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week



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The Gaspé **Spec**

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Local author invited to Havana Book Fair

Wendy Dawson

NEW RICHMOND: – At one time, Michael James Isaac considered himself a bit of a reluctant writer. His first book, published in 2010 and entitled “How the Cougar Came to be Called the Ghost Cat/Ta’n Petalu Telui’tut Skite’kmujewey Mia’wj” started off as a university assignment, one that required Mr. Isaac to write a children’s story, a story that included a moral or a lesson.

Michael (or Mike) Isaac was challenged by the project. “I certainly didn’t consider myself a storyteller or an author but I had to get the assignment done, so I had to reflect upon a lived experience and the “lived experience” that I used was going to Saint Anne’s Indian Day School in Listiguj as a child.” Mr. Isaac goes on to explain the reason for the lived experience becoming the inspiration for his book. “The first three years at the school were rather traumatic. I wasn’t allowed to speak my language. Not in class or out in the playground. We were punished for that. Each and every time we were caught speaking our language we were told not to. If we didn’t listen to the supervisor or the teacher we were sent to the Principal’s office and then, in those days, you would be strapped, and so to avoid the pain of the strap, I stopped speaking my language. I had been a fluent speaker, but I lost it - my fluency, I lost my language.”

A week before his assignment was due, Mike Isaac began tying the pieces together. He had been told by educators that it was always best to write about what you knew, and this was a story he



Photo: Fernwood Publishing

Photo: courtesy of Canada in Cuba

Author Michael James Isaac promoting Canadian literature in Cuba.

knew well. Mr. Isaac’s pain and loss became the foundation for the story of Ajig, a young cougar that builds a new home in the forest. In an attempt to ease the fear of the other animals towards him, Ajig stops behaving like a cougar in order to build friendships. However when Ajig returns home he discovers that he is not welcome there among the cougars because he no longer behaves like one – and this is how Ajig becomes the ‘Ghost Cat’.

The story about identity

and acceptance was so well received by Mike Isaac’s professor, that he encouraged Isaac to try to get the story published. “I didn’t really explore it at that time, but when I saw that professor later on, he asked me if I had ever gotten the story published. When I told him that I hadn’t, he reminded me that he still had a copy and if I didn’t give it a try, he would.”

After a rejection by one publisher, a second, Roseway Publishing, decided to take on Mike Isaac as a client. With

the publisher on board, Mike sought out his longtime friend and renowned artist Dozy (Arlene) Christmas to do the illustrations for the book.

What started as a school assignment culminated into a beautifully illustrated children’s book written in both English and Mi’gmaq. The story, built upon Mike Isaac’s personal experience and that touches on the themes of both acceptance and belonging, has done quite well commercially and is even now part of the Nova Scotia teaching curriculum.

When Mike Isaac received an invitation this year from the Canada Council for the Arts to participate as a profiled author at the Havana Book Fair, he was a little surprised. It was Roseway Publishing that had submitted Isaac’s name and he was not aware.

Every year in February, the Havana Book Fair, which takes place in Cuba, honours a different country along with its literary and cultural contributions. This year, 30 different Canadian authors and 18 different Canadian publishing houses were invited to attend. It is fitting that this event which has been known to attract as many as 1 million visitors a year is held in the country which enjoys one of the highest literacy rates in the world (99.8 %).

For his part, Isaac was in good company. Among the authors invited to the Book Fair this year were some Canadian notables such as Margaret Atwood and Graeme Gibson.

As an invited author of the Havana Book Fair, Mike Isaac took part in a panel discussion with other indigenous writers who spoke of their personal experiences. During the event

which took place from February 9 to the 19, Isaac also had an opportunity to promote and distribute his book to local Cuban children. It was one of the high points of the event for him. “There is a real thirst for reading material in Cuba. People were just so excited to have access to new books. It was really a pleasure to see that. I am so grateful for the opportunity that I had and for the support of the Canada Council for the Arts for making it happen.”

After the book fair wraps up in Havana, it travels throughout the country stopping in all major cities in Cuba allowing residents to stock up on reading material for another year.

It is the second day of March Break and Mike Isaac is in his office. “I consider my trip to Cuba my March break so now I have to make up some time,” he explains. In addition to being an author, Mike Isaac is the principal of New Richmond High School. When asked if he has another book in him (he already has two to his credit, the second, *The Lost Teachings / Panuijkkatasikl Kina’masuti’l* was published in 2013), Mr. Isaac points to his computer and says “I do. Right in there.” For someone who struggled with the exercise at first, he has developed an affinity for writing children’s books. “I feel as if there are many messages that can be delivered this way, messages that touch on so many aspects of what we have lost, but what remains important.”

More information on *How the Cougar came to be called the ghost cat / Ta’n petalu telui’tut skite’kmujewey mia’wj* can be found at fernwoodpublishing.ca.

'One Season At a Time', a very special project

Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ: - A very special and unique project is underway in Gaspé. It involves participants faced with mental health issues who are discovering a positive way of seeing life through photography.

One Season at a Time is a project that has been developed with funding from Bell Let's Talk community funds. It is fostered by the foundation of the CISSS de la Gaspésie. The project consists of four photography outings (one per season) that takes place throughout the year and meetings in between these outings are organized by the group leaders. The meetings allow participants to reflect on the group's experience and on their personal goals while also providing an opportunity to plan future outings. Jacques Gratton, a professional photographer based in Gaspé, accompanies the group on outings to offer his guidance in regards to the basics of photography.

At the end of the year, the photos selected by the partic-

ipants will be displayed as part of a collective showing and the public will be invited to attend this important event. The main goal is to encourage positive experiences and personal growth through a creative activity in order to promote overall well-being and positive mental health. The idea is also to develop greater awareness and appreciation of their strengths and abilities to influence their own well-being; reinforce self-esteem and self-confidence; encourage social involvement and support good interpersonal relationships.

Exploring through photography

Sarah Finlayson is a Social Worker and one of the group leaders. "We had our first group meeting on January 25 with the participants and we've recently made our first outings. We met at the Gare intermodale and then we explored the area. We also spoke about things that help us go through winter and what we liked about the pic-



Photo: CISSS de la Gaspésie

Photo taken during the first photography outing on February 23. From left to right: Chantale Cloutier, Special Educator; Sarah Finlayson, Social Worker; Katrina Perry, Social Work Student.

tures. It was really a beautiful day and a positive one. Instead of talking about mental health, we shared on natural health and wellness and everyone appreciated it," she said. The group is bilingual.

There are eight participants aged between 30 and 70 and they all live in the MRC Côte-de-Gaspé. This year's project is the first one and two other years are scheduled. The exhibit of all the

chosen photographs will take place in January 2018. The location hasn't been chosen yet, adds Ms. Finlayson, "but the community will be invited to celebrate the work of the participants."

News briefs

Fatal snowmobile accident for an American

Geneviève Gélinas

MURDOCHVILLE – An American snowmobiler died on February 28 in an accident on trail 597, halfway between Murdochville and Gaspé. Joseph-Reese Townsend, 60 years old, from the State of Georgia, was riding with ten other snowmobilers around 10:30 a.m. He lost control of his snowmobile in a curve and struck trees. Then the man and his snowmobile fell off an eight-to-nine meter cliff and landed in the Sirois stream. Mr. Townsend's companions went down the cliff to recover his inanimate body.

Murdochville firefighters came with a snowmobile and a sleigh to transport the victim to Highway 198, where an ambulance was waiting. Mr. Townsend was pronounced dead on arrival at the Murdochville CLSC, at the end of the afternoon.

It was the eleventh snowmobile fatal collision this winter in Quebec, and the first on the Gaspé.

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Police report

On February 28, 2017 at the Quebec City Courthouse, Superior Court Judge Serge Francoeur sentenced Bertram Dow, 61, from Port Daniel for the March 13, 2004 non-premeditated murder of Russell Duguay in Port Daniel, to life imprisonment without eligibility to parole before serving 10 years. Bertram Dow was also accused of the March 13, 2004 attempted murder of Byron Duguay, and on February 28, pleaded guilty to a lesser offence of aggravated assault and was sentenced.

Before sentencing, Bert Dow apologized to the family for the crimes he committed. The crown prosecutor and the defence attorney had both suggested to Judge Francoeur that the period of ineligibility for parole be set to 10 years.

The sentence retroacts to his incarceration of March 13, 2004. To date, Bertram Dow served 11 years and 9 months in a penitentiary and has served more than the period specified by the judge. Consequently he is now eligible for parole and may make an application to the Parole Board. The Parole Board will determine when parole will be granted.

The Sûreté du Québec made a drug bust February 23, 2017 in Grande Rivière.

A 59-year-old retired Fisheries and Oceans officer was arrested, released and summoned to appear in court at a later date on probable charges of possession of drugs for the purpose of trafficking and production of drugs. During the search of the Bellefeuille street residence, the police seized approximately 225 grams of cannabis, methamphetamine pills, a cannabis plant and drug trafficking paraphernalia.

The police acted on information received from the public.

The police officers of the Rocher Percé MRC detachment arrested three minors involved in break-ins in two commercial buildings situated at the Chandler Marina.

Three sixteen and seventeen-year-old suspects were arrested, released and will eventually appear at court on charges of break and enter in two commercial buildings, mischief in relation to property, the value of which exceeds \$5000 and breach of probation.

On February, 28, 2017 Sûreté du Québec MRC du Rocher-Percé investigators arrested Michel Leblanc, 66, from Chandler.

He appeared at the New Carlisle Courthouse, the same day on charges of sexual interference with a minor under the age of 14, invitation to sexual touching and luring a child by means of a computer. Following his appearance in court, he was remanded in custody. The offences were allegedly committed between September 2016 and February 2017.

The residence of the accused was searched and computer-related material was seized. The investigation is ongoing in that case.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada recently released a list of fishers fined in recent months for a total of \$19,4435 for various offences under the Fisheries Act. From our area, the following people were included in the list:

Yvon Aubut (Gaspé), Wilfrid Dubé (Gaspé) and Judes-René Fournier (Gaspé) were each fined \$1,500 for lobster fishing without a licence and lobster fishing during a closed time.

Billy Chicoine (Rivière-au-Renard) and David Dunn (Rivière-au-Renard) were fined \$500 each, and Stépanne Dunn (Rivière-au-Renard) was fined \$1,000 for landing crab without a dockside observer.



Photo: G. Gélinas

MNA Sylvain Roy asks the Quebec Wildlife Minister to hire new wildlife officers, as their numbers have decreased by 12 % over five years.

MNA Sylvain Roy wants more wildlife officers

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ – The Quebec Government betrayed its promise to increase the number of wildlife officers, criticizes Bonaventure Member of the National Assembly (MNA) Sylvain Roy. The lack of staff leaves the way clear for poachers and their activities have been increasing over the last few years, Mr. Roy adds.

On March 27, 2015, Wildlife Minister Laurent Lessard announced an increase in the selling price of hunting, trapping and fishing licenses. He stated that the \$5 million raised through this increase would be used to improve wildlife protection, by hiring wildlife officers and training them.

Almost two years later, nothing has been done, states Parti québécois MNA Sylvain Roy. Between 2011 and 2016,

the number of wildlife officers went from 426 to 374 in Quebec. One quarter of them work part-time. And the 374 officers have to spend 50% of their time in their office doing bureaucratic duties, says Sylvain Roy.

The Gaspé has also experienced a significant drop in wildlife protection staff. In 1990, about one hundred wildlife officers were working on the Gaspé, in seven offices. In 2014, there were 28 and the Matapedia and Murdochville offices had closed.

“The wildlife officers aren’t in the woods to prevent poaching. There are indications that the number of poaching activities is increasing. Judicial proceedings are also abandoned because of a lack of staff,” states Mr. Roy.

There are intimidating behaviors in the forest to take

over territories and the quality of the experience for young anglers and hunters is deteriorating, Mr. Roy adds.

According to the MNA, anglers and hunters want the wildlife officers to protect the resource better: “They see poaching activities, they see that the environment isn’t protected enough. Poaching networks are developing. It’s the Wild West!”

On the Gaspé, hunting, sport fishing and wildlife viewing create 636 jobs (full-time equivalent) and inject \$47 million into the economy, revealed a study commissioned by the *Conférence régionale des élus Gaspésiens-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (CRÉGIM)* in 2014.

In Quebec, there are 712,000 anglers and 285,000 hunters. They spend an average of 13 to 15 days per year in the forest.

SPEC is looking for winter photos. If you have a photo that you'd like published in Spec, please send it to Penny MacWhirter on facebook or to specs@globetrotter.net

Some suggestions are: Snowshoeing, Sliding, Scenery, Hockey, Pets playing in the snow, Bundled babies, Pets in their winter gear, Carnival pictures and Visiting wildlife. You are not limited to these suggestions, we welcome all winter pics. (Please include where the photo was taken and the names of anyone in it)

Guest Commentary:

Cynthia Dow

The media and democracy

The way we consume news has been changing radically over the last few decades. Newspapers, once the primary source of news for most of us, are struggling to survive in a world where a few simple swipes of a phone or computer screen can bring you up to date with what happened one minute ago, not one or two days ago!

In fact, in some ways we, information consumers, are becoming part of the news as we instantly react to what's happening all around the world and therefore often have an impact on the way it's reported and analysed.

And these are all good things for people living in a democracy. The instantaneousness of news, the wide choice of media voices available to us, the lively public debates online are all important to

our understanding of the forces that shape our world, our country and our province, and the policies we choose to put in place as a consequence.

But more and more these days we see politicians shunning the media and choosing to "communicate directly" with their constituents. Former Prime Minister Stephen Harper was famous for refusing to meet with the media on a regular basis. He often complained that the media as a whole did not transfer the information to the public in the way he liked.

It appears that Donald Trump has taken a leaf out of Harper's book, and even worse, the President spends a lot of time attacking the press in words not fit to print in this paper.

I say: beware of politicians who vilify the media! Just what do they have to hide?

The circulation of true facts – not "alternative facts" – about public policy and social issues is vital to the very foundation of a democracy. How can voters make informed decisions at the ballot box if they do not have a thorough grasp of the situation?

Harper and Trump want to control the message so that only their slant on things gets out to the public, and that means the public begins to live in a world created of their leaders' perceptions, not

necessarily the unvarnished truth. This is the great danger in wide-scale attacks on the media.

Furthermore, journalists act as stand-ins for us when they get to question politicians about their activities and their decisions. We do not have the time to call up our local MP or MNA and ask them to explain themselves on a regular basis: journalists do this for us. In case you don't understand, Mr. Harper and Mr. Trump... this is called being accountable to the public.

And quality journalism never forgets: a reporter who has been around for years develops a thorough knowledge of the political parties he or she covers, and can remind the politicians from time to time that sure, in the past they've said this or that about an issue, but what have they DONE? Have they truly walked the talk?

Sadly, these days in Canada a lot of our newspapers and radio stations are owned by large corporations whose passion is not journalism, but the bottom line. It is true that different "professional" media sources put a spin on the news, and some of them do a very poor job indeed of laying out the facts. But quality journalism can still be found out there, if we make careful choices.

On the other hand, we have to also be aware of the social media phenomena of spreading gossip, half-truths and wild interpretations as if they are real truth. No, facebook is NOT necessarily a great place to get updated on local, regional or national happenings!

If we truly cherish our democracy – and we certainly should – it is our duty to become well-informed media consumers, choosing sources where quality journalism, in particular investigative journalism, is still valued. We need to feel confident that we are getting all the real facts to make up our minds about issues of public interest.

In that vein, a little newspaper like SPEC is a precious gem: independent of corporate influence, serving up local and regional content in our language, providing a forum for the exchange of ideas... These days, such a resource simply does not exist in most Canadian communities. How lucky are we?



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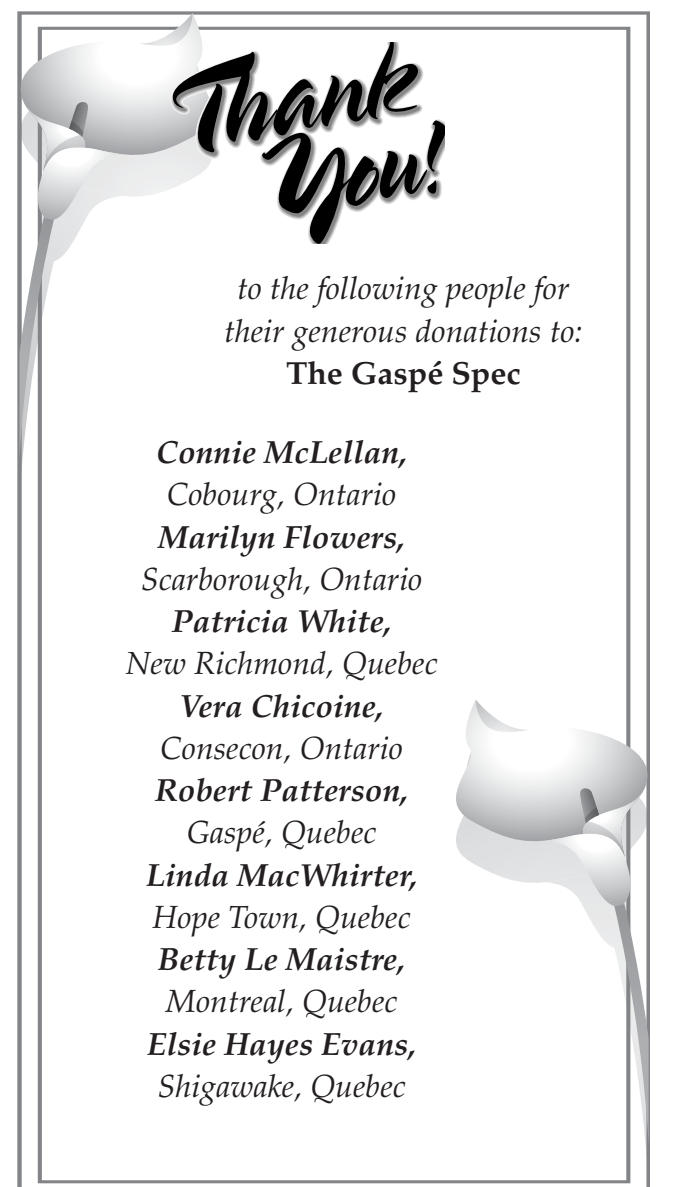
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A transplant could be a cure...

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ – Gaspesian Guy-Martin Couture, who suffers from very severe diabetes, lives 24 hours a day with one thing on his mind: his blood sugar level. Even with an insulin pump and a draconian diet, his episodes of hypoglycemia occur more and more frequently. The 48-year-old man is awaiting a transplant of pancreas cells. This intervention has been performed in Montreal since 2015, but remains scarce, could give him back quality of life.

Since he was 12 years old, Mr. Couture has been suffering from type 1 diabetes. This chronic disease cannot be prevented, requires daily insulin shots and can lead to serious side effects. “For 36 years, I’ve come to know almost every hospital from Gaspé to Montreal,” he says.

Mr. Couture lost his sight in one eye, then in the other, and recovered his vision after surgeries. He was on dialysis for six years before receiving a kidney transplant in 2003.

The man, who was born in Percé, is on a draconian diet to control his diabetes and to protect his kidney transplant. “I



Photo: G. Gélinas

Guy-Martin Couture has trouble managing his diabetes in spite of an insulin pump and glucose readings on his fingers up to eight times a day.

don’t eat fish, I don’t eat seafood. That’s hard for a Gaspesian! I consume as little salt as possible and I haven’t consumed alcohol for 20 years.”

Six years ago, the purchase of an insulin pump improved his situation. This machine is

plugged into his blood system at all times, measures his blood sugar and injects the required insulin to adjust it.

However, since December, his pump has been experiencing failures. His glucose readings are inaccurate and the pump raises the alarm for no

reason, or omits to raise it.

“Sometimes, my pump wakes me up seven times in a night. I can count on the fingers of one hand the number of nights that I’ve slept well since December (...). The less you sleep, the more difficult it is to control your blood sugar. This is a vicious cycle,” adds Mr. Couture.

His hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) episodes are getting more frequent. “I become very weak, confused, I lack concentration.” Two months ago, his colleagues had to call the ambulance to rescue him because his blood sugar was much too low.

Mr. Couture works for the Mauger Ford car dealership (*Directeur des opérations fixe*). His office is in Gaspé and his house is in Rimouski, where his partner and her three children live. Every two weeks, he drives between Rimouski and Gaspé to spend the week at the office. On the road, he regularly calls his colleagues to reassure them that he’s okay.

For Mr. Couture, being sick is expensive: his medicines and glucose reading material cost \$28,000 per year. Of that amount, he pays \$13,000 out of his own pocket.

Mr. Couture sees a ray of hope. In May 2016, he met with a team from the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), which performs transplants of pancreatic islet cells, the organ part which produces insulin. He was told that he’s a “perfect candidate,” in part because he already takes anti-rejection drugs for his kid-

ney transplant and also because his blood sugar level is out of control with regular means.

Mr. Couture is first on the list of recipients who have an O negative blood type, but the transplants are rare. The MUHC team performed one transplant in 2015 and a second in 2016. The laboratory where the pancreatic cells are isolated and prepared works thanks to donations to the hospital, which is restricting its activities.

To improve his chances, the Gaspesian tries to be registered on the list of recipients of a complete pancreas. This kind of transplant is performed between 10 and 20 times a year in the province of Quebec. Mr. Couture also contacted the University of Alberta Hospital, in Edmonton, which transplants pancreatic cells to 30 to 40 patients per year.

Mr. Couture is talking to the press because he wants to raise awareness among the public about the impacts of his disease. “The occurrence of diabetes increases when people have a sedentary lifestyle. I want youth to know that when they play computer games instead of playing outdoors.”

Mr. Couture also observes that the health staff is more and more overloaded with work. He’s asking the government to give the health system the necessary resources to operate.

The man also wants people to “think about organ donation. It’s a life donation. On a body, one can take the kidneys, liver, pancreas, eyes... It can save five or six lives.”

PANCREATIC CELLS TRANSPLANT: How does it work?

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – The cells producing insulin, the hormone which controls the blood sugar, represent 1% of the pancreas volume. In special lab facilities of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), in Montreal, those clusters of cells are isolated from a donor’s pancreas. Then they are injected in the hepatic portal vein of the recipient through a small catheter in the abdomen, without the need for surgery. The cells “settle” on the liver, survive and start producing in-

sulin.

The intervention lasts between 30 and 45 minutes and is performed under local anaesthetic, while the transplant of a whole pancreas requires a four-to-five-hour surgery, with a large abdominal incision, a long stay in hospital and complication risks.

The MUHC has the only laboratory in eastern Canada which produces pancreatic cell clusters. The two patients with transplants in 2015 and 2016 no longer need insulin shots, after only one transplant. “In

the United States large health centers (where pancreas cells transplants are performed), between 50% and 80% of the patients with transplants maintain insulin independence at five-year post-transplantation,” says Dr. Steven Paraskevas, transplant surgeon and Director of the Pancreatic and Islet transplant program at MUHC.

“Over the next years, we want to perform more transplants, Dr. Paraskevas says. We want it to become an established therapy for all Quebec people who need it.”

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GoGaspe.com, keeping Gaspésians informed and connected

Diane Skinner

GASPÉ: - GoGaspe internet site has been keeping residents of Gaspé connected and informed for over 20 years. Andy Patterson and Ron Patterson, from Gaspé are the driving force behind this still vibrant and valuable resource. If you want to sample what GoGaspe offers, just google GoGaspe and you will be amazed at the treasure that it is.

SPEC: GoGaspe is a very large comprehensive internet site. Give the Spec readers an idea of what they can find at your site.

Andy Patterson: Our Community Bulletin Boards are very popular, a place where anyone can post community announcements, news or classified ads. Our "Featured Photos" have always gotten a lot of attention from our followers. We have tourist information, a salmon fishing page, a business directory, and links to hundreds of other Gaspé sites. The GoGaspe website has an informative History / Genealogy section (visit www.gaspenealogy.com), and over ten thousand photos of our area, both historical photos and local scenery. Additionally, we host eighteen other websites for local organizations, most of which I created and continue to maintain, such as the Anglican "Parish of Gaspé", "Gaspé Cancer Foundation," "York River Senior Citizens," and "Club VTT du Grande Gaspé".

SPEC: Tell us the history of the GoGaspe site. How and when it came to be, who were the originators and how it has evolved over the years.

A.P.: Three of us, Annetta Grant, Ron Patterson and myself, combined resources in 1996, to create a site called GaspéLink. After Annetta left Gaspé to attend university

Ron and I assumed the responsibilities. Over 20 years of work has gone into the site, often working into the wee hours of the morning. It was a passion. Through the years its popularity grew until we were receiving over 1500 visitors per day. A few years ago we added a facebook page, also called GoGaspe, which is maintained by Bruce Patterson. He frequently uploads photos and videos. We'd love it if everyone would "like" our facebook page.

SPEC: Who is the target user for the site? Is it just for residents of the town of Gaspé and area?

A.P.: Not at all, anyone who lives in Gaspé, hailed from Gaspé, wishes they lived in Gaspé, or would like to visit Gaspé. We have visitors from around the world. This refers to Gaspé, the town, and the entire peninsula!

SPEC: What are your most recent/significant additions to your site?

A.P.: In our History / Genealogy section we have recently added all 5 volumes of "Gaspé of Yesteryear," by Ken Annett, and "Passing Years," by Raymond Patterson. Another significant addition is the collection of photographs of all tombstones in English cemeteries on the entire Gaspé coast. These photos were taken by Morris Patterson, and soon we will be adding his entire collection of historical photos from his DVD.

SPEC: Give us some examples of feedback from users or

interesting emails you have received?

A.P.: There was a time when we received several letters a week praising our efforts. People love our "Featured Photos." One common comment from our users is about the high success rate in selling items posted to our Classifieds. I have received letters and requests from people around the globe, often asking for tourist information and often with questions related to genealogy. Our facebook page is very popular, and photos often get several thousand views. Our site must be appreciated, as we have had over 4 million visitors in the past 20 years, and receive a substantial number of financial donations annually.

SPEC: What's next for the GoGaspe site?

A.P.: Primarily we want to maintain our service to the community and continue adding historical information. If readers have other suggestions, we would love to hear them. We are also exploring ways to promote the visibility of our sponsors who are critical to the maintenance and continued development of our site.

SPEC: Anything you would like to add for our readers?

A.P.: A sincere thank-you to our regular followers, and a warm welcome to others who would like to check out Gaspé's first and longest running website. Our thousands of pages of pictures and information could keep you occupied for months.

Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



Candy's Dandy

Some readers of Spec can think back to the 50s and 60s and remember a world that seemed quite different than the world we presently live in. An understatement. I recall summers of playing with a hula hoop - just try to get one going around your mid-section now - and walking to the beach, in fact spending all seasons outdoors. You remember that in those days there were no electronics to take up our days. We were fit and tanned and from all the physical activity we were powerfully hungry.

I have strong sugary memories of the candy and ice cream treats that we enjoyed in those bygone years. Every generation has their brands of sweet treats. Some of ours are still available but a number are long gone. Just sweet dreams.

When you start to reminisce about the number of kinds of sweet treats available to us then it seems enormous. Did we eat candy all day long? Probably not, but if memory serves me, we ate a lot of it. There were some home-made confections like fudge and taffy. I can picture my mother with buttery hands pulling the golden taffy and placing it on waxed paper. When cooled, it would be cut and wrapped individually in more waxed paper. It's little wonder that we all had many trips to the dentist in the years to follow.

Here are some of the treats that come to my mind:

- Candy cigarettes
- Blackballs/jawbreakers
- Peppermints
- Cherry blossoms
- Candy necklaces
- Wax lips
- Candy buttons
- Turkish taffy
- Eatmore
- Black licorice pipes
- Lik-m-aid
- Pixie Stix
- Pink Popcorn
- Cracker Jacks
- Ice cream cups eaten with a wooden spoon
- Fudgsicles
- Revels
- Jets
- Push-up ice cream
- Buried Treasure
- Pep
- Pink Cream Soda

Just reading over this list demonstrates the very different world we live in now. Not many of today's parents allow their children to eat treats to their heart's content. And that is a good thing. But we lived in different times and our parents did the very best job they could with the information they had. My granddaughters enjoy treats like kale chips and baked seasoned chick peas and sugarless peanut butter protein bars. One huge shift is that all their treats are home-made. And that too is a good thing. But I do believe we grew up in the best of times. Carefree, stress free just enjoying the reckless days of our childhood.



created by Andy & Ron

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Bilingual production hits the stage in May

Geneviève **Gélinas**

DOUGLASTOWN: – Two years after the play “Desperados,” ten comedians are in rehearsal for a new episode of the saga of Douglastown Shamrock seniors’ home residents.

The performances will take place on May 26, 27 and 28 at

the Douglastown Holy Name Hall.

In *Desperados*, five residents had decided to run away, because they’d had enough of the director’s rigid discipline. The new production, “Nuisances,” “suggests that life hasn’t returned to the calm and quiet for these anglophone and francophone people of the

region, contrary to what the public could suppose.”

The authors are Lorraine Blais, Fred Kraenzel and Patricia Turbide. Danièle Rouleau is the stage director. *Nuisances* is written partly in English, partly in French, but the co-writers manage to have everybody in the public understand the actions.



Photo: P. MacWhirter

Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of National Revenue announced \$750,000 for the *Fondation de la Maison René-Lévesque* in New Carlisle.

Espace René-Lévesque receives federal funding

Penny MacWhirter

NEW CARLISLE – On March 1, Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of National Revenue and Member of Parliament (Gaspésie–Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine) made an announcement at the New Carlisle Town Hall on behalf of the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage.

Minister Lebouthillier announced that the *Fondation de la Maison René-Lévesque* will receive \$750,000 in funding from the Government of Canada through the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund.

The *Fondation de la Maison René-Lévesque*, which was founded in 2009, will use the money to build an outdoor site and reception pavillion to commemorate the life of the former premier of Quebec, René-Lévesque. The outdoor circuit will consist of eight audiovisual zones, each involving a different time in René-Lévesque’s life. The bronze statue of René Lévesque that is currently located in New Carlisle’s municipal park will be relocated to the site entrance.

Fondation de la Maison René-Lévesque will also receive funding from the provincial government, the MRC of Bonaventure and private contributors. The call for tenders should take place by the end of March. The site is expected to be open to the local population in October 2017 and will officially open for the 2018 tourist season.

“Canadian Heritage’s significant contribution to the *Fondation de la Maison René-Lévesque* is helping make *Espace René-Lévesque* a reality—a site dedicated to the memory of this great Quebecer in New Carlisle. Current and future generations will be able to hear his message of pride, respect, rigour, sharing and integrity. This pragmatic visionary also loved to remind us that ‘dreams inspire us to progress, but we cannot progress by dreaming,’ says Louis É. Bernard, President, *Fondation de la Maison René-Lévesque*.

Don't miss a single event

Check the Coast Round-up Page of The Gaspé Spec!

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Victims of War

In 1940, the year that I was nine, I can remember it was around my birthday, groups of parents would sit around talking and when one of us kids would go near, they would stop talking. I remember it was just so unusual and then...the war started.

I lived on an island called Jersey and the next thing I knew we were all being told to hang white sheets out of our upstairs bedroom windows as a sign of surrender. It was the Germans coming to take over the Island; they came in September 1940 and we were prisoners for five years after that.

It was the arrival of all those troops and all the rules that went with being prisoners of war. So for the next five years we were prisoners.

I am very lucky to be alive today because my brother and I were out playing across the road from where we lived; and my mother heard planes shooting and there were bullets dancing around my brother and I. They were shooting at us but they didn’t hit us. It didn’t disturb me but my brother lost the use of his legs from the shock.

Something I’ve watched and you will probably never see is what we called ‘dog fights’ in the air. If ships were trying to leave their Island and the British, the RAF, came over and saw them they would bomb the ships in the bay right there in front of the house or the Germans would go off and protect them and you would see the fights between British planes and German planes in the air. The first thing you would see is a plane get hit and then it would explode in the air.

You had to give up all your radios and cameras, and things like that. If you were caught with them you could be sent to a place like Bergen-Belsen in Germany, the big horror camps.

My father used to make Bristol sets, little radios, and hide them. With them at least we could hear the news from England and there were people in Jersey who ratted on the people who had these radios. They would get paid to tell tales and I had more than once opened the door to the Germans, who would come in and line us up against the wall and make us stand there until they absolutely ran-sacked the house looking for things.

I remember one time we were standing in the living room behind the sofa against the wall, and you could see the shape of a camera in the sofa, that my father had hidden there instead of turning it in. We were so scared the Germans would see it, but they didn’t.

They used to bring slave labour over from France and Russia, and the ones from France built a huge sea wall that went through the bottom of our garden, it was an anti-tank wall. They used to

line up these slaves every day and make them work. These people were so hungry; they used to pick snails off the wall to have something to eat and put them in tin cans.

We couldn’t keep cats, because if you had a cat and it got loose, you lost it, because apparently cat tastes like rabbit. So any animal you had, like rabbits, hens or chickens, you had to bring them in the house at night, or they would be gone.

The Germans were as hungry as we were because the British stopped all travel between the Islands and France. As the end of the war came closer there was no shipping, in or out of the Island. The Island was not big enough to feed all the people and all the Germans, so people were starving.

The Germans were in just as bad shape as we were and they would ransack the houses at night and you didn’t dare to go down because if you went down, you didn’t walk back up.

The war ended on May 8, 1945 and our Commandant, the German officer in charge of us, said he wasn’t going to surrender. So the British came with five big war ships and anchored them in the bay and threatened him “either you come out or else.”

The Germans finally surrendered and a neighbour of my parents had a boat and some gasoline, which was very much rationed, and we went out in the little boats around the big war ships and the troops on board were throwing things like apples and candy from the boat.

We hadn’t seen these sorts of things for years. All this food we had never seen; and then they all came ashore and took over the island. It’s what they called liberation.

I remember we were out on the first boat out of the Island, on a passenger ship, and when we walked in to the dining room of this ship, the dining room was piled high with things like oranges and bananas and we hadn’t seen these things in five years. The dining room was full of food, just for us to eat. It was special because as kids we hadn’t seen food like that in ages.

When we left the Islands that night, the Russians, who were slaves during the war, danced all night in celebration, kicking their legs up, they were so happy to be going home.

It was 71 years on May 9, 2016 since we were liberated from the Germans. Living in Jersey after the war was not easy because we were so guarded, and after the war I went to England. The rest is another story...



W*inter on the coast*



Photo: Pamela Kruse

4-year-old, Kayleigh Rae Kruse, Paspébiac.



Photo: Dakota Hottot

Madison Flowers, New Carlisle.

Brrrrr!



Photo: Connie Lynn Hottot

Aiden-Keith Berger, age 1, trapping for the first time with his grandfather Conrad Hottot and Uncle Derek.



Photos: Tiffany Flowers-Marcoux

Siblings Dakota and Cole Fitzgerald-Flowers enjoying sliding at the pit in New Carlisle. Lots of big hills to slide on back there!



all about

PETS



Photo: courtesy of Shannon Major

Just another day on Enchanted Forest Farm in Hope Town.



Photo: Elaine Clouter

Deer enjoying the winter weather in Cascapedia-St-Jules



Photo: Haley Gallon

Brandy Gallon with her horses Peaches and Blossom.



Photo: Lynda MacWhirter

Clyde MacWhirter and Greg Major enjoying a relaxing wintertime stroll with Prince.



Photo: Hannah Woods

George loves playing in the snow with his best friend Hannah Woods.

Visioning Sessions

What is your vision for your community?

CEDEC is hosting a series of visioning sessions in the MRC Avignon to learn about opportunities and ideas that could be included in a CEDEC Revitalization Initiative. The sessions will be held in:

- ✓ • **Ristigouche Sud-Est, Pointe-à-la-Croix and Matapédia**
(Salle communautaire F.P. Adams, Ristigouche | March 7, 6:30 to 8:30 pm - Quebec time)
- **Escuminac and Nouvelle**
(Fleurant Hall, 72, Route de la Pointe Fleurant, Escuminac | March 14, 6:30 to 8:30 pm - Quebec time)
- **Listuguj**
- **Gesgapegiag**

If you are a citizen, organizational stakeholder, or member of the Mi'gmaq community, you are invited to raise opportunities for business and job creation, education and training needs, service gaps and ways to improve communications within the community.

Please watch our website (www.cedec.ca), our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/CEDEC.QC/) and follow us on Twitter ([@CEDEC_QC](https://twitter.com/CEDEC_QC)) for more information and to learn about upcoming dates and locations for additional visioning sessions.



For more information, contact Emmanuelle at 418-752-3284 (office) or toll-free at (888) 641-9912 or by email at emmanuelle.vallieres-leveille@cedec.ca.

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





Photo: courtesy of Elmina Wedge



Photo: Elaine Sexton

Giving a helping hand

Elaine Sexton

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: - It may not have been the sunniest family day, but we appreciated all those who came to enjoy the day and more importantly were part of the fundraising for Zach Clement who was in Quebec for medical tests.

The activity wouldn't have been possible without the children, parents and those who made soup, sandwiches and desserts, some without even being asked! Once again New Richmond and Maria IGAs donated the hotdogs and buns. There were also many who helped with the setup, games and cleaning, as well as the kitchen crew. To all who came out for the event, your support for Zach and his family touched us all.

There will be a musical night on March 18 at the Galgoist Center at 7 p.m. Michelle Harri-man Clement, Peter, Julia and Zach Clement - we want you to know that the whole community and surrounding ones, send their love and prayers for a speedy recovery.

Zack Cyr receives Grand Cascapedia WI bursary

Elmina Wedge

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: - Zack Cyr, was presented with a bursary by Therese Gallant, Grand Cascapedia WI Branch President and Shirley Duncan, Education Chair.

Zack was guest speaker at the January meeting, where he expressed his appreciation for the bursary. He is a well spoken young man, maintains very high grades, with a bright

future ahead and the Grand Cascapedia WI wishes him all the best.

Zack is the son of Joan McCormack and Patrick Cyr of Cascapedia-St-Jules.



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Announcements...

In Memory



ASSELS: Rodney

To a wonderful father and husband who passed away two years ago, March 8, 2015.

*God saw you getting tired,
And a cure was not to be,
So He put His arms around you,
And he whispered 'come to me.'
With tearful eyes we watched you,
We watched you fade away,
Although we loved you dearly,
We could not make you stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard working hands at rest,
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He always 'takes the best'.
It's lonesome here without you,
We miss you more each day,
Life doesn't seem the same,
Since you have gone away.
When days are sad and lonely,
And everything goes wrong,
We seem to hear you whisper,
Cheer up and carry on.
Each time we see your picture,
You seem to smile and say,
Don't cry I'm in God's hands
Until we meet again some day.*

Love always, Gracie, Theresa, Brandy, Bianca, Jordan and Shakira. xoxo



BILLINGSLEY: Karen Ellen

1958 - 1977

In loving memory of a dear daughter who was taken from us suddenly on March 5, 1977.

*There is a bridge of memories
From here to heaven above,
That keeps you very close to us,
It's called the bridge of love.
As time goes by without you Karen,
And days turn into years,
They hold a million memories,
And a thousand silent tears.
To us you were very special,
What more is there to say,
Except to wish with all our hearts,
That you were here today.*

Always loved, remembered and sadly missed, Mother, Cynthia, Landis, Todd, Jan, Richard, John and George.

CAMPBELL-MONTGOMERY: Amy Mary Emily

In loving memory of our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who passed away March 10, 1999.

*It broke our hearts to lose you,
You did not go alone,
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.
You left us peaceful memories,
Your love is still our guide,
And though we cannot see you,
You are always by our side.*

Sadly missed and loved forever by Connie, Peggy, Alice, Ruth, Bruce and families.

DUMARESQ: Gail

*Our lives go on without you,
But nothing is the same,
We have to hide our heartaches,
When someone speaks your name.
Sad are the hearts that love you,
Silent the tears that fall,
Living our lives without you,
Is the hardest part of all.
You did so many things for us,
Your heart was kind and true,
And when we needed someone,
We could always count on you.
The special years will not return,
When we were all together,
But with the love within our hearts,
You will walk with us forever.*

Loved and missed by Ron, Kathie, Barbara and the family.

Congratulations!



On Sunday February 26, 2017, James Barter of Whitby, Ontario, formerly of Grand Cascapedia, celebrated his 90th birthday with his family.

He and his wife Joyce Barter (Brash) also celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary on Tuesday, February 28, 2017.

Pictured with Jim and Joyce are their daughters Donna Willett, Heather Douglass and Cynthia Edmonstone.

Social notes...

Best wishes go out to Bernie Hottot. Bernie was injured when on his way home with his school bus after leaving all his children off, a piece of ice flew off a truck and went through his windshield, shattering it.

Henry, Brian and Patrick Sullivan visited Henry's sister Sandra in Fairfield, Connecticut USA.

Get well wishes to Frances Ross who has been unwell.

Get well wishes to Allan Dow Sr. who has been to Rimouski to see about his eye.

Audrey Wylie and son Rodney were in Mexico for a vacation.

Nicki and George Hayes were in Montreal visiting their new grandbabies. Two of their children Meghan and Tyson have recently become new parents.

Congratulations to Ashley Roussy and Trevor Kruse on the birth of their baby girl Autumn.

Shirley [Skene] Fuelscher, Skye and Sam were home for a visit.

Landis Assels

SHIGAWAKE & PORT DANIEL NEWS

Surprise visitors for Ruby Wylie were granddaughters Tanyse and Robyne as well as Judy Roberts.

Shigawake Community Center hosted the Shigawake Carnival which everyone enjoyed. Thanks to Tiffany Whalen for all her work getting it together on such short notice.

Shigawake Community Center had their annual ski-doo rally with 55 participants. A great time was had by all. We would like to thank all who came and all who supported it. Another great job done by Tiffany.

The new Anglican Church Bishop, Bruce Myers, was welcomed to the Gaspé area by church members this weekend. A service held by Rev. Nick Forte was held in Shigawake at St-Paul's for all members from New Richmond, New Carlisle, Hopetown and Port-

Daniel. After the service, a delicious lunch was served.



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Social notes...

Hello everyone. I hope that you have been keeping well and that you have a few minutes to spare to catch up on this week's news from this lovely and snowy part of the world.

Recent events and news

Mrs. Vera Simon of Sandy Beach joined the over 80s and darn near 90s group on **Saturday, February 25**. Unfortunately, Mrs. Vera was in the hospital at the time of her birthday recuperating from a mild heart attack. She was released on Wednesday, February 28 and will celebrate her 88th birthday at home with her family and friends. We hope she will be feeling much better very soon.

From Thursday, February 23 through to Sunday, February 26 Co-adjutor Bishop Bruce Myers of the Diocese of Quebec visited the Parish of Gaspé and the Parish of All Saints by the Sea in Malbay.

During his visit he chaired a Deanery Council Meeting which included: three members from the New Richmond to Port Daniel area - the Reverend Nick Forte, Edith MacKenzie, and Dave Royal; two members from All Saints by the Sea Parish in Malbay - Sandra Leggo and Phyllis Misson; three members from the Parish of Gaspé - Gracie Annett, Ron Eden, and me; as well as a teleconference with two members from the Magdalen Islands - Candice Aitkens, and Lisa Craig; along with Reverend Cynthia Patterson and Reverend Douglas Johnson.

He also met with the wardens and deputy wardens of both amalgamated parishes to answer their questions and listen to their concerns and feedback regarding their experiences so far with the reorganizations. Bishop Bruce met with the Parish of Gaspé Choir on Saturday morning at 9 a.m. for an hour. He then joined them for their practice of the music for Sunday's service. He has a very nice voice and he would be a welcome addition to the choir; but, alas, he cannot.

On Sunday, Bishop Myers co-celebrated the services at both parishes with the Reverend Cynthia Patterson and the Reverend Douglas Johnson. A small reception was held after each service which allowed him the opportunity to meet and spend a little time with the congregants. On Monday, Bishop Myers travelled by plane to the Magdalen Islands to spend the week there with the congregants on Entry Island and Grosse Île. This was his first official visit to our area in his position as Co-adjutor Bishop for the diocese. Common comments after meeting him have been "he seems to be a pretty nice guy" or "a very nice young fellow." It seems that his visit was a great success as everyone is looking forward to seeing him soon.

Margaret and David Patterson were very pleased to have had the company and the assistance of their son Paul over the winter months. He has just recently returned to his home. Their daughters, Molly, Alma and Shirley were also home from Ontario for a brief visit the last part of February.

The 47th Annual Wakeham/York Winter Carnival has wrapped up for another year. The carnival was once again a success in spite of snow storms and whatever nature usually throws in its path. Congratulations to Audrey Stanley who was the lucky winner of the 50/50 draw. This annual event encourages some Gaspesians who live elsewhere, but whose hearts still beat strong for Gaspé, to return and take part in some of the activities. Again this year, Jimmy



Sharon Howell

GASPE NEWS

Palmer from Brownsburg, QC as well as Rocky and Jason Jean along with their friend Trevor from Cambridge, Ont. were all home for the Snowmobile Poker Rally. This popular event usually includes between 40 to 50 snowmobiles and approximately 70 people. The day starts off with a great breakfast, then the rally, and is followed by a dance. This year, it was a full house for the dance with music supplied by Gaspé's popular young musician, Nash Stanley.

The committee for the York Rink and the annual carnival wish to thank the businesses and the people who attended the events for their support in making the event such a success. As with most organizations volunteers are needed to help with all the work that is involved to keep it alive and to help it thrive. Please give Danny Sams a call at 418-368-3453 for more information on what is needed and if you wish, check to see how or what you can do to be of assistance.

Karen Briand is once again putting on a concert to be held in June. This year the music will be a nice mix of country and rock 'n roll. There are sixteen singers in this year's line-up which includes 14 women and two men. Of the sixteen, four are new to the group, five sang in the last concert for the first time, and seven have been part of the group since 2011. Practices have been underway at the school in Wakeham since early November. Hopefully by the next time I submit some information on this production I will have a definite date for the show so you may make note of it in your social calendars.

Do you remember the bilingual play "Desperados" that was put on in Douglastown a couple of years ago? Well, most of the group is back working on a new play that will be performed at the end of May. Keep your eyes peeled for more information and hopefully a write-up on the play. The last one was a great success and as it is written and directed by the same group, it is sure to be a winner.

Our sympathies and condolences are extended to the family and friends of Leo Fitzpatrick of Gaspé who passed away at his home on February 18 at the age of 86. He will be dearly missed by his wife Ethel Hamilton and their children Danny and Sue and their families. He will also be greatly missed by his brother Lewis, wife Vivian and their family. Leo will be missed by many, many people. He always had a ready smile for everyone. Leo was also an avid entertainer who was always ready to play his guitar and to sing a few songs to entertain young or old. Rest in peace, Leo!

Our sympathies and condolences are extended to the family and friends of Mrs. Lydia McGregor Mullin of Sandy Beach who passed away at the Gaspé Hospital on February 24 at 93 years and 11 months. She was predeceased by her husband, the late Arthur Mullin. She will be dearly missed by their daughter Regina and their son Reggie and their families. She will also be dearly missed by her four sisters: Kathleen, Lila, Clariss, and Rena and their families and her many nieces and nephews. Rest in peace, Mrs. Lydia!

Our sympathies and condolences are also extended to the family and friends of Elizabeth (Betty) Reeder who passed away at the San on February 7 at the age of 80. She was predeceased by her parents Anna Fournier and John Reeder of Gaspé. She will be dearly missed by: her sisters Maggie and Angèle; her brother Cecil (Didi); her son Robert and their families as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and numerous friends. Rest in peace, Mrs. Reeder!

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Best wishes and much happiness for the coming year are being sent to: Betty-Ann Langlois - March 3; Danny Jean - March 5; Leonie Blondin - March 6; Edmond Lizotte - March 6; Michael Donovan of Stettler, AB - March 8; Ellen Briand Connolly of Douglastown and Dale Dumaresq - March 11; Joan Kilbride of Abbotsford - March 12; Corinne Suddard Annett and her younger sister, Myrna Suddard of London, Ont. - March 14; Nancy Clark and her twin Sharon Reeder - March 16; Helen Howell and her daughter Ruth Eden and Patricia (Patsy) Bisson of Percé - March 16; Patrick Kilbride of North Vancouver and Colleen Sams Drohan - March 17; Aggie Kennedy of Moncton, NB - March 19; Stevie Palmer of Toronto - March 26; Magdalene Annett of Stettler, AB - March 27; Peter Annett of Gaspé - March 30; Elaine Ste. Croix Johnson and Carol-ann Levesque of Gaspé - March 31.

Special congratulations and best wishes for the coming year are extended to the following folks who have lots of birthday celebration experience and who hide their years well: Berton Miller - March 6; Dennis Palmer - March 10; Mrs. Bridget McDonald - March 17; Mr. Bruce Patterson of Sunny Bank - March 21; Marina (Palmer) Clements - March 22; Mr. William (Willie) Palmer - March 22; Mr. Harris Mullin - March 25; Morris Kennedy of Victoria, BC - March 27.

Should you have some news to share, please feel free to contact me at photo_ops@hotmail.com. Thank you for your time.

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COAST ROUND-UP

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.

GASPÉ:

Potluck Supper

There will be a potluck supper to support the ACW Education Fund of the Diocese of Quebec. The Education Fund provides financial aid to students from the Gaspé Peninsula, Lower North Shore and the Magdalen Islands who leave the area to continue their education. The potluck supper will be held on **Saturday, April 1**, at 5 p.m. at the York River Community Hall. The price is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 5-12 and free for children 4 and under.

DOUGLASTOWN:

Douglas Community Center Upcoming Events

Wednesday, March 15: Travel Talks with Hélène Lebreux and Sylvain Vachon "From the Atlantic to the Pacific on a motorcycle" at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room.
Wednesday, March 29: Travel Talks with Elaine Boutin and Charles Bachelard "On the summits of Equator" A neat way to travel around the world! Most talks will be in French. Voluntary contribution.

YORK:

York River Senior Citizens Upcoming Events

Saturday, March 18: There will be a St. Patrick's Day supper and dance starting at 6 p.m. at the community hall. Entertainment with the senior's band. Cost is \$10. Bar services available. For advance tickets call Tony Patterson at 418-

368-3276.

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, 2017**. Further info to follow at a later date.

DOUGLASTOWN:

St. Patrick's Day Activities

A mass will be celebrated with our new Bishop Gaetan Proulx on **Saturday, March 18** at the church at 4 p.m. Following mass the St. Patrick's day supper will be held at 5 p.m. in the church basement. This year there is a new menu of either fishcakes or meat pie. Take-outs are available. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

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!

Saturday, March 11: Irish stew supper starting at 5 p.m. Price \$10 per person.

Saturday, March 18: Irish evening with Nash Stanley starting at 9 p.m. Admission \$5 at the door.

BARACHOIS:

Bingo

Bingo will be held at the Barachois Recreation Centre on **Friday, March 17** and **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, March 11: St. Patrick's dance at 8 p.m. Cost is \$12 per person.

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.

HOPE TOWN:

Hope Baptist Church

"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 Route 132, Hope Town. www.hopebaptistchurch1.com. 418-752-5838. Pastor Paul Bedford BTh. MTh.

HOPE TOWN:

Whist Party

The military whist party will take place on **Saturday, March 11** at 8 p.m. at the Optimist Club in St. Godefroi.

NEW CARLISLE:

Soup and Sweets Luncheon

Heritage New Carlisle will be serving numerous types of soup with bread and desserts on **Friday, March 10** from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the New Carlisle Town Hall. Proceeds will go to the activities of the Kempffer Cultural and Interpretation Center. Cost \$10 (all you can eat).

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 11: A crib tournament at 1 p.m. Call to register team 752-6214/752-5495/ 752-6799, cost \$10 per person

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

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

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:

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:

St-Patrick's Mass

St-Patrick's mass will be **Saturday, March 18** at 4 p.m. On **Sunday, March 19** our supper will be at the Community Centre from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. and the bar will be open at 1 p.m. with Irish music. Everyone is welcome. Hope to see all the "Irish" there!

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.

March 17: Jam Sessions at 7:30 p.m.

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. SAWMILLS from only \$4,397. - MAKE MONEY & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill - cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. Free info & DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com/400OT. 1-800-566-6899 ext:400OT.

UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, March 12

Hopetown - 10:30 a.m.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Friday, March 10

Port Daniel

Vestry Meeting 7 p.m.

Sunday, March 12

New Carlisle

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Hopetown

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Shigawake

9 a.m. Morning Prayer and Vestry Meeting

ANNOUNCE ALL YOUR UPCOMING EVENTS HERE!

We have a great deal for you! \$60 Coast Round-Up Plan

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

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



SUDOKU

	7		5	2		3		1
					3	5		7
4		5		7	1		8	
7								
	1				6			
	6			5	4	7		8
8		6	3			9	7	
1							5	3
	9		4	7	2			

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

6	7	9	5	2	8	3	4	1
2	8	1	6	4	3	5	9	7
4	3	5	9	7	1	6	8	2
7	5	4	8	3	2	1	6	9
3	1	8	7	9	6	4	2	5
8	8							
8	2	6	3	1	5	4	7	4
1	4	7	2	6	9	8	5	3
5	9	3	4	8	7	2	1	6

ANSWER:

What's This Artifact?



Marshall Billingsley

The artifact in the photo is a peculiar object that some of our readers may be familiar with.

What do you think it is? Can you solve this mystery?

It is made of wood and metal, with a handle to be held by a person in some way for some reason.

The answer will be in next week's issue of The Gaspé Spec.

You can see many more artifacts like this one at:



Why do we say . . . By Gary Briand

"Cut to the chase" intoned my friend as I attempted to explain remarks by Donald Trump.

I admit to being rather long winded and he in a hurry to get on to his work had grown impatient.

But where does this strange expression come from? In early cowboy movies there were numerous scenes of frenzied horseback races, often with good guys chasing bad guys.

Within the rhythm of movie making, such scenes usually alternated with more static dialogue based scenes that served to advance the plot of the movie and explain why the good men were pursuing the bad guys. Among the scriptwriters and directors there arose the instructions "cut to the chase" indicating to the film editor it was time to cut out the dialogue and add footage of the galloping horses.

The term became public in 1929 when journalist, screenwriter, novelist and comic script writer Joseph McEvoy's novel Holly and Gail was published. As part of the novel, a short section of a screenplay was shown:

"Janning escapes ... Cut to the chase!"

In time, the phrase changed from its literal meaning to become a metaphor, referring to ditching the preamble and getting straight to the point of any discussion.

HELPFUL HINTS



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CHILD SAFETY WORD SEARCH

C R O Y G L D Z S L O C K S U P B O P G
 O R H C N F U H L R M B C L Y U Y M L B
 G I A A I S H R E O Z T P H T S F O N D
 H G K G C G A M N T U D Z H C G T O O I
 G I E E N A Z H Y I O T T A I Y S I S Y
 A E P C E N A M Y N E A L S H L U U I T
 T T R T F S R D Z O B D A E O C O M O E
 E E M U N A D L P M I H K N T N I O P F
 S S R S T R I I B N D C D I E G R L C A
 G L A T D I H H G A S T A L S R U U E S
 R F L A A D N C B L N A S E U C F B F
 U P A I N F C R L L H L S D O H L E A B
 Y I M R G F K A U L C L E I H O T R B O
 W L T C E H F M U F A Y N U U K A A Y P
 A S C A R F O F I C R H R G B I E C S N
 L N I S C B H R I F S O A H H N H M I G
 A E H E I C E E T N E F H A B G K G T H
 R U I L T S H U Z C A Z B Z W L I L W M
 M K E A C O R D S A T L W T C E T O R P
 S Y W P E G N I P P I T A T O M Y A F Y

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

WORDS

AGE
 ALARM
 ALARMS
 BABYSIT
 BATHTUB
 CAREFUL
 CARSEAT
 CHILD
 CHOKING
 CORDS
 CURIOUS
 DANGER
 FALLS
 FENCING
 FIRE
 FURNITURE
 GATES
 GUIDELINES
 HARNESS
 HAZARD
 HEAT
 HOUSE
 LATCH
 LOCKS
 MOBILE
 MONITOR
 OUTLET
 POISON
 PROTECT
 SAFETY
 SCALDING
 SLIP
 SNAGS
 STAIRCASE
 TIPPING
 WATCHFUL

HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

A positive reaction to a stressful situation can only work in your favour, Aries. When others buckle under the pressure, you are able to deliver. Higher-ups will recognize this.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, even if you believe that your life is floating out of control, you have the ability to rein things in whenever you desire. Ask for help if you need it.

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, although you may want to incorporate others' plans into your weekly

goals, this might be the time to focus solely on your own needs. Once you are set, you can assist others.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, there is no room in your life right now for lazy thinking. All of your focus must be directed at the tasks at hand because someone is relying entirely on you.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

No one can force you to share your deepest emotions if you're not ready to do so, Leo. Wait until the time is right to bare any secrets. You may have romantic surprises.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, resist the temptation to give into impulses, analyzing and giving careful thought to your ideas instead. You have

an entire week to work things out.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Don't allow a power struggle to disturb the harmony at home or at the office, Libra. Unless you can be level-headed and see all sides of the situation, keep mum.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, continue to be diligent in your pursuit of knowledge. The more you learn, the more fulfilled you will be. Consider going back to school to satisfy your thirst for knowledge.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, speaking about fantasies as if they are real can be enjoyable, but do not start believing the tales are true. You

may need a good dose of reality this week.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Relationship issues with a friend, spouse or even family member come to the forefront this week, Capricorn. Try to remain cool and level-headed throughout.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you will be recognized for your efforts behind the scenes even if you are not in the spotlight. It's enough to get credit, especially if it can propel your career further.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, useful ideas come your way after a chat with colleagues or friends. Pool this inspiration together for a plan.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

MARCH 5

Dan Carter, Athlete (35)

MARCH 6

Connie Britton, Actress (50)

MARCH 7

Laura Prepon, Actress (37)

MARCH 8

Freddie Prinze, Jr., Actor (41)

MARCH 9

Oscar Isaac, Actor (38)

MARCH 10

Carrie Underwood, Singer (34)

MARCH 11

Benji & Joel Madden, Musicians (38)

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