglican Church in Malbay on November 21, 2016. Interment to take place in the summer at the Malbay cemetery.



SULLIVAN: Mary Sandra

Mary Sandra Sullivan, age 74, of Fairfield, Connecticut, passed away peacefully Monday, March 6, 2017 at the Vitas Hospice at St. Mary's Hospital, Waterbury surrounded by her family and dear friends. Born in Shigawake, Quebec, the daughter of the late Leonard and Cecelia Sullivan, she had been a Fairfield area resident for over 20 years. Sandra worked for many years for Equitable Insurance. She then worked in banquet services at the Norwalk Inn and the Patterson Club, and most recently for the United States Census Bureau. She was an active long-time member of the Gaelic American Club of Fairfield, and a member of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Mae King Division, Bridgeport where she was an active participant in the Hibernian National Convention. Sandra loved searching for, and collecting antiques of all kinds.

Survivors include two brothers, Joseph Henry Sullivan and his wife Stella of Shigawake, Quebec, Joseph Bryan Sullivan and his wife Lynn of Oakville, Ontario; nieces and nephews, Trevor, Heather, Kathleen, Patrick, Leah and Neil; and her long-time dear friend and devoted companion, Michael Devaney of Fairfield. A Mass of Christian

Burial was celebrated Monday, March 13, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 545 Stratfield Road, Fairfield. Interment followed in St. Thomas Cemetery, Fairfield. Friends greeted the family Sunday from 3-7 p.m. in the Spear-Miller Funeral Home, 39 South Benson Road, Fairfield.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 38 Richards Ave., Norwalk, CT 06854. For information or to offer an online condolence please visit www.SpearMiller-FuneralHome.com

In Memory

ASTELS: Sarah (Sadie)

In loving memory of our mother who passed away on March 21, 2009.

*You're not forgotten, Mother dear,
Nor ever shall you be,
As long as life and memory last,
We will remember thee.
No one knows the silent heartaches,
Only those who have lost can tell,
Of the grief that's borne in silence,
For the one we loved so well.*

We love and miss you Mom, Irma and Lorne.

LANGLOIS: Leonard

In loving memory of a dear husband, father and grandfather who passed away March 10, 1998.

*We will always love and miss you.
And always wish that you were here,
Yet we feel a warmth around us,
And know your presence is so near,
Love and memories last forever,
In some ways we'll never be apart,
For the times we had together
Are locked safe inside our hearts.*

We love you, Iona and family.

ROBERTS: Earl and Beatrice

In loving memory of Mum and Dad. Dad who passed away April 6, 2000 and Mum who passed away February 16, 2003.

*You were two special people in our lives,
They never leave us, even after they are gone.*

Love you both, fondly remembered, always in our hearts. Love Iona and family.

Card of Thanks



The family of the late Anna Hackett Bond would like to say thank you to all their relatives and friends for the kindness and support given to them during their time of sorrow. Many thanks for the many visits, sympathy cards, phone calls from near and far, food, floral arrangements, masses, donations to the cancer society and your presence at the wake and funeral mass.

Your thoughtfulness will not be forgotten.

The Bond Family

Social notes...

Hello everyone. Is there ever going to be an end to this snow? They say spring is just around the corner; but the world is round. Here's wishing you a great weekend and keep your hopes up for warmer weather soon.

Recent events and news

Mr. Howard Gallichan recently decided to check out the hospitality at Gaspé's Hôtel Dieu. He certainly wasn't feeling very well and asked to go to the hospital. For those of us who know him, he has a very high pain threshold so he was seriously not feeling well. It turned out that he had an infection from a wound on his ankle that he received from rubbing it against the side of his wheelchair. He only stayed in the hospital for a few days and is now recuperating at home surrounded by his wife Rowena, their daughters Gail and Peggy and Peggy's daughter, Melissa. Rowena and Howard are also looking forward to a visit with their son, Francis and his wife Sherry who are scheduled to arrive on March 23 for a couple of weeks. We wish Howard a speedy recovery and safe travels to the family.

Last time I mentioned that Margaret and David Patterson had a brief visit with three of their daughters. Alma, Shirley, and Rosemarie were home and honoured their parents with an intimate celebration of their 65th wedding anniversary. Congratulations Margaret and David!

Karen and Gary Briand were very happy to have their daughter Kellie-Ann and her sons Riley and Conoley visit with them during their spring break. While they were home they enjoyed some snowshoeing; they learned the dominoe game "Mexican Train"; they visited with their aunt/great-aunt Ella Beck in Paspébiac and numerous other activities. The boys also spent some quality time with their paternal grandparents Norma and Brian McDonald before they headed back to Montreal. Congratulations to Conoley on getting the part of the cowardly lion in his school's production of The Wizard of Oz. There were numerous other students in grades 5 and 6 who auditioned for the role but he won out. Way

Family and friends of Donna Renouf Lefloch wish her a happy birthday, and hope she has a year filled with great health and much happiness.

Sincere sympathy to the family of Mrs. Melvina Huntington who passed away on January 14.

Trevor Bechervaise, Rowayton, Connecticut was home for ten days in February visiting with family and friends enjoying the great outdoors, skidooing, great times at the cabin and playing in the Firemen's bonspiel.

Sympathy to the family of Grace Crozier whose death occurred on February 26.

Roma and Dave Douesnard are sporting beautiful tans. They recently returned from spending a week in Varadero, Cuba with family members Ellen and Glenn MacAusland and friends Louis & Suzanne Welsh, all from P.E.I.

Several weeks ago, one of New Carlisle's youngest citizens, four-month-old Joseph Conrad Dupuis was baptized at St. Andrew's Anglican Church. Proud parents are Ashley Buttle and Mark Dupuis. Congratulations to grandmothers Sascha Buttle, Elizabeth Dupuis and great-grandmother Fern Buttle and other family members.

Our condolences are extended to the family of



Sharon Howell

GASPE NEWS

to go, Conoley!

Our sympathies and condolences are extended to the family and friends of Mrs. Ruth Price Tuzo of York who passed away at the hospital on March 3 at the age of 91. She will be dearly missed by her daughter Elizabeth Tuzo McGregor, and her son Ashley and his family and her son David. She will be dearly missed by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, her nieces, nephews, friends and neighbours. She was predeceased by her husband Earl Tuzo. Rest in peace, Mrs. Ruth!

Lorna and David Baird would like to wish happy birthday to their 15-year-old grandsons Malcolm Baird on March 14 and Michael Desangelis on March 16. These young lads belong to Lorna and David's son Sandy. They also wish their grandson William Simon a very happy 31st birthday on March 18. William is Murray's son (Lorna's son). They also wish a very special happy birthday to their great-grandson, Robin Rehel who will be one year old on March 27. He is the grandson of Elizabeth Baird and Boyd Coffin and the son of Erika Coffin and Ricky Rehel. Wow, that is a busy month of birthdays!

In my birthday list for March I missed a couple of very busy ladies from York: Rhonda Stewart who does so much for her family, community, and her church will be having a birthday on March 23. Nadine Jean who does a lot for her family, community and her church will be having a birthday on March 27. May you both have great birthdays with family and friends and all the best for the coming year.

A little while ago I received a call from Jan Thompson Maloney of Montreal. Jan is originally from Douglastown and was married to Stanley Maloney also formerly of Douglastown. Jan moved



Joan Imhoff

NEW CARLISLE NEWS

Louise Grandmont Dallain who passed away at her home on March 1 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Sincere sympathy to the family of Harold "Buddy" Renouf who passed away on March 16 at the age of 88.

Barbara and Mark LeGresley were happy to have their daughter Laura home from university for the March break.

Miriam Beebe, who is attending Laval university in Quebec, was home visiting with parents Daryl Beebe and Louise LeMonde for the March break.

Vivian Beebe Moulins and her husband Jacques were also here for the March break visiting family.

A very successful coffee house musical evening by Jasmine Gifford and friends was held Thursday, March 16 at St. Andrew's Anglican Church. The event was held to help raise funds for travel. Jasmine was chosen to perform at the Club Soda in

away from Gaspé in 1958. She and her husband returned each, if not most, summers for holidays. Her husband Stan passed away about three years ago. Jan was back home to Gaspé last summer for a visit with family and friends. Stanley came from a fairly large family which also included: Phyllis, Audrey, Pauline, Pearl, Mary, and Lawrence. Phyllis, who was married to the late Manny Morris, told me that only Audrey and her are left in that large family. It was so very kind of Jan to call. It provided an opportunity to reminisce about people from the community that we both know or as often is the case these days, people we both used to know as they have passed away. Thanks again for the call and keep well.


Sandra Eden, originally from Wakeham, is so very proud of her new great-grandson, Jordan Lavigne who was born on March 9. Jordan's parents are Andrew Lavigne and his fiancée, Stephanie. Andrew is Sandra's grandson. His dad is Sandra's son, Marc. Congratulations and best wishes to all the family! Sandra lives in Chateauguay - another Gaspesian in Chateauguay. They are soon going to have to change the name of the place.

I would like to thank everyone who played a part in my 65th birthday celebration after church on Sunday, March 5. My family held a very special and intimate dinner party on the Saturday evening in the midst of that blustery weekend. My younger sister, Cathy and my good friend, Karen Briand were responsible for pulling off the surprise party on Sunday. It was very much appreciated and I can't believe I didn't suspect a thing. My friend, Vera Patterson had not been in touch with me for a while and I jokingly suggested that I might have offended her. But no, we both had been very busy but she was also afraid that she might "spill the beans." Thank you for the lovely cards, sentiments, gifts, calls, etc. It was lots of fun!

It looks like that is all that I have to share with you for this week. Should you have some news to share, please feel free to contact me at photo_ops@hotmail.com. Thank you for your time.

Montreal with other young artists. Bravo Jasmine!

The Linda Lemoire-Brown Foundation held its annual fundraising bonspiel at the arena this past weekend. Although the weather was warm outside, the temperature and ice were great for curling thanks to the new cooling system installed by the municipality this year. Look for more news about the bonspiel in next week's issue.



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COAST ROUND-UP

POINTE-NAVARRÉ:

Mass of St. Peregrine

The mass of St. Peregrine, patron saint of the sick suffering from cancer and long-term diseases, will be celebrated on **Tuesday, April 4** at 7 p.m. at the Shrine of Pointe-Navarre. Welcome to all.

GASPÉ:

Gaspé Cancer Foundation Upcoming Events

March: The Annual Gaspé Cancer Foundation Membership Campaign will officially begin in March. May we remind you that membership fees are \$12 per year. New members have a 30-day waiting period before being eligible to receive their travel assistance. If you are a member in good standing, are afflicted with cancer and must travel outside the region for treatment, you are eligible for the following travel assistance: Chandler \$40, Maria \$70, Rimouski \$120, Rivière-du-Loup \$150, Quebec \$160, Montreal and Sherbrooke \$220.

GASPE:

Potluck Supper Postponed

The potluck supper in support of the Diocesan ACW Education Fund that was previously scheduled for **April 1** has been postponed. Details on the rescheduling of the Potluck Supper will be released at a later date.

GASPE:

Gift Bingo

A gift bingo will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 59, Gaspé on **Tuesday, April 4** at 7:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.

DOUGLASTOWN:

Douglas Community Center Upcoming Events

Wednesday, March 29: Travel Talks with Elaine Boutin and Charles Bachelard "On the summits of Ecuador" A neat way to travel around the world! Most talks will be in French. Voluntary contribution.

YORK:

York River Senior Citizens Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 8: The annual general meeting will be held at 4 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion.

Punch will be served from 5 to 6 p.m., supper is at 6 p.m. and a dance will follow with live entertainment. The cost is \$20 with a \$10 refund to members. Bar service available. Call Tony Patterson for more information at 418-368-3276.

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

WAKEHAM:

Advance notice

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

BARACHOIS:

Agricultural Forum

The Barachois and Area Development Committee invites you to an agricultural forum – Grow-Eat-Sell – at the Barachois Recreation Centre from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on **Saturday, March 25**. This event will feature a variety of speakers about home and community gardening, as well as bringing your produce to market. To sign up for this free conference please contact Sandy Coombs at 418-645-2874.

BARACHOIS:

Legion Branch 261 Upcoming Events

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

BARACHOIS

Yoga

A new session of Yoga will be starting April 1 at Belle Anse School – 8 weeks for \$70. To register please contact Sandy Coombs at 418-645-2874 before March 30. Limited to 12 persons

BARACHOIS:

Bingo

Bingo will be held at the Barachois Recreation Centre on **Friday, March 31** at 7 p.m.

SHIGAWAKE:

Cookbooks for sale

The Marcil Branch W.I. has a cookbook that would make a perfect gift. The cost is \$12 per book and includes wonderful recipes from past and present W.I. members. To purchase a copy, please call 418-

752-6564 or pick up at the Spec office.

SHIGAWAKE:

SPDS Governing Board Meetings

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

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

SHIGAWAKE:

Community Center Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 8: Roast beef or chicken supper from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person. Tickets will be sold in advance.

Monday, April 17: Easter bingo.
Saturday, May 13: Mother's Day tea from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$7 per person.

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

HOPE TOWN:

Hope Baptist Church

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

NEW CARLISLE:

Bible Chapel Services

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

NEW CARLISLE:

Upcoming events

The following upcoming events for New Carlisle legion branch #64 will be held:

March 25: Dart club gift bingo starting at 7 p.m. 1 series \$10 or 3 series for \$20. All proceeds go to Legion

Saturday, April 1: Crib tournament at 1 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person. Register your team before by call 418-752-5495 or 418-752-

6214.

April 9: Sunday breakfast at New Carlisle chalet starting at 9 a.m. cost \$10 per person

NEW CARLISLE:

Variety Show

The NCHS Home and School brings you "A good OL' Gaspesian Variety Show" on **Friday, May 5** at New Carlisle High School, 7 p.m. \$5 entry fee for all, toe taping music for all ages. Bring a friend and enjoy an evening out. Door prize, canteen service and a 50/50 for added fun.

NEW CARLISLE:

Monthly breakfast

The New Carlisle 50+ Club will be holding their monthly breakfast on **Wednesday, April 12** at 9 a.m. at the Heritage Restaurant.

NEW RICHMOND:

Friperie Notice

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

NEW RICHMOND:

A Story to be Told

Faith adventure told in songs and testimonies. **Good Friday, April 14** at 7 p.m. at Full Gospel Church, 248 Perron Blvd. West New Richmond. Information: 418 392-5161. A light snack will be served during the evening. Presented in collaboration with Église Chrétienne Évangélique.

NEW RICHMOND:

Royal Canadian Legion Upcoming Activities

Saturday, March 25: The Royal Canadian Legion will be hosting a Dame de Pique tournament at 1 p.m. The cost is \$5, bring a partner and join us. Everyone is welcome.

Saturday, April 1: we will be hosting an afternoon of cribbage starting at 1 p.m. at a cost of \$10 each. Welcome to all.

Sunday, April 2: An afternoon of live music by our local talented

musicians will be held starting at 1 p.m. A \$2 cover charge will be in effect, Followed by a B.B.Q chicken leg supper upstairs at the community centre starting at 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children under 12 yrs of age. Please come to join us for a great afternoon and supper. Everyone is welcome.

NEW RICHMOND:

United Church Upcoming Events

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

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

50 + Club

Every Tuesday: A grocery bingo will be held at 7 p.m. Entry fee is 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, March 25** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. To reserve a table for \$5, call the band office (Bonnie Jerome) 418-759-3441.

BLANKET CLASSIFIEDS

QCNA (Quebec Community Newspapers Association) can place your classified ad into 20 weekly papers throughout Quebec - papers just like the one you are reading right now! One phone call does it all! Call Marnie at QCNA 514-697-6330. Visit: www.qcna.org.

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UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, March 26

Hope Town - 10:30 a.m.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, March 26

New Carlisle

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Hopetown

10:30 a.m. Eucharist

ANNOUNCE ALL YOUR UPCOMING EVENTS HERE!

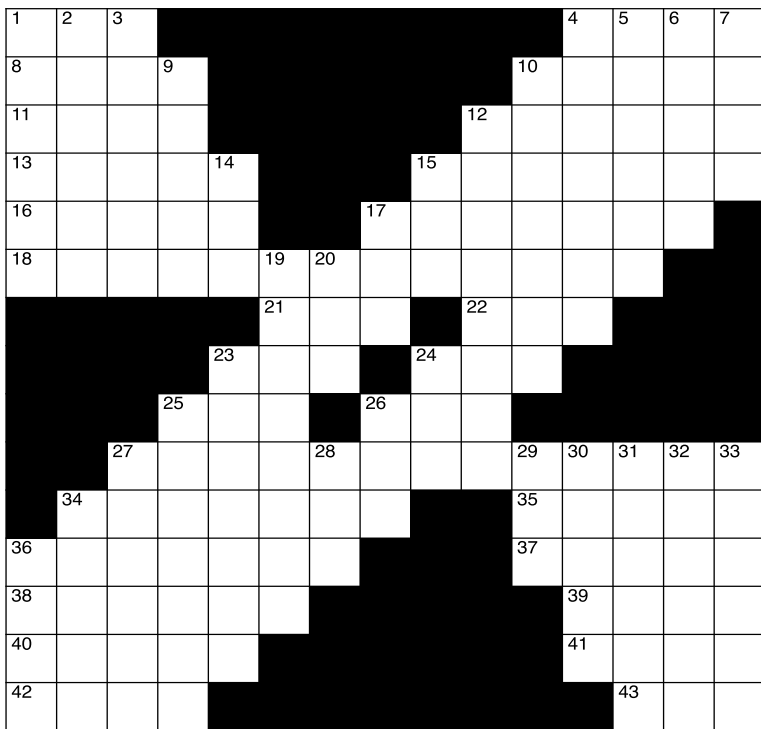
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CROSSWORDS

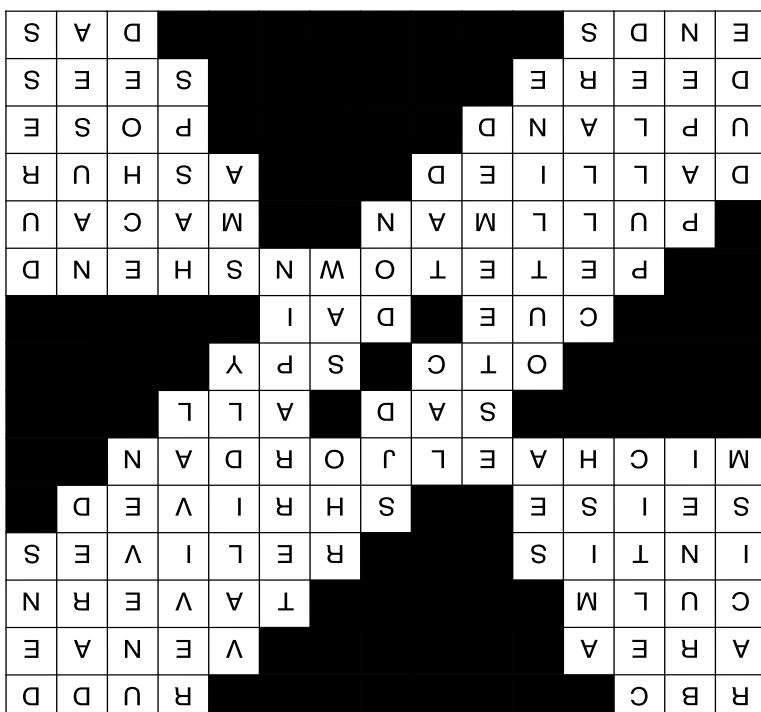


CLUES ACROSS

1. Computer security philosophy (abbr.)
4. "Antman" actor Paul
8. Region
10. Heart veins __ cavae
11. Stem
12. Public house
13. Outdated monetary units
15. Experiences again
16. Took possession of (Brit.)
17. Absolved
18. "His Airness"
21. Unhappy
22. The entirety
23. Meds without prescription
24. James Bond is one
25. Signal
26. Midwife
27. "The Who" guitarist
34. "Independence Day" actor
35. East Asian territory
36. Moved slowly
37. God of Assyria
38. Highland
39. Photographers' requests
40. Makes tractors
41. Witnesses
42. Not beginnings
43. Prosecutors

CLUES DOWN

1. Prejudice
2. Known for its sultans
3. Boston hoopster
4. An evangelistic meeting
5. Inconsistent
6. Challenged
7. Hideaways
9. Members of Mennonite sect
10. Cogently
12. Univ. of Maryland mascot
14. The Caspian is one
15. Greek letter
17. Law degree
19. Respected
20. Resin-like substance
23. A basis for
24. Popular horror movie franchise
25. Basements
26. Boxing promoter King
27. Plucked
28. Small amount
29. Shape-memory alloy
30. Metal plates
31. Resonated
32. Sickness
33. Coercion
34. Franz van __, German diplomat
36. Type of ranch



Why do we say ... By Gary Briand

We have all been acquainted with the words "namby pamby". While we are clear that it refers to anything childish or ineffectual, its ancestry is somewhat complex.

During the early part of the eighteenth century, Ambrose Philips was a don at St. John's College at Cambridge University. But he also dabbled in poetry. His style was extremely dull and laden with references to the Tory party of Britain. He was assaulted by the writing of Henry Carey, himself a poet and musician, whose major poem was entitled "Sally in the Alley." Mr. Carey's great claim to fame is that he was probably the first person to sing, "God Save the King" in public.

Carey considered Philip's poetry half-witted. He published in 1725 a poem that satirized Philip's verse. He did this through a series of rhyming couplets set out to childish epigrams. Carey came up with the term namby pamby as a word play on the very name of Ambrose Philips and called his poem "Namby Pamby-A panegyric on the New Verification." The poem was so successful that Philips thereafter became known as Namby Pamby and the great Alexander Pope used the term in his epic satire "The Dunciad".

Since then "namby pamby" has become synonymous with childish gibberish.

Grape Tomato and Blue Cheese Tart

Serves 6

Crust

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 4 ounces cream cheese, chilled and cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 8 tablespoons unsalted butter, chilled and cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper

Topping

- 4 ounces creamy blue cheese, finely crumbled
- 2 cups grape tomatoes, halved length-wise (see note)
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon balsamic vinegar
- Kosher salt
- 1 1/2 tablespoons chopped flat-leaf parsley
- 2 green onions, chopped to include 2 inches of the green parts



1. Arrange a rack at a center position and preheat the oven to 375 F. Have ready a 9-inch tart pan with a removable bottom.
2. For the crust: Place the flour, cream cheese, butter, salt, and cayenne in a food processor; pulse until the mixture resembles coarse meal. Remove and knead the mixture into a smooth mass and then press it with your fingers in an even layer into the bottom (not up the sides) of the tart pan. Smooth the dough with the back of a spoon. Freeze the tart shell for 15 minutes to firm, and then bake the crust until golden brown, 30 minutes. Remove the tart shell from the oven and cool for about 5 minutes but retain oven temperature.
3. For the topping: Sprinkle the cheese evenly over the crust. Arrange the tomatoes in a circular pattern and in a single layer over the cheese, cut-sides up. You may not need to use all of the tomatoes. Whisk together the olive oil and vinegar and drizzle over the tomatoes, and then sprinkle with salt. Place the tart on a baking sheet to catch any drippings and return to the oven and bake until the cheese has melted and the tomatoes are hot, 10 to 12 minutes.
4. Cool the tart for 5 to 10 minutes and then remove the sides of the tart pan. (The tart can be made 3 hours ahead. Leave the tart cool at room temperature and reheat in a preheated 350 F oven until warmed through, 8 to 10 minutes.)
5. Mix together the parsley and green onions, and sprinkle over the tart. Cut the tart into 6 wedges and serve. Serves 6.
6. Note: Small grape tomatoes, which have a sweet flavor, work better than larger cherry tomatoes in this recipe.

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you will likely experience a week of thoughtfulness and reflection. It can be a very "zen" experience for you, as you're not typically used to slowing down.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, keep your cool in the week ahead, which might be more tumultuous than you're accustomed to. Don't take things personally, and rest assured things will blow over soon.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Old stories from your past may resurface, Gemini. These could be humorous, so approach them with a positive attitude and enjoy the fun-filled trip down Memory Lane.

CANCER – June 22/July 22

Cancer, this week you may feel as if your energy doesn't go as far as it once did. Speak up if you find yourself battling exhaustion. Others can help.

LEO – July 23/Aug 23

Leo, others see you as witty and a good storyteller, so you might be called on to make a speech or emcee an important event. Make it your own.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22



Virgo, you may have to play the role of peacekeeper this week when bickering between others gets out of hand. Step in and negotiate a truce.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, be your own person, even when someone else tries to guide you into his or her line of thinking. Don't fall for any subterfuge or get carried away.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Cooperation instead of competition may be the way to get ahead this week, Scorpio. Take a look at what others are doing and see if you can combine your efforts.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, meeting new people is often exciting and you could have the opportunity for new introductions this week. Just remember that first impressions last.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Simple pleasures will offer you the greatest rewards over the next few days, Capricorn. You don't require a lot of fanfare or extravagance. Relish in

creature comforts.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you are becoming more attuned with how others may be able to help you advance your career. Don't hesitate to seek advice. The time for change could be upon you.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, make an effort to communicate more with those around you. Life can feel isolated without a good foundation of friends.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

MARCH 19

Clayton Kershaw, Athlete (29)

MARCH 20

Barron Trump, First Family (11)

MARCH 21

Scott Eastwood, Actor (31)

MARCH 22

JJ Watt, Athlete (28)

MARCH 23

Brett Eldredge, Singer (31)

MARCH 24

Valentin Chmerkovskiy, Dancer

(31)

MARCH 25

Lee Pace, Actor (38))

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