

**Matapedia deer fence: Petition submitted to National Assembly**



**Bridge closure good for business but disrupts quiet community**



**CHSLD: New nutritional menu for next year**

# The Gaspé **Spec**

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## 20th anniversary of Family Ties

### *“Where everyone is part of the family”*

Cynthia Dow

NEW CARLISLE: - “I wish every community could have such an organization!” Tammy Leblanc said. The social worker was one of the first to address the Annual General Meeting of Family Ties.

Approximately 70 community members joined the staff and board members to celebrate the non-profit group’s 20th anniversary on Wednesday, May 10, at the New Carlisle Town Hall.

Ms. Leblanc, who helped start the non-profit organization, told the crowd that “as a woman and as a mother I benefited myself,” from being involved in the multi-faceted group. Starting as a day care called Munchkin Mansion, Family Ties has grown exponentially over the years to offer a dizzying array of services including collective kitchens and community gardens, early childhood development, youth programs and more.

“Thanks to you, we live in a better place,” she told the staff and many volunteers. The non-profit organization has about 80 volunteers on its roster. To celebrate the 20th anniversary several volunteers were honoured from the various programs including BUDS mentors: Dale Ball, Tom Payette, John Williams, Dean Flowers, Nick Forte, Guy Gallibois and Mark Legresley; and, of course, the Queen of the Kitchen, Christine Benwell. Good Food for All Kids Program: Jennifer Flowers, Angie Walters,



Photo: C. Dow

*On May 10, Family Ties celebrated its 20th anniversary.*

Melissa Mercier and Freddy Boudreau; New Horizons for Seniors Project: Loretta Audit, Sharon Guignon and Bessy Craig; as well as student volunteers: Alexis White, Jorja Gallan, Faith Flowers and Julia Walters.

When the current Executive Director, Heather MacWhirter, spoke, she noted that despite its years and many successes, Family Ties is still a “work in progress” which is constantly growing and changing to meet the evolving needs of the community. She thanked the volunteers and staff for “20 years of support and trust” and said a “strong sense of belonging is the strength of Family Ties.”

Much of the evening was devoted to a thorough review of the many programs offered.

The statistics on participation is an eloquent expression of how the group has been able to zero in on real needs and find ways to meet them on a relatively tight budget.

For early childhood support besides Munchkin Mansion Playschool, Family Ties offers Baby and Me, Born to Read and the Gift of Reading. Literacy is a high priority at Family Ties, and is woven in to all the programs. Tiny Tots and prenatal support were also offered this year.

Destination Family is a collaborative program where health care professionals animate workshops designed to support parents with some of the challenges every parent faces. “We’ve had some tears, lots of laughter, and no judgement,” the staff members Car-

olyn Taylor and Amie Major told the audience.

Youth Programs coordinated by Maria Chatterton are, for the first time, attracting as many boys as girls. These activities include Culture Club, Buds, Firecrackers and a Girls’ Group helping teenagers prepare to leave for post-secondary education. “Through these activities the youth are developing friendships that will last a lifetime,” Maria noted.

Roots of Empathy is a new anti-bullying program coordinated by Ann Kelly and Maria Chatterton which is aimed at helping children in the primary grades learn to identify with their feelings and the feelings of others. This past year the program was offered at both New Carlisle High

School and Shigawake-Port Daniel School.

Food Security Coordinator, Sascha Buttle, outlined the Family Ties Food Policy and Good Food for All approach of the organization, which this past year included a Food Fair at New Carlisle High School and creative cooking courses for youth and their families. The collective kitchen, which included 12 groups, prepared 5,398 food portions for participating families. Over 6,000 healthy snacks were created for the group’s activities, and 818 community meals were served at various events. As part of the food security component Family Ties also offers a community garden with 21 plots.

Other activities include the Trading Post, a clothing exchange service entirely supported by community donations, work experiences in the library, maintenance and reception areas, the community Internet access centre, a monthly lunch program for seniors, Canada Day activities, and representation on a host of regional committees in order to ensure input from the Anglophone community on decisions made at the regional level.

A long-time staff member, Ann Kelly, was also recognized for her 18 years of contribution to Family Ties. “Her kindness, compassion and honesty have been an inspiration to us all,” Heather MacWhirter said, noting Ann’s spirituality and her encouragement to all the staff



## CHSLD:

# New nutritional menu for next year

Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ: - “No, in the region’s CHSLDs (Long-Term Health Establishment), powdered potatoes are not served to residents,” confirms the spokesperson for the Gaspé Integrated Health and Social Services Centre (CISSS), Jean St-Pierre. Even better, the menu will be greatly enhanced by next March. It’s good news for the 440 residents who stay in the seven CHSLDs of the region.

This menu reform, that has to be completed by March 31, 2018, is being imposed by the Quebec Health Minister across the province and the Gaspé Peninsula has to comply as well. The decision is certainly related to the powdered potato controversy that took place in the media last year as residents of the CHSLD complained of the meals they were served which included those potatoes. The Quebec Health Minister, Gaétan Barrette, had then promised that things would

change for the better. Asked if this new policy was directly related to last year’s saga, Jean St-Pierre answered indirectly to the question because it’s a political issue. “I must tell you though that the food served in health establishments has always been a hot issue. We can go back many years. This said, this new reform is just another one. We’ve been renewing our menus every now and then. We now have to redo our menu in light of the latest nutritional criteria recommended by the Quebec Health Minister who has consulted nutritional experts. We also have to make sure that our residents like what they eat. Therefore, their taste is also taken into consideration,” points out Mr. St-Pierre.

### Choices, choices and choices

To clarify, the reform has two parts, he adds. “The first part concerns the nutritional aspect. The Ministry’s experts

have recommended so much protein, so many carbs, so much lipids, so much salt, so much fibre and so forth for each menu prepared. The second part of the reform, and it’s very important, concerns the preferences of our residents taste-wise. There has to be pleasure while eating and we must respect that. That’s not all,” affirms Jean St-Pierre. “There will be a three-week menu cycle. That means, that during those three weeks, the patient won’t eat the same thing twice unless he or she asks for it. Even more, for dinner and for supper there will be two choices and we can even add a third or fourth choice such as making a sandwich or whatever.”

As for the powdered potatoes, Jean St-Pierre confirms that has never been served in our region. “By the way, I would like to say that the survey we conducted confirms that our residents are very satisfied with what they eat.”



Photo: G. Gagné

The rubble has been piled on the premise for seven months now. A tarpaulin was placed over the piles but it is far from waterproof.

# Removal of rubble from old cinema still not scheduled

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: - The rubble of New Carlisle’s old cinema will likely be on location for several more weeks, as the contractor, Excavations Leblanc of Carleton, still has not submitted the plan indicating what the company intends to do in order to dispose of the material safely.

The building was demolished in mid-October 2016 and the report carried out soon after showed there are traces of asbestos in the rubble.

Sophie Gaudreault, spokesperson of the *Commission des normes, de l'équité,*

*de la santé et de la sécurité du travail* (CNESST), the body in charge of health and safety at work, points out that the delay is out of the organization’s control.

“There is no compulsory delay,” she says. “An inspector met with the employer (Excavations Leblanc) yesterday (May 10). They have discussed the method to adopt in order to resume work. We are waiting for the employer to send us its work procedure.”

“The CNESST will not authorize rubble removal work as long as a feasible and safe plan is not approved,” she points out. Excavations

Leblanc was not fined following demolition, despite failing to inform the CNESST of the operation.

The building used to belong to the town of New Carlisle. It was donated to Espace René-Lévesque, the future interpretation centre that will present the highlights of Quebec’s former premier, who was raised in New Carlisle.

Discussions have also taken place between Excavations Leblanc, the municipal administration and the management of Espace René-Lévesque, especially concerning the sharing of the disposal bill.

# News briefs

## Another year of funding for the Grand River Fisheries School

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: - Gaspé riding Member of the National Assembly (MNA), Gaétan Lelièvre, regrets that the Quebec government confirmed only one more year of funding for the *École des pêches et de l'aquaculture du Québec* (ÉPAQ), the fisheries school. The Grand River-based school is coming to the end of its three-year funding on June 30, 2017. “Minister of Advanced Education Hélène David confirmed, in a parliamentary committee, that the funding was extended for one year. It’s not normal that the *École des pêches* is still on life support. The number of students has increased, the local people have taken their responsibilities. It’s now Quebec’s turn,” said the Parti québécois MNA. The fisheries school has developed distance learning and international ties over the last years. For the 2016-2017 school year, 34 % of its students are from outside the region.

## The Gaspé is covered

Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ PENINSULA: - “The Gaspé Peninsula is covered by Medical Family Groups (GMF) from one end to the other,” confirms the spokesperson of the CISSS de la Gaspésie, Dr. Claude Mercier. Spec wanted to confirm this in light of a recent statement by the Québec Health Ministry, which has published a document indicating that the Québec population can now count on 302 GMFs, therefore, reaching its objective of 300 by 2020. Dr. Claude Mercier confirms that our region has four GMFs, one in Chandler (Percé Rock MRC), one in Gaspé (MRC Côte-de-Gaspé), one in Haute-Gaspésie (Sainte-Anne-des-Monts) and one for the Bay of Chaleur area. The other good news is that there could be another GMF in the Chaleur Bay that would be based in Maria. In fact, the current Medical Family Unit (UMF) linked to the Université de Montréal Medical Department, which is devoted mainly to training doctors, will soon become a GMFU, which is a combination of a UMF and a GMF. Such is the case in Gaspé. Its GMFU is attached to Laval University’s Medical Department.



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Photo: G. Gélinas

The Sunny Bank Road was covered with a few inches of water, but cars could still cross the pool of water.

## FLOODING:

# Gaspésians have seen worse

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – Gaspésians have had their share of flooded basements and damaged roads over the last week, but except for the death of two people in Sainte-Anne-des-Monts, they have seen worse and they were ready.

The floods affected 19 municipalities on the Gaspé. More than 25 municipal roads were damaged by the spring run-off, reports Québec Civil Security regional director, Jacques Bélanger.

“The worse areas are in the Bonaventure non-organized territory and in Nouvelle,” says Mr. Bélanger. In Nouvelle, a landslide is threatening a four unit apartment building. “The six evacuated people couldn’t get back to their apartment. It seems like the structure of the building was affected,” he adds.

The bridge crossing the Grand-Cascapédia River, on Highway 132 west of New Richmond, should remain closed for several months after a pillar was displaced by the current. Highway 299 remained closed for a few days between Sainte-Anne-des-Monts and New Richmond. When SPEC went to press, the southern part, from the Gaspésie Park to New Richmond, was still impassable because of rock slides, damaged pavement and shoulders.

The Gaspé Municipality has kept watching its rivers from May 7 to 10. The residents of two houses in Douglastown and one in Corte-Real were evacuated. Water covered the Sunny Bank Road and threatened a small bridge in Pointe-Navarre, but “it was nothing catastrophic,”

said mayor Daniel Côté.

In Grande-Rivière and Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé, the residents found themselves without water from Sunday, May 7, to Tuesday, May 9. Drinking water was distributed to residents.

In Chandler, the flood “damaged a few culverts. It damaged the Sept-Îles Lake Road and it was the same thing on de la Plage Road, and in Newport, on Castilloux Road,” stated Mayor Louissette Langlois. The work will consist of cleaning and replacing a few culverts.

The exploited part of the railway, from Matapédia to Caplan, wasn’t affected, reports the Gaspésie Railway Society director, Luc Lévesque. However, the Caplan-Gaspé part hadn’t been inspected when Spec went to press.

### Gaspésians are well prepared

Unlike the 2010 flood, “everybody was prepared,” said New Richmond Mayor, Éric Dubé, who describes the damages as minor in his municipality. Approximately 50

residences had water in their basements, but their inhabitants had taken their goods from their basements before the flood, and car dealerships had moved their vehicles for the same reason, Mr. Dubé reports.

“In the Lower St. Lawrence and on the Gaspé, we’ve been ‘hammered’ by natural disasters. People are now resilient. They help each other and as a regional organization, the Civil Security now has good intervention plans,” Mr. Bélanger states.

In regard to the extent of affected areas, “it’s not one of our worse situations,” says Mr. Bélanger. “But it remains a significant disaster because there were deaths,” he adds, thinking about the man and the girl who drowned in Sainte-Anne-des-Monts.

After the Rivière-au-Renard flood in 2007, more than 80 houses were moved to higher ground. The 2010 high tides led to moving or demolishing 150 more, which helps to prevent more disasters, said Mr. Bélanger. “The best means is to get away from risky areas.”



Photo: Québec Transport Ministry

Highway 299 between New Richmond and Sainte-Anne-des-Monts remained impassable for several days because of rock slides, stripped pavement and damaged shoulders.

# Police report

Following the pleadings of the attorneys on April 27, 2017, at the Percé courthouse, Québec Court Judge James Rondeau will render his verdict on August 14, 2017, in the case of Steven Gagné, 29, from Caplan, accused in July 2012, of impaired driving causing the death of Donald Powell, 50, from the Black Cape sector of New Richmond. The trial began last fall at the New Carlisle courthouse. It was held during three sittings, one of which was held in Percé because a courtroom was not available on account of the Réal Savoie murder trial.

The victim’s body was found in the early hours of July 23, 2012. He had been struck by a car near the intersection of Perron Boulevard and the wharf road in New Richmond.

The accused turned himself in four hours after the victim’s body was found. The girlfriend and passenger of the accused, Carolane Poirier, is accused of obstructing a peace officer in the execution of his duty and complicity. Her trial date will be determined on June 19.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sylvain Lapointe, 55, from the Val d’Espoir sector of Percé, was arrested on May 9 at his home and charged a day later at the Percé courthouse with different sexual offences, including sexual assault on minor girls, sexual interference and inviting minor girls to touch him sexually.

The crimes were allegedly committed between 1981 and 2002 and four potential victims were identified. The Sûreté du Québec’s investigation is ongoing to find other victims. Following his court appearance, he was released under conditions and will appear in court on July 17.

\*\*\*\*\*

Former Quebec Deputy Premier and Bonaventure riding Member of the National Assembly, Nathalie Normandeau, and six other persons charged in March 2016 with corruption-related charges will stand trial sooner than expected in Quebec City. Crown prosecutor, Claude Dussault, filed preferred direct indictments, therefore, the cases will go straight to trial and circumvent the preliminary hearings.

Nathalie Normandeau and the six co-accused, her former chief of staff Bruno Lortie, former Liberal Party minister and fundraiser Marc-Yvan Côté, Groupe Roche former president Mario W. Martel and vice-president France Michaud, former mayor of Gaspé François Roussy, and Pauline Marois’ assistant in her riding of Charlevoix, Ernest Murray, now face a total of 15 charges, instead of 13.

The corruption-related accusations were allegedly committed between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2012, in Quebec City, elsewhere in the province and outside Quebec (France).

The charges were laid following an investigation by the Quebec Anti-corruption Unit, UPAC. A water-treatment facility contract awarded in 2007 in Boisbriand, near Montreal, was instrumental to bring about these charges. Engineering firm Groupe Roche was awarded an important contract for that facility. Now known as Norda Stelo, Groupe Roche was also very active in the Gaspé Peninsula.

In the court documents released in March 2016, only the charges laid against Mario W. Martel and François Roussy were linked to accusations that would have been committed in France. Mr. Roussy is suspected of having accepted a trip to France paid wholly or in part by Groupe Roche. In the new preferred direct indictments, the names of Marc-Yvan Côté, Bruno Lortie, Nathalie Normandeau, France Michaud and Ernest Michaud appear on the indictments allegedly committed in France.

Don't miss a single event

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





## Commentary

Gilles Gagné

### Destruction of swamps, increased damage caused by water

Approximately 4,200 houses were flooded and 3,100 people were evacuated in 173 municipalities of Quebec since the beginning of May because a set of factors, including heavy rain, melting snow and the management of a certain number of dams, worked in conjunction during a specific period.

The role of climate change remains hard to assess in that disaster although it probably contributed to some extent to the damage. It also reminds us that what used to occur once per century will almost certainly take place way more often nowadays.

One important factor that almost went unnoticed to explain the disaster of the first two weeks of May is the destruction of swamps in Quebec over the last two-and-a-half centuries. According to Ducks Unlimited, between 40 and 80% of the province's swamps have disappeared since 1760. In the Montreal area,

that proportion could surpass 85%, based on the expertise of people that have thoroughly studied documents on the matter.

While it is difficult to blame the practices of the 1760-1960 span, as scientific knowledge was not always advanced and environmental stakes were outright ignored, warnings about the importance of swamps and their role as huge sponges were clearly identified in the 1960s.

Swamps and peatlands have the capacity to retain water, thus slowing down their up-stream to down-stream movement. The process is not only slowed down. Marshes keep a portion of that water. So the quantity of water reaching flood zones is reduced and spread over a longer interval.

What we saw over 15 days was exactly the opposite. In the Saint Lawrence River lowlands, drainage canals made for agricultural purposes have accelerated the water flow, and all that water reaches a limited number of rivers. Those rivers all end their course in the Saint Lawrence River. No wonder the water level is increasing.

At the same time, human beings like living along the shores, whether those shores are located along rivers or lakes. People are dealing with municipalities that are counting heavily on real estate taxes to build their budget. When a family builds a house worth \$2,000 in municipal taxes every year, a town administrator figures that over a century, that house will bring in \$200,000. Hence, a high number of construction permits are issued even if they are located in flood

zones.

People don't understand, and in some cases don't want to understand, that the concept of a possible flood area with a potential occurrence of one flood per century doesn't mean that the risk is zero if water covered that surface 10 years ago. The risk remains one over one-hundred, year in, year out. It can consequently take place three years in a row.

An in-depth collective reflection is needed following the May floods. We are all guilty to a certain degree. The residents want to have a beautiful view over the water and municipalities want to have taxation dollars coming with new construction. The provincial government is cutting annually the budget of those municipalities, thus making them increasingly dependent on property revenues.

The Canadian government is not helping either. The last update on flooding maps, a federal jurisdiction, was carried out in ... 1996, in the context of climate change!

A survey was recently conducted with 2,300 Canadians owning a house in a flood zone. Only 6% of them were aware of that status for their property. Considering that those possible flood areas are probably larger now, given the lag between the maps and the reality, there is ample room for concern.

When did we last see some federal, provincial and municipal publicity on the relevance of swamps and checking to see if you are built in a flood zone? Wouldn't it be a good initiative, given the last two weeks of nightmare?

## Guest Commentary:

Wendy Dawson

### Life's little detours

I will admit that I was among the first to throw my arms up in frustration. The announcement of the closure of the bridge that crosses the Grand Cascadepia River and divides the Peninsula east from west had me more than a little annoyed. When word came that the bridge may be out of commission for months and maybe more, my annoyance shifted to exasperation.

If my reaction seems dramatic, it is important to understand that the bridge is literally the divide of my daily life, and on either side lay integral parts. Like many that live in and around the area, I have found myself crossing the river as many as two, four – sometimes even six times a day. Furthermore, after having endured miles and minutes of accumulated frustration over the last two summers of repairs in Gesgapegiag, this tourist season was finally to provide an unobstructed passage on newly paved roads through the area.

The 132 truly is the artery of our existence here in the Gaspésie. We whip along, up and down the coast line, tucking into the villages that have grown and developed along the highway. It is easy access from

point A to point B, our only distraction is the Bay whose colour and feel shifts with every season.

I have put a lot of thought into that highway over the last few days, but during one of my detours two days ago, my thoughts took quite a shift. While I have probably made my way up the first little part of the 299 dozens of times since I have lived on the coast, it may have been the first time that I had actually really seen that stretch of road. Isn't it crazy how that happens – how our landscape becomes so familiar that we fail to truly see it?

I swear there were farms that had popped up out of nowhere – houses that could very well have been built yesterday (save for the tell-tale old fashioned architecture), nooks and valleys in the skyline that were brand new and in that moment, I realized two things. The first was – ENOUGH ALREADY – yes, my life would be mildly inconvenienced for a time, but let's face it, travelling in and around Cascadepia-St. Jules is hardly being stuck on the Decarie Boulevard during rush hour. Cascadepia-St. Jules is a hidden gem of the Gaspésie, filled with sights and sounds that somehow feel like they are from another time.

I was lost in that thought when my rearview mirror was filled with the image of the grill of a pickup truck, an impatient driver who had surely not seen or failed to pay attention to the newly installed bright orange signs strewn throughout Cascadepia-St. Jules, reminding those less familiar of the speed limits in those

parts. He crossed a double line and flew past me, and that is when I had my second realization. If I thought drivers of the 132 were inconvenienced by the bridge closure, it was surely nothing compared to the impact this detour will have on the residents of this beautiful, sleepy town over the next few months. Suddenly my inconvenience didn't seem like an inconvenience at all.

Truth be told the coming months will be trying times – not just on those that must make their way through the village, but on the villagers themselves. These small back roads will be subjected to hundreds more vehicles - cars, transport trucks, ambulances and buses - each and every day without really having had time to plan or prepare for such an onslaught of traffic. Not to mention that in the coming weeks, the tourist season will be upon us and if last year is to be any example, you can add RVs, campers and innumerable cyclists to the mix – a particular challenge as part of the detour provides little road room for cyclists in addition to blind curves that create real safety issues.

For the sake of sanity and safety, those of us that are from the region can make it a little easier on our neighbours. Firstly, we can promise to respect each and every one of those unsightly new orange signs that have dotted the roadsides. They are an eyesore, but they remind us to slow down and respect the residents and local traffic – and the local deer, of which there are dozens!

As for the town of Cascadepia-St. Jules, to know you is to love you and I do hope that over the coming months folks do get to know you a little bit. I am sure there are many that have never stopped by the Cascadepia River Museum for instance – a place to discover the history of one of Quebec's richest salmon rivers. You can also stop and take a peek in at Sexton and Sexton. Not only can you pick up great fishing gear, but you can even purchase flies that are hand tied right at the store.

And, finally, instead of rushing through the village each and every time, you can stop in at Café du Village or at the Cascadepia smokehouse for some picnic supplies and make your way down to the river near the train bridge, set yourself up on the riverbank at the end of the day on rocks warmed by the sun.

So yes, we are in for a long haul, but my advice is slow down and enjoy the view. As far as detours go, Cascadepia-St. Jules is one of the finer ones I can think of.

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# Highway 132 bridge west of New Richmond presents risk of partial collapse

## *Assessment to occur only when water recedes*

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND: – The Highway 132 bridge located west of New Richmond was damaged to such an extent by the Grand Cascapedia River current that part of the structure might collapse, according to officials of Quebec's Department of Transport.

The bridge was closed on May 8 after a police officer noticed a curve in the railing on the north side and a depression in the structure. An inspection revealed that the base of a pillar was listing, the result of the current undermining the soil underneath.

The following day, logs carried by the river stopped their course against the problematic base, creating a swirling effect around that concrete base. It accentuated that effect, causing further undermining.

The concrete base listed a bit more, prompting Transport Québec officials and Regional Minister, Sébastien Proulx, to hold an information session regarding the state of the bridge.

"That new movement of the base made the pile list even more. There is a possibility that the structure will collapse," pointed out Minister Proulx, who was flanked by Yves Berger, regional director for Transport Québec for the Gaspé Peninsula and Lower St.



Photo: G. Gagné

*Bridge May 14: The bridge is listing a bit more than on May 8, when it was closed, as erosion kept progressing for a couple of days after that.*

Lawrence, and Victor Bérubé, an engineer specialized in structures.

The bridge was opened in 1961 to replace an old covered bridge. It has eight pillars and 11 spans.

Transport Québec's Yves Berger emphasizes that saving the listing pillar and the two spans it supports is unlikely. A quick intervention is just as unlikely because of the hazards attached to it.

"The water flow is too strong. We must wait until there is less debris and the water level has to really go down before we can carry out an inspection. It will take a while," explains Mr. Berger.

It will take weeks before a sufficient drop in the water level. The situation of the bridge is complicated by the fact that the sea tides also flow in the bottom part of the Grand Cascapedia River.

Engineer Victor Bérubé adds that "we will only be able to make an evaluation of the damage once we can send scuba divers there."

Could the whole bridge collapse as a consequence of a possible domino effect stemming from the fall of the first pillar? "I don't think so. The spans are independent. It should not take place. The probability is very low, almost non-existent," explains Mr.

Bérubé.

Visual inspections were carried out on a regular basis before May 8, emphasizes Yves Berger. "Had we noticed something unusual, we would have repaired it right away," he says.

The last thorough inspection on that bridge occurred in 2015. There was work scheduled to be done on the bridge in 2018.

"It was important work on the pillars but not on the one that is currently affected," says Mr. Berger.

Between 2011 and 2016, Quebec's Department of Transport cut close to 65% of the annual road maintenance

and construction budget for the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands. Was that a factor in the erosion that undermined the pillar's base?

"The roads and bridges are safe. Work was scheduled for 2018. In fact, the budget for the structures was increased in order to maintain them in good condition," assured Yves Berger.

The collapse of the Concorde Bridge in 2006 led to the establishment of the Johnson Commission. The report of that commission suggested increased emphasis on bridge inspections all over Quebec, thorough repairs on some structures and the demolition of several bridges that caused problems.

Between New Richmond and Gesgapegiag, a traffic deviation is organized. It passes through Cascapedia and St. Jules, using Route 299, the two Gérard-D.-Levesque bridges and MacKay Road.

"We are lucky in our bad luck because of that possibility of a detour. The structure is under constant surveillance. We are conscious of the importance of that structure. Everything will be put up to assure better traffic fluidity," adds Minister Sébastien Proulx, referring to some means that will be deployed to make sure to make it easier for users.

## Bridge closure good for business but disrupts quietness of community

Gilles Gagné

CASCAPEDIA - SAINT JULES: – The May 8 closure of the Highway 132 bridge west of New Richmond changed in a blink of an eye the quietness of Cascapedia-Saint-Jules, where the traffic was probably multiplied by 20, if we include the number of people coming to the area just to see the bridge.

At the Café du Village, the multi-purpose convenience store located at the main street corner of Saint Jules, owner Johanne Legouffe and a couple of customers realized that something unusual was happening around mid-morning on May 8.

"We were having a coffee. I looked outside and there was

a traffic jam! In Saint Jules! What is going on? Three trucks were jammed at the corner. Car drivers were not too patient and were trying to cut short. We didn't know that the bridge had been closed at the time," says Johanne Legouffe.

What followed was a "crazy week" for business, she says. "I'll have to hire another employee. I cannot do all this alone. I have some family helping me for now but they are all starting work. I start at 4 a.m. every morning. I bake homemade bread, and make soup and sandwiches. There is the whole dépanneur business going. I am running it with my daughter but we will need an employee. I close at 6:00 in the evening but I will have to close later," she explains.

Johanne Legouffe therefore confirms that the bridge closure is "good for business. It is not an inconvenience for me. It is nice to see new faces. One guy stopped and said: 'It is so welcoming here.' A group of bikers just stopped and said: 'You have to put a sign on the side of the building. We can't see that there is a store here.' Other people say 'we have never been through here. What a nice community.' We'll get discovered. At the same time, at night, it is loud. For the community, it is something new. I think it is different for some people. People are nervous, especially people with kids. If they (the drivers) could slow down, it would be easier."



Photos: G. Gagné

*Johanne Legouffe: Café du village owner, Johanne Legouffe, is so busy that she will have to hire an employee.*

Cont'd on page 11





Photo: G. Gagné

Cones were placed along the stretch of Highway 132 where the greater number of collisions occurred in Matapédia.

## MATAPEDIA DEER FENCE: Petition submitted to the National Assembly

Gilles Gagné

MATAPEDIA – Considering the high number of collisions between vehicles and deer in the village of Matapédia, Member of the National Assembly for the riding of Bonaventure, Sylvain Roy, recently submitted a petition to the government on behalf of 1,009 people asking for a fence to be built along Highway 132 within the municipal limits.

Mr. Roy read two petitions at the National Assembly, both having similar content, but one was signed online and the other one was circulated in a number of public places before being deposited in Quebec City. He especially specifies that since the beginning of February, at least once daily, a collision between a deer and a vehicle has occurred in Matapédia.

“Deer now pose a major hazard for people circulating in the Matapédia area. Considering the high number of collisions and given that those collisions also represent a problem for the protection of the herd, a set of measures must be implemented,” ex-

plains Sylvain Roy.

He has informed two ministers of the situation, Transport Minister Laurent Lessard and Wildlife Minister Luc Blanchette. He has also talked to Yves Berger, regional director of Quebec’s Department of Transport.

“Laurent (Lessard) has given orders to the effect of moving (towards constructing fences). The regional director (Yves Berger) favours digging deeper ditches along the sides of the road. I have asked minister Blanchette to consider the establishment of a hunting sub-zone for the Bay of Chaleur, considering the concentration of deer in the area,” adds Mr. Roy.

The deer hunting season could be lengthened, he thinks, and a certain number of females could be killed. Sylvain Roy also thinks that a longer season should include bow and cross-bow hunting.

He thinks that the solution probably consists of a set of measures. “It could include fences, increased lighting along Highway 132 in Matapédia, another deer management plan for the Bay of Chaleur sub-zone and deeper

ditches. There are many stakes here: a safety issue for drivers, damage caused on agriculture land, the good state of the deer herd and the presence of ‘cowboys’ hunting too close to houses,” says the Member of the National Assembly.

Of the 1,009 names submitted to the National Assembly, 91 signatures came from the online petition while 918 people signed a paper version in various public places. The petition was submitted to the National Assembly on April 25. The petition was initially suggested by a resident of Matapédia, Daniel Bélanger, who attended the document submission to the National Assembly.

“I am conscious that we currently have other problems to deal with, given the floods and the Grand Cascapédia bridge closure, but I am also aware that the deer situation is a daily preoccupation for a number of people living in the Bay of Chaleur area,” concludes Sylvain Roy.

The length of the fence would reach several kilometres. The exact distance has to be measured, and its cost remains to be assessed.



Photo: G. Gélinas

## Gaspé mayor to run again

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: –At the November 5 municipal election, current mayor Daniel Côté will present himself once again for the position of Gaspé mayor. He announced his intentions on May 2, in the presence of his wife, Mélanie Fortin, and their eleven-year-old twins. Mr. Côté has been the Gaspé mayor since November 2013. He stated that he has the support of his family and that the town has completed several projects over the last four years in spite of “the worst wave of governmental austerity” and that he still has challenges to face. At this moment, no one else has come forward as a candidate for mayor.



**Bonaventure Agricultural Society  
Division “A” Inc.  
98 Rte. 132,  
Shigawake, Quebec  
G0C 3E0**

The Bonaventure Agricultural Society Div. “A” is currently accepting resumes for two summer student positions. The job will start on July 3, 2017, and run for a total of 7 weeks, including the Shigawake Fair and Music Festival - August 17-20, 2017.

The ideal candidates must:

- Be well organized and self-motivated
- Have a valid driver’s license and use of a car
- Enjoy working with the public and have good people skills
- Be functionally bilingual
- Be between the age of 16-35
- Be returning to school in the fall of 2017
- Be able to work flexible hours - occasional evenings and weekends

The first position is for marketing and fundraising. This means that the student would be responsible for finding advertising from multiple businesses in the region. This job has salary bonuses.

The second position is as a coordinator, helping with the tasks of organizing the annual Shigawake Fair and Music Festival. The job includes tasks such as volunteer coordination.

For further information, please contact Emilie Woods at 438-881-9295, or email [emilie.a.woods@gmail.com](mailto:emilie.a.woods@gmail.com). Interested candidates should send their cover letter and resumé to [emilie.a.woods@gmail.com](mailto:emilie.a.woods@gmail.com) by June 15 at 12 p.m. Please indicate which job you are interested in.

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## Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



### Right Under Your Nose

The smell of juniper wood, lily of the valley fresh out of the damp spring ground, ginger snaps baking in a wood stove, vanilla extract, a newborn baby's skin, puppy breath, Chanel #5 perfume, Sunday roast cooking in the oven, Baby's Own Soap, summer savory; these are all smells that bring back strong memories for me.

Nothing is more memorable than smell. Wherever we go in life, our nose goes first. It might be from your childhood, a first summer love or your own mother. Whatever it may be, those memories are linked to the smells that accompanied them. Smells can bring those memories flooding back to you. Infants can smell at birth, most likely so that they can identify their mothers. They do not yet tell the difference between pleasant and unpleasant smells. That is something humans learn as they mature. Or as one might say on the coast, "Did you get a whiff of that?"

Some people do not have a sense of smell, a condition which is called anosmia. Poor them, because it also means that they have no sense of taste. Some smells are so powerful that they can trigger epileptic seizures. Rosemary is possibly one, yet ylang ylang scent is reported to prevent seizures. There is a whole branch of scientific study and application based on smell called aromatherapy. Never underestimate the power of smell.

Many specific Gaspesian memories can be triggered by smell. I am sure that you can go through your memories of smells and allow them to bring back the feelings of times past. Just close your eyes and reminisce and it will come to you. In the meantime, here are a few that come to mind.

- A beach bonfire
- Salt water
- Wild strawberries
- Hay, freshly cut and piled into the barn
- The chicken shed
- The outhouse
- The marsh
- Evergreen trees
- Fresh cut wood, piled into the shed
- Orange Kool-Aid
- Cut grass
- Gingersnap cookies, crunchy and spicy
- Home-made bread
- Seaweed
- New flip flops
- Salad made of cucumbers, tomatoes and lettuce just picked from the garden
- Horses, especially on a hot day
- Bologna frying on the wood stove
- Toast, dark and crispy made over a fire
- Calamine lotion on sunburned skin
- Evening in Paris perfume
- Old Spice or Brut after shave
- Peppermints, the 'dusty' kind
- Wet dogs
- Chicken stuffing with lots of summer savory
- Cedar
- The chemicals in a Tonette home perm
- A damp cellar
- Wild roses
- Running shoes worn on a hot summer day, with no socks
- Cream soda
- Pipe tobacco
- Salt cod served with frying pork, onions and grease
- Lilacs

Smell helps us to gather information about the world. It can alert us to danger, such as something burning or bad food. Smell also helps us to recognize others. Apparently, we all have our own unique fragrance and it is reported that identical twins smell the same. This means our scent is at least partly genetic. However, this does not mean you should stop showering.

## LOBSTER:

# Fishermen receiving \$7.75 per pound New way of setting price is being initiated

Gilles Gagné

**GASPÉ PENINSULA:** - Most Gaspesian lobster fishermen received \$7.75 per pound for their first week of catches in 2017, a decent increase compared to the \$6.50 received a year ago. The lead was taken by Poisson Sale Gaspésien in Grand River.

Over past years, E. Gagnon et Fils, of nearby Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé, was usually the first buyer to talk and the other buyers were giving the same price.

The president of Poisson Sale Gaspésien, Réal Nicolas, explains that he made that decision in part because he didn't "want to get lawyers involved in price negotiations" and in part because of complaints about prices.

"Our price is set on the average of the price I sell for. I offer 85% of that price to the fishermen," points out Réal Nicolas. The 15% share is the company's profit margin.

"When the Magdalen Islands lobster will hit the mar-

ket, I will follow that price. They have a joint marketing plan there," adds Mr. Nicolas, who was unhappy with the previous way of doing things. Fishing in the Magdalen Islands started a week late, on May 13-14, but the results of the first complete week of transactions will be known around May 23-24.

"We were negotiating every week with lobster fishermen sitting in the office. It was about to turn into them coming with a lawyer, and my hiring a lawyer in order to reach an agreement like they did in the Magdalen Islands. Why not do it without lawyers? The way it works in the Magdalen Islands is fine," further explains Réal Nicolas, who felt no need to duplicate a fair process.

"It is our way of doing things. I don't want to do it for the other buyers. If the other buyers don't match our prices, that is just as fine. I am just thinking that it will be easier for us," adds Mr. Nicolas.

He made that decision over

the winter and started talking about it when he attended the Boston Seafood Show in March. The rumour spread quickly albeit discretely in the fishing sector.

So far, since the season started, on April 29-30, the big challenge has been to deal with bad weather.

"We have already missed 5-6 days of catches. We have been selling way less lobster than usual because the landings have been low. They are good when the fishermen can get at sea though. I still think that we can get a good season. Today (May 12) was very, very good for instance," comments Réal Nicolas.

In 2016, the 163 Gaspé Peninsula lobster permit holders landed 2,287 metric tonnes of shellfish, for a value of \$33 million. Ten years ago, an average season in the region would translate into catches of between 800 and 1,000 metric tonnes, and revenues of \$10 million.

Cont'd on page 11

## GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING

**WHERE :** CHANDLER GOLF CLUB

200, Commerciale, Chandler

**DATE :** Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup> 2017.

**SCHEDULE :** 08 : 15 : Reception  
08 : 20 : Annual General Meeting  
(a breakfast will be served)  
10 : 30 : End of meeting

SADC

Société  
d'aide au développement  
de la collectivité  
ROCHER-PERCÉ

Invitations to the population of MRC Rocher-Percé. Directors of the corporation will be elected at this annual general meeting. Therefore in keeping with regulation 5.03 of general rules and regulations, a period of nominations will be opened from May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017, until 16:00 (4:00 p.m.) June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Positions to be filled are in the following sectors:

- **Tertiary:** Four (4) directors representing socio-economic activities corresponding to distribution or sale of goods, products, services namely : Educational services – Services to business enterprises – Tourism – Health and Social services – Educational institutions – Unions – Businesses – Associations, Representatives, Chamber of Commerce and others.
- **Youth:** A director representing youth under 40 years old.
- **Co-op West:** A director residing between Port-Daniel-Gascons and Chandler.

All proposed candidates must be sponsored by a member of the Board of Directors. The appropriate form must be completed and sent within the time specified above to the corporation's head office at: 129 Blvd. René-Lévesque West, Office S-101, Chandler (Québec) G0C 1K0. The nomination form will be available at the corporation's head office and on the website at: [www.sadcrp.ca](http://www.sadcrp.ca) in the «Publications» section.

For the Board of Directors,

Pauline Boulay  
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## STROKE OF GENIUS AWARD (\$1 250)

was won by:



«**Projet Planète**»,  
a project by grade 5 and 6  
students of l'école  
Saint-Rosaire de Gaspé  
(accompanied by Cathy Archambault).

«**L'Essentielle**»,  
a project by secondary  
3 to 5 students of  
l'école Antoine-Roy de Gaspé  
(accompanied by Lyne Jalbert).

## STROKE OF BRILLIANCE AWARD (\$1 000)

was won by:



«**Club des générations**»,  
a project by grade 4 students of  
l'école Saint-Rosaire de Gaspé  
(accompanied by Geneviève Germain).

«**Fly Commanders**»,  
a project by secondary 4 students  
from the Gaspé Polyvalent School  
(accompanied by Rachelle Fournier).

## PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD (\$500)

was won by:



«**Les P'tit Repas-Partage**»,  
a project by grade 4 and 5 students of l'école  
des Prospecteurs de Murdochville and  
**THE MOST COOPERATIVE PROJECT  
AWARD** of \$250  
(accompanied by Mathieu Babin and Elsa Cotton);

«**Garde Ski**»,  
a project by secondary 4  
students of l'école des  
Prospecteurs de Murdochville  
(accompanied by Caroline Laporte).

## PLACE AUX JEUNES AWARD (\$250)

was won by:



«**Mandalas of the Gaspé**»,  
a project by secondary 3 students from the  
Gaspé Polyvalent School  
(accompanied by Rachelle Fournier).

We would like to sincerely thank all the participants, our valued partners, entrepreneurs who were involved, jury members, volunteers and the collaborators who contributed to the great success of this event!





Ends May 31<sup>st</sup>



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# CRUISE SHIPS: 2017 to be a record year for the Gaspé

Geneviève Gélinas

**GASPÉ:** – Gaspé and Percé will experience a new record season in 2017 with 31 visits of international cruises and 11 stops of the CTMA Vacancier. All together, those ship calls mean a possibility of 40,154 passengers and crew members stopping at the tip of the Gaspé Peninsula from May to October.

The first ship of the season, the Pearl Mist, will moor at the Sandy Beach wharf on May 24. Then the CTMA Vacancier, which navigates back and forth from the Magdalen Islands to Montréal, will stop in Gaspé every Wednesday from June 14 to August 30. The ship used to moor at the Chandler wharf but it was closed last fall because of its poor condition.

“The objective was to keep the CTMA tourist traffic (in the Gaspé Peninsula) and we’re introducing a domestic

part to our activities,” says Stéphane Sainte-Croix, coordinator of Escale Gaspésie.

The September and October months will be the busiest of the season with 10 and 15 ships respectively. Six times during the 2017 season, two ships will anchor off Gaspé at the same time. On October 7, the ship with the greatest capacity of the year, the Crown Princess (3,100 passengers and 1,200 crew members) will anchor with the Seabourne Quest (450 passengers and 330 crew members).

The Queen Mary 2 is expected for a second year. It will be in Gaspé on October 2, between 10 am and 7 pm.

Percé will see four ships anchored in its natural harbour, no matter if only a part of the wharf can be used. The expected ships don’t moor, explains Marie Leblanc, responsible for tourist reception at the Town of Percé. “They’re too big. They anchor and then

they use their own shuttle-zodiacs.”

In July, the presence of four tall ships from July 7 to 9 will add dynamics to the Sandy Beach wharf.

## 2016 results

In 2016, the tip of the Gaspé Peninsula received 30 ships, with 32,694 passengers and crew members on board. A little more than half of them, that is to say 17,808, came off the ship for a visit. Of that number, 8,007 bought guided tours.

About forty Escale Gaspésie seasonal employees have shared a total of 864 working days.

Escale Gaspésie estimates the 2016 spinoffs at \$2 million. The organization expects to exceed that amount this year thanks to a higher number of ships planned.

Meanwhile, no cruise ship passenger has set foot on the



Photo: G. Gélinas

Six times during the 2017 season, Gaspé will receive two cruise ships at the same time, as it was the case in this picture in September 2014, with the Norwegian Dawn and the Celebrity Summit anchored in the Gaspé Bay.

Peninsula floating docks at Forillon National Park, which have been ready since 2014 for the cruise ship shuttles to disembark passengers.

“The docks haven’t been used yet by the cruise lines but they’re used by the Forillon Park concession holder (Écorécéo, which offers kayak and paddle board rentals) and by recreational boaters. It’s not simple for cruise ships to have two spots to disembark and two security

procedures,” explains Stéphane Sainte-Croix. The cruise passengers disembark from the shuttles at the Gaspé marina.

Mr. Sainte-Croix trusts that soon there will be cruise ship passengers getting off in Peninsula. Escale Gaspésie is trying to sell the option and “we got requests from the cruise lines.” Escale Gaspésie received \$900,000 from Canada Economic Development for the Peninsula project.

## FAMILY TIES

Cont'd from cover

and volunteers to “take care of ourselves and never stop trying to change the world.”

During the business part of the meeting, the audience learned that Family Ties’ budget has grown over the past seven years and last year amounted to \$304,000. A small deficit has been completely covered and in 2016-2017 Family Ties boasted a small surplus. A provisional budget of \$274,143 was approved, and it was noted that the budget will probably increase during the year as projects are received.

Elections were held and the following people assumed seats on the board of directors: Shannon Marsh-parent representative, and Sharon Smith and Terry Maloney-

community representatives.

The meeting wound up with a host of congratulations, including a message and plaque from New Carlisle Mayor Stephen Chatterton who acknowledged the “many projects designed to strengthen our families and our community.” Guy Gallibois spoke on behalf of the School Board about the “positive impact on children’s lives” and said Family Ties has become “very important to the future of our children.” A former participant, Jessika Gallan, wrote that being involved in Family Ties “helped me achieve tremendous growth.”

The evening ended with the Family Ties song especially written for the anniversary by Jeff Buttle and a poem by Ann Kelly. Then the crowd enjoyed a delicious meal together.

## SHARE your STORY



Stories told by GWENDOLYN DOBSON  
Interviewed by ALLISON LEGOUFFE DEA

### The Big Bang!

This story I’m about to tell you happened the first night I got married, I was 27 years old at the time. It was a winter’s night in January.

We had our wedding reception at my grandmother’s house which used to be at the bottom of Brighton Street in New Carlisle but the house is gone now.

We left the church and went down to her place. My grandfather was there and as we walked in. My sister-in-law went in ahead of me and my grandfather put his arms around her and said, “Hello dear, I am so happy for you.” He thought she was me!

We had quite the chuckle about that, that he had mistaken my sister-in-law for me.

So that night we were in a room off my grandmother’s and the house was dead quiet. There wasn’t a sound. Then we heard a big bang. We got such a fright we sat right up in bed. “What was that?”

We got out of bed to see what the noise was and went to my grandmother’s room. The bottom of their bed had broken and fell.

We asked them, “What were YOU doing?” We had a laugh over that. A bed broke in the house that night but it wasn’t the newlyweds!

### A Sticky Rice Krispie!

I used to live at Réne Lapointe’s apartment building. One night my mother, Freda, my sister-in-law Diane and my friend Phoebe and myself got together to play a game.

We were sitting there playing; I told everyone that I had made a snack for tonight. I had made Rice Krispie squares and I cut them into squares and brought them out.

As I sat down I accidentally kicked my mother. She made a face as if to say, “Watch where

you’re putting your feet.”

As we started to play, my mother reached for a square and took a bite. As she pulled the square away from her mouth, her teeth came out with the sticky treat!

Well we laughed our heads off over that! My mother then said, “First you try to break my leg, and then try to pull my teeth out of my head at the same time!” What laughs we had that night!



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Photo: G. Gagné

Road near the bridge: Saturday is quieter but it remains busy, as many people come to see the bridge.

**BRIDGE CLOSURE:**

**Cont'd from page 5**

She heard about the possibility of cutting through her parking space in order to make it easier for the truck-and-trailer tandems to turn the corner in front of the store. "If they do have to cut, they will make my parking lot bigger that way," she says, pointing towards the east.

She has a lot of praise for the Transport Québec employees making sure that the traffic goes smoothly at the corner of Gallagher and MacKay. "They are doing 12-hour shifts, on their feet. Today is not so bad because it is Saturday, sunny and quieter but earlier this week, it was raining a lot and the traffic was heavy. I went out to give him a sweet and a coffee, and told him that he was doing long hours. He said: You too! He saw me as well, I guess."

Darlene Sexton, director general of the Cascapedia Society, expects more people at the Cascapedia River Museum over the summer because of increased traffic in front of the building.

"We are hoping to have more visitors," she says. How-

ever, on the morning of May 15, the employees of the Cascapedia Society were more concerned about reaching the camps because of the damage sustained on Route 299 and some side roads, following the floods of the previous week.

"They are working on it," she added, referring to the Transport Québec team and subcontractors on Route 299. As for the camps, "there was some water at Middle Camp. We don't think that water came in the other camps but we still have to reach them," explained Ms. Sexton.

Cascapedia-Saint-Jules Mayor Pat Saint-Onge points out that overall, the residents of the municipality are "very, very understanding" towards the traffic increase.

"This is nature. People take it one day at a time. People are concerned about safety. People live here because it is quiet. I must say that we receive good cooperation from the police and Transport Québec," says the mayor.

He also remarks that the Transport Québec staff is assessing a plan B regarding a road that could either replace or complement MacKay Road, currently the detour selected by

the authorities to pass north of the closed bridge.

"They are assessing Patrickton Road. They will have a look at it, if something goes wrong on MacKay Road. They are assessing how much has to be done on Patrickton. I am told that Maria has no problem having its side of Patrickton Road used," says Mr. Saint-Onge.

Patrickton Road is in decent condition on the Saint Jules side but its state is very bad on the Maria side. However, the wooden bridges passing on Kilmore Brook are sturdy enough to bear the increased load that would come with a detour there.

**Tom Eden organizes conference about Battle of Hong Kong**

Gilles Gagné

CASCAPEDIA-SAINT-JULES – Tom Eden, a Gaspesian with a passion for history in general and war history in particular, will present a conference about the Battle of Hong Kong, which occurred during the Second World War, at the Canadian Legion in Cascapedia-Saint-Jules, at 2 p.m., on Saturday, May 20. Mr. Eden will first make his presentation about the Battle of Hong Kong. There will then be an intermission during which he will show artifacts and after the break, he will pay a tribute to Phil Doddridge, a New Richmond resident who fought in Hong Kong and who survived his internment in a forced labour camp between 1941 and 1945.

**LOBSTER:**

**Cont'd from page 7**

Eighteen Gaspesian lobster fishermen deliver their catches to Poisson sale Gaspésien, a company that used to specialize mainly in salt cod products. It has diversified quite a bit over the years. The plant is a major processor of herring and started the processing of

imported lobster at the end of 2000.

"About 15% of my lobster supply comes from Gaspesian fishermen. That lobster is sold on the live market. I buy 85% of my lobster supply from New Brunswick mainly, and a bit from Prince Edward Island and the Magdalen Islands. That lobster is processed," says Mr. Nicolas.

**BE IN THE "KNOW"**  
 Read the  
**Coast Round-up**  
 page each week to learn about  
 upcoming activities  
 in your community.



**COMMISSION SCOLAIRE EASTERN SHORES  
 EASTERN SHORES SCHOOL BOARD**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to Section 392 of the Education Act, PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the Council of Commissioners of Eastern Shores School Board intends to amend at the meeting of June 14, 2017, the following By-Law:

**By-Law No. 8:**

With a view to setting the time, date, and place of the Council of Commissioners and Executive Committee meetings for the 2017-2018 school year.

**By-Law No. 10:**

With a view to providing means to any commissioner to participate or attend a meeting in a manner that allows them to communicate directly with each other at Council of Commissioners and Executive Committee meetings.

A draft of the By-Laws may be examined at the office of the Secretary General of Eastern Shores School Board, situated at 40 Mountsorrel Street, New Carlisle, Quebec.

Given at New Carlisle, Quebec, this 11th day of May 2017.

Margaret-Ann Cooke  
 Interim Secretary General

**AVIS PUBLIC**

l'instruction publique, avis public est donné par la présente que la Commission scolaire Eastern Shores, prévoit amender, lors de la séance régulière du conseil des commissaires du 14 juin 2017, les règlements suivants:

**Règlement 8:**

Règlement sur l'heure, la date et les lieux des réunions du Conseil des commissaires et du Comité exécutif et du pour l'année scolaire 2017-2018.

**Règlement 10:**

Règlement en vue de fournir des moyens à tout commissaire afin de participer ou d'assister à une séance du Conseil des commissaires et du Comité exécutif, de manière à leur permettre de communiquer directement entre eux.

Une copie de ces règlements est disponible au bureau de la secrétaire générale de la Commission scolaire sise au 40, rue Mountsorrel, New Carlisle, Québec.

Donné à New Carlisle, Québec de 11e jour de mai 2017.

Margaret-Ann Cooke  
 Secrétaire générale par intérim

40, rue Mountsorrel, c.p. 500, New Carlisle (Québec) G0C 1Z0  
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# Announcements...



## Obituary

### GIRARD: Andrew

Passed away at CISSS de la Gaspésie Hôpital de Gaspé on April 25, 2017, at the age of 90 years and one month. Mr. Andrew Girard was the husband of Mrs. Margaret Vibert from Barachois. He leaves behind one son George, one daughter Gloria (Terry), grandchildren Brandon, Bradley, Dustin (Kaitlyn), and Dayna (Brice); great-grandchildren, Audrey and Alana, sister Flora; nephews and nieces and friends.

The family received condolences at the Valère Fortin Funeral Home in Barachois on April 27 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and before the funeral on April 28 at 10:30 a.m.

Interment to follow at a later date during the summer. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

*You're not alone along the way,  
And when God calls you... you will be,  
Right by my side, right here with me.  
Till then, I'll wait by Heaven's door.  
We'll be united for evermore.*

Forever in our hearts and always missed, love always, Betty and your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



### ROY: Jean Yves

Departed this life on May 8, 2013 – four years ago.

*Your gentle ways and smiling face  
Are a pleasure to recall.  
You had a kind word for everyone  
And died, loved by all.  
Some day I know we'll see you.  
Some day, we know not when,  
To hold your hand in heaven  
And never part again.*

Missing you yesterday, today and forever. All our love always. His wife, Jewell, children: Paul (Rose), Johanna (Eric), and Steven (Lili); grandchildren: Alexander, Benjamin, Christina, Gabriella, Jayden, and Mason; sisters: Denise, Lucille, and Louise (Lucien), his nieces and nephews; and friends.

### SINCLAIR: Murray

In loving memory of my husband, Murray Sinclair, who passed away one year ago on May 19, 2016 at age 73.

*He never looked for praises.  
He was never one to boast,  
He just went on quietly working,  
For the ones he loved the most.  
His dreams were seldom spoken.*

*His wants were very few,  
And most of the time his worries,  
Went unspoken too.*

Wife Maureen, son Rod (Sonya), daughter Kim (Bob), grandchildren: Connor and Ryan; sister Judy (Lawrence) and family. Maureen is grateful to her sister Carolyn who was with her every step of the way.



### WALKER: Harold

In loving memory of Harold on the tenth anniversary of his death on May 15, 2007.

*What would I give to clasp his hand,  
His happy face to see,  
To hear his voice and see his smile,  
That meant so much to me.*

Always loved and remembered, Mary and family.



## In Memory



### MACWHIRTER: Arthur

July 24, 1929 - May 18, 2003

*Remember me with smiles, not tears  
For all the joy throughout the years.  
Remember the closeness that was ours,  
A love as sweet as fragrant flowers.  
Don't dwell on thoughts that bring you pain.  
We'll see each other once again.  
I am at peace, try to believe  
It was my time, I had to leave.  
But "what a view" I have from here.  
I see your face, I feel you near.  
I am with you throughout the day,*

The community was saddened to hear of the death of Jessie Watt. Jessie brightened up every room. She will be missed by family, friends and the various organizations she was a part of. Those attending the Three Star card parties were always treated to some of Jessie's delicious baked goodies.

Welcome home to Ruth Dugdale, who spent the winter months at her home in Yuma, Arizona.

It has been a few busy but great months at Hope Baptist Church. King's Kids which meets on Fridays and is going well with an average of 20 children each week. There is singing, do Bible lessons, snacks and games. The last club is Friday, May 19, for the summer.

Sunday School is also going well. It starts at 9:45 a.m. and lasts until 10:45 a.m. There are classes for all ages from children to adults. There is an open session of singing, birthdays, quizzes and prizes and then the group breaks up into classes.

Each Friday evening the gang meets at the church for Young Peoples with games, snacks, Bible lessons and special events. They are having a great time each week.

Easter weekend was awesome. Betty-Lynne Bedford's parents, John and Lois Wood from Wood



### Anne MacWhirter

## HOPETOWN NEWS

Point, NB, were up for a visit for the weekend and they enjoyed their tour of the area by their chauffeur, Pastor Paul, their favorite son-in-law.

Approximately 90 people attended the afternoon service and the music night on Good Friday. Also between services HBC ladies and the ladies of the NC Bible Chapel served an awesome meal.

Easter morning the men of HBC put on their annual Son Rise breakfast and that was followed by the Easter service.

Brittney Bedford had an experience of a lifetime. She spent eight weeks in Columbia, South America, doing her practical work teaching English and Science in a private boys' school. She had a great time and did some traveling throughout the country as well. She will be back in Canada on May 19 and will finish her Education Degree at UNB in Fredericton, NB, until July 18 and then she will be on the job

hunt.

HBC is also excited to have many of the university gang home for the summer: From UNB - Katie Major, Zach and Tabatha Gallibois, Molly and Sadie Gallibois and Nick Willett. From New Brunswick Bible Institute Krista-Lee Sullivan (she will be home in two weeks as she is on a Ministry team in the USA).



## Classic Memorials

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## COAST ROUND-UP

### GASPÉ:

#### Flea Market

**Saturday, June 3:** The York Women's Institute will be holding a flea market from 10 a.m. until noon at the York River Community Hall. There will be a small bake table. There will be something for everyone. Hope to see you there.

### DOUGLASTOWN:

#### Community Centre Upcoming Events

**Sunday, May 21:** Tree Give-away and Community Breakfast from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Join friends and neighbours for a traditional breakfast. A voluntary contribution of \$7 for adults, \$4 for children (5 - 11 yrs.) will be appreciated. Ages 4 and under, free. From 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., annual free tree distribution will take place.

**Sunday, May 26:** Happy Hour, beginning at 5 p.m., is a great opportunity to get together with old friends or make new ones. Bring your refreshments and a dish to share. A voluntary contribution would be appreciated.

**May 26, 27 and 28:** Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at 2 p.m. The bilingual play *Nuisances* will be performed at Holy Name Hall. Adults \$15, Students \$10.

**April 24 - May 25:** Power Yoga: Tuesdays 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Sivananda Yoga: Wednesdays 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. or Thursday 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. \$10 per class. To register or ask questions, please call 418-360-5037 or send us an e-mail at [yogagaspésie@gmail.com](mailto:yogagaspésie@gmail.com). Please bring your yoga mat. Open to everyone.

### WAKEHAM:

#### Advance notice

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

### BARACHOIS:

#### Walking Group

**Friday, May 19,** at 10 a.m. come and join our walking group. Starting at Corner of the Beach parking area. Walk at your own pace. For info, contact Janet Harvey at 418-355-4899.

### BARACHOIS:

#### Legion Branch 261 Upcoming Events

**Saturday, May 27:** Legion Sandbag League Tournament Banquet at 5 p.m. Following, at 9 p.m., music by Nash Stan-

ley. Entry donation \$5.

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

### PORT DANIEL:

#### Annual Bazaar

St. James Anglican Church will be hosting its annual bazaar on **Thursday, July 27,** from 1 - 4 p.m. at the Three Star Golden Age Club. There will be a bake table, tea and dessert, bottle table, children's games, 50/50 and much, much more. Free admission and fun for the whole family. A great way to spend an afternoon.

### PORT DANIEL AND SHIGAWAKE: Bible Study

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

### PORT DANIEL:

#### Strawberry Social Advance Notice

Marcil Branch W.I. will be holding their Annual Strawberry Social on **Saturday, July 29,** from 12 - 2 p.m. Entrance: \$7. Children 6 and under free. There will be a 50/50 and door prizes. Will be held at the 3-Star Golden Age Club in Port Daniel West. Everyone welcome. Bring your friends. For further information, call Audrey Dea at 418-752-8152.

### SHIGAWAKE:

#### Cookbooks for sale

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

### SHIGAWAKE:

#### SPDS Governing Board Meeting

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

### SHIGAWAKE:

#### Advance Notice

**Tea, Bake and Craft Sale**  
A tea, bake and craft sale will be held on **Thursday, July 20,** from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Adults \$7, children 6 and under free. Door prizes and other prizes and 50/50. Welcome all and bring your friends to Shigawake Community Centre

across from the Anglican Church.

### SHIGAWAKE:

#### Community Centre Upcoming Events

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

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

### HOPE TOWN:

#### Gift Bingo

Gift bingo on **Friday, June 16,** at 7:30 p.m. at the Hope Town Community Centre. Organized by the Sports and Recreation Club.

### HOPE TOWN:

#### Whist Party

A whist party will be held on **June 10** at 8 p.m. at the Hope Town Community Centre. Come out and join us for a night of fun.

### HOPE TOWN:

#### Hope Baptist Church

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

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Heritage New Carlisle A.G.M.

Heritage New Carlisle will hold its Annual General Meeting on **Wednesday, May 31** at 7 p.m., at the Kempffer Cultural and Interpretation Centre, 125 Boulevard Gerard-D,-Levesque in New Carlisle. The evening's activities will include Annual Report and the election of Directors. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome. Come and join us.

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Church Services

Services will be resuming at Knox Presbyterian Church on **Sunday, May 28,** at 3 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

### 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:

#### Garage Sale

**Saturday, June 3,** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 19 Mount Sorrel, behind the Laurentian Bank. No early birds, please. Rain or shine.

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Bake Sale

Hope Baptist Church Ladies are having a bake sale on **Saturday, June 3,** at 9 a.m. (but not before) at the Bible Chapel in New Carlisle. Proceeds will be used to send children to Fair Haven Bible Camp and the youth programs at HBC.

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Monthly Breakfast

**Wednesday, June 14:** The New Carlisle 50+ Club will be holding their monthly breakfast at the Heritage Restaurant, New Carlisle, at 9 a.m.

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Funeral Association AGM

The Annual General Meeting for the New Carlisle Funeral Association will be held on **Tuesday, May 23,** at 1 p.m. at the Town Hall.

### NEW RICHMOND:

#### Friperie Notice

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

### NEW RICHMOND:

#### United Church Upcoming Events

**Friday, July 21:** Strawberry Social

**July 30:** Memorial Hymn Sing

**October 21:** Turkey Supper

**December 15:** Christmas Concert.

### CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

#### 50+ Club Activities

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

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

**May 27:** A Spring Bingo will be held at 1 p.m.

**May 27:** Jam Session will be held at 7 p.m.

### CASCAPEDIA-ST. JULES:

#### Remember Hong Kong

A conference and exhibit "Remember Hong Kong" will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion in Cascapedia-St-Jules on **Saturday, May 20** at 2 p.m. All are welcome.

### GESGAPEGIAG:

#### Community Market

A community market will be held in the Galgosiet building on **Saturday, May 20,** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. To reserve a table for \$5, call the band office (Bonnie Jerome) 418-759-3441.

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## UNITED CHURCH

### Sunday, May 21

Hope Town  
2 p.m. Service

## ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

### Sunday, May 21

New Carlisle

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Hopetown

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

### Shigawake & Port Daniel

2 p.m. United Church

in Hope Town

### PARISH OF GASPE

### Sunday, May 21

York

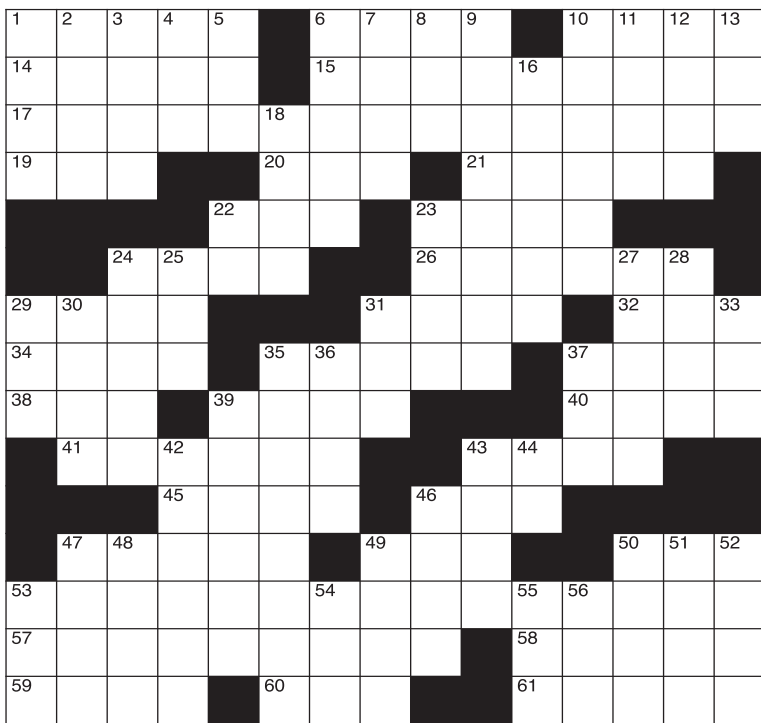
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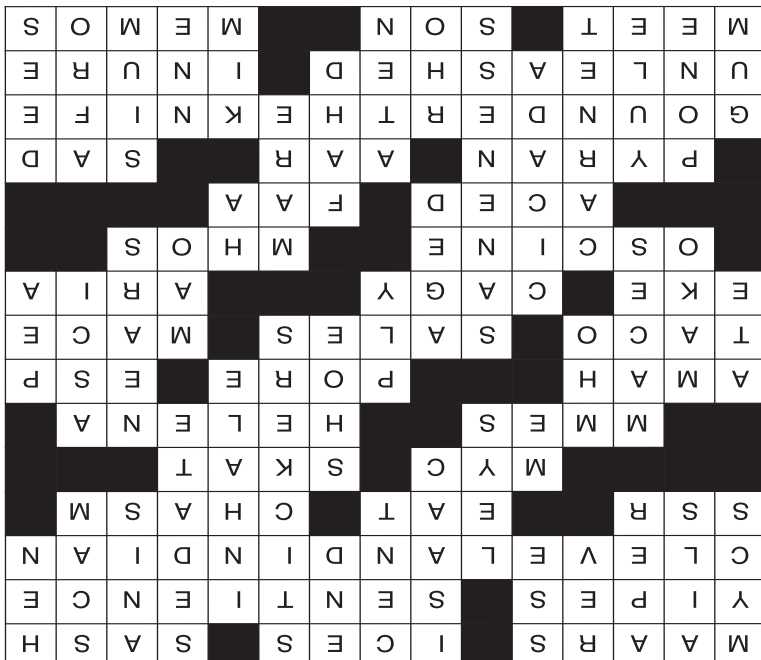
### CLUES ACROSS

1. Volcanic craters
6. Makes nervous
10. Long strip of cloth
14. Expressions of surprise
15. Perception
17. 2016 World Series runner-up
19. Former Communist power
20. Consume
21. Abyss
22. Regulator gene
23. Card game
24. Women (French)
26. State capital
29. Nursemaid
31. Surface opening
32. Second sight
34. Beloved Mexican dish
35. Discounts
37. Ceremonial staff
38. Support with difficulty
39. Reluctant to share information
40. Song
41. Relating to songbirds
43. Conductance units
45. Breezes through
46. Supervises flying
47. Chemical ring
49. Swiss river
50. Not happy
53. Surgery (slang)
57. Let go
58. Take effect
59. \_\_\_ and greet
60. Male offspring
61. Notes

### CLUES DOWN

1. Vertebrate oncogenes
2. Troubles
3. Imitator
4. Increase motor speed

5. Midway between south and southeast
6. Sir \_\_\_ Newton
7. Penny
8. Ultimate
9. Gummed labels
10. Quiet and dull
11. Cuckooes
12. Dishonest scheme
13. Adult female chicken
16. Breathe in
18. Pieces of land
22. Of I
23. Type of footwear
24. Heavy clubs
25. Conductance unit
27. Approaches
28. Fungi cells
29. Devoured
30. Type of shark
31. Work steady at one's trade
33. Vegetable
35. Sound-mindedness
36. Matured
37. Chinese communist revolutionary
39. Large insect
42. Transportation tickets book
43. Female horse
44. Expresses surprise
46. Saudi Arabian king
47. Unleavened bread
48. Christmas
49. Deity of monotheistic cult
50. Flowering plant genus
51. Hairstyle
52. Radio personality Rick
53. Something you chew
54. The 17<sup>th</sup> letter of the Greek alphabet
55. \_\_\_ Basinger, actress
56. Midway between north and northeast



## A blast from the past...



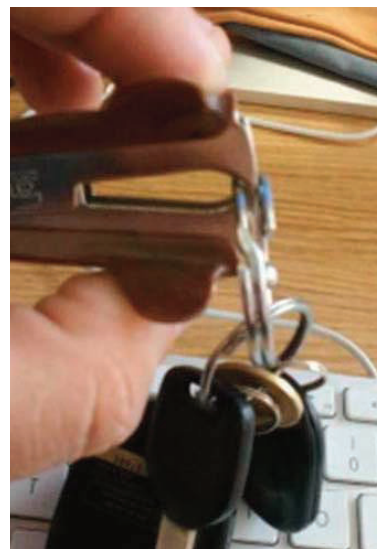
### Batters Up

Standing: Jean-Guy Dubé, Greg Prentice, Cyrus Journeau, Wilfred Hocquard and Donnie Kerr. In front: Françoise Kerr, Iva Journeau, Enid Bechervaise, Leah Gilker and Sheila Hocquard. They were gearing up for a game of baseball a few years ago....

## HELPFUL HINTS

Adding keys to your key ring can be really difficult.

Use a stapler remover to open the ring and your keys will slip on easily.



## What's This Artifact?

Marshall Billingsley



Answer: Old-fashioned sheep shears. They were once used to shear sheep by hand - primitive tool but yet effective for its time.

### ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, finding what you desire when you haven't made your own mind up about what you want can be challenging. Some soul-searching can probably come up with something promising.

### TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Nagging doubts about an investment may be trying to tell you something, Taurus. Hold off on any bold moves until you feel more confident with parting ways with cash.

### GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Gemini, if you have already committed to something, see it through. The end result may be something unexpected. Others are anxious to see what you can accomplish.

### CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Take the emotional plunge, Cancer. Someone special needs to hear about it pronto. This is not a week to clam up, but rather one to share your feelings and let others in.

### LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

Going back to school might be the best path for you at this time, Leo. Although this might stretch your schedule to its limits, you'll find the time if

## HOROSCOPES

it's important to you.

### VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Volunteering can bring more meaning to your life, Virgo, especially if you feel yourself struggling right now. Giving back can sometimes make your problems seem small.

### LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, trips may seem like they have to be large undertakings, but that's not always the case. Try for a short jaunt somewhere and enjoy the scenery.

### SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

The time has come to spend less time thinking and more time doing, Scorpio. Turn a page in your life and you'll likely be satisfied with the results.

### SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

There are a few friends who have stuck by your side through thick and thin, Sagittarius. When one comes knocking at your door for help, give this person the support he or she needs.

### CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, you can find a solution to a problem even if the answer eludes you

for the time being. Don't overthink what has to be done. This is a time to act.

### AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you always have time to do something for yourself, but you might need to put that on hold right now and focus on others. Forge ahead even if you are met with resistance.

### PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, do not think about anything but having fun for the next few days. Others will begin to live vicariously through you.

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MAY 14

Olly Murs, Singer (33)

MAY 15

Stella Maxwell, Model (27)

MAY 16

Pierce Brosnan, Actor (64)

MAY 17

Nikki Reed, Actress (29)

MAY 18

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MAY 20

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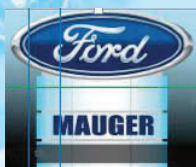


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