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this
week



Only one coroner
on the Gaspé Peninsula



Exceptional year
for tourism on the Gaspé

CHRISTMAS
QUIZ

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The Gaspé **Spec**

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PASPEBIAC CLSC:

Investigation into possible connection between patient death and doctor shortage

Gilles Gagné

PASPEBIAC: - The Ministry of Health and the Gaspé Peninsula Health Agency are conducting an investigation in an attempt to determine the circumstances surrounding the death of a patient during a transfer between his Bonaventure home, the Paspebiac CLSC and the Maria Hospital on November 23. He was suffering from cardiac arrest.

The patient was brought to the Paspebiac CLSC at 11:45 p.m. but there was no doctor on duty between midnight and the following morning, November 24 at 8 a.m. The nurse on duty allegedly informed the paramedics who had driven the patient to the Paspebiac CLSC that there was no general practitioner at the emergency at the time. A day later, she was suspended until further notice.

The paramedics consequently drove the patient to Maria hospital, where he was pronounced dead. One of the paramedics tried to resuscitate the patient during the duration of the transfer, which probably took slightly more than an hour.

It takes at least 15 minutes to get to Paspebiac from Bonaventure, and at least 50 minutes are required to cover the distance between the Paspebiac CLSC and Maria Hospital, especially considering the 11.5 additional kilometres stemming from the



Photo: J. Imhoff

Between June 1 and mid-November, the Paspebiac CLSC was unable to fill 28 general practitioner shifts at the emergency.

Highway 132 bridge closure between New Richmond and Gesgapegiag.

On Saturday, November 25, the Gaspé Peninsula Health Agency, through a press release, and Health Minister Gaétan Barrette, in an interview from the Liberal Party convention, declared that an investigation had been launched to shed light on the Paspebiac emergency case.

Minister Barrette declared to journalist Patricia Cloutier, of Le Soleil, that “closing an emergency when a patient is

coming is unacceptable (...) It is bad decision-making.” He also added that “medicine, especially emergency medicine, doesn’t end with a working shift.”

Minister Barrette and the Health Agency announced the same day that the emergency service of the Paspebiac CLSC will remain open, with a general practitioner on duty, for an undetermined period of time. That doctor will only see the patients who arrive by ambulance. Nurses will be available for walk in

patients.

The Paspebiac CLSC has been plagued with holes in its emergency schedule since the spring. It has been a problem for years, with certain periods posing a bigger shortage than others. The shortage has been amplified since June because two doctors are on maternity leave and a third one is off due to an accident. There are usually eight doctors assigned to the CLSC.

It is too early to assume that the life of the Bonaventure man could have been

saved, had a general practitioner been on duty in Paspebiac.

Between June 1 and mid-November, the Paspebiac CLSC was unable to fill 28 general practitioner shifts at the emergency. The authorities were trying to fill 20 additional shifts in December and three more at the end of November at the time.

Month in, month out, the Paspebiac CLSC and the regional Health Agency have to fill 51 doctor shifts at the Paspebiac emergency.

News briefs

Only one coroner on the Gaspé peninsula

Good news, but...

Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ PENINSULA: - The third Quebec Government Plan to Fight Poverty and Exclusion which may include a Minimum Revenue Guarantee (MRG) program is being questioned by many community organizations, including the *Collectif gaspésien pour un Québec sans pauvreté*. "When looking at the past three years, we have serious doubts about the intention of the matter by the actual government which is guided by a neoliberal way of thinking in terms of state governing. It's not bad news but the point is that an MRG must not become a pretext for privatizing service or increasing fees on public services. Another thing we must make sure of is that if an MRG is voted that it will be offered to those in need without any conditions," says the spokesperson of the Collectif, Jacynthe Leblanc. She added that to get out of poverty in Quebec, the annual revenue must be more than \$17,700.



Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ PENINSULA: - Spec has recently learned that there's only one coroner to cover the entire Gaspé Peninsula's suspicious deaths. But there's nothing to worry about confirmed Québec Chief Coroner, Catherine Rudel-Tessier.

The *Journal de Montréal* recently published an article in which it is said that the Quebec Government has just hired 25 new coroners in order to reduce investigation delays. The article also mentioned that there are enough coroners in the Quebec regions. Spec made that verification with the Quebec Chief Coroner, Catherine Rudel-Tessier, who has pointed out that there's only one coroner for our region and that she's based in Gaspé. Even though this situation doesn't worry Ms. Rudel-Tessier, she's nevertheless in favour of recruiting more coroners without



Photo: courtesy Québec Chief Coroner

Catherine Rudel-Tessier

mentioning a number. "As you know, the Gaspé Peninsula is very spread out. It's obvious, that having more coroners in different places along the Coast

would be very interesting because we could, therefore, have what we call proximity coroners. In those cases they know their surroundings better. But don't get me wrong, that doesn't mean that coroners who work at a distance are doing a lesser job," she added.

60 cases per year

On the Gaspé Coast, the latest numbers show that the coroner analyzes on average, 60 cases per year, "which is fair," points out Catherine Rudel-Tessier.

In the province, the coroners analyze on average 4,500 cases per year. A full-time coroner analyzes 250 cases, on average, per year. It should be noted that a coroner addresses deaths that are suspicious, obscure, suicides, car accidents, sudden deaths and so forth. "I would like to have more coroners in the Gaspé region because if the only coroner you have decided not to practice anymore, all the cases would be addressed from the Lower St-Lawrence region or Quebec City. Moreover, it's an addition of 60 more cases for a coroner and they already have plenty to do." In addition, it should be said that the Quebec Ombudsman has recently criticized the Quebec Chief Coroner for delays that are too long. It currently takes 11 months between the death of a person and the final report from the coroner. The target is six months. "We are well aware of this situation and we have a lot of work in front of us in order to reach that target," admits Catherine Rudel-Tessier.



Access limited to authorized persons from Monday to Friday

During the winter season, **access will be limited to authorized persons Monday to Friday on roads beyond the gates in the North and South sectors.** Exceptionally, these roads will be plowed but cannot be used for winter activities, as ongoing work will cause higher heavy machinery traffic.

Users can access these sectors on Saturday and Sunday only. When necessary, please use the designated paths, such as in the Petit-Gaspé campground. This measure will take effect as soon as snow is on the ground.

Thank you for your cooperation.

ForillonNP 418-368-5505
@ForillonNP parkscanada.gc.ca/Forillon



Message to nonprofit organizations

Forillon National Park is
disposing of assets

Forillon National Park is disposing of office furniture as part of an asset rationalization and streamlining process.

Any nonprofit organization interested in acquiring office furniture should send an email to **Forillon.2017@pc.gc.ca** before December 22, 2017. We will then send you a list of what is available for donation as well as the procedure for taking possession of it. Donations will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.

Thank you for your cooperation.

ForillonNP 418-368-5505
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Photo: G. Gagné

After taking the oath, the new prefect of the Bonaventure MRC, Éric Dubé, left, was congratulated by outgoing prefect Jean-Guy Poirier.

Éric Dubé new prefect of Bonaventure MRC

Gilles Gagné

SAINT-SIMÉON – The mayor of New Richmond, Éric Dubé, takes over from Jean-Guy Poirier as prefect of the Bonaventure MRC. Mr. Dubé won the election by acclamation, as none of the 12 other mayors of the MRC expressed interest or had their name put forward during the November 22 meetings held to find a successor for Mr. Poirier.

Now aged 81, Jean-Guy Poirier was the only prefect the Bonaventure MRC ever had, since that territory was created in 1980. At the time, he had already been presiding over the old “Bonaventure county council.” He was the mayor of Saint-Siméon between 1977 and this year’s November election, for which he didn’t run.

Mr. Poirier presided over his last meeting using humour on numerous occasions except when he wanted to send a clear message to the Quebec government and the *Union des producteurs agricoles* regarding the difficulty experienced in rural regions with regards to building new houses, considering the hurdles presented by green zone constraints.

“We are forbidden to build in areas where trees have been growing for 35 years. The UPA is making us trip over those obstacles, and I am

under the impression that they (UPA managers) are worse than the CPTAQ (the *Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec*, the body charged to apply green zone regulations). I am convinced that these people (UPA managers) are not full time idiots (...) We care for farmers. They represent an important part of our economy. The current regulation is not theirs. The UPA is not helping here. As for the Quebec government, it is trying to apply rules here that were designed for the areas around cities,” explained Mr. Poirier.

Meanwhile, he praised his colleagues, mayors, past and present. He said that the principle he mainly wanted to apply over all his years was maintaining harmony among the people sitting around the table.

“I was lucky to run an MRC without any municipality causing real problems. Of course, we experienced a few small clashes sometimes but nothing serious,” he said.

He also praised the employees of the Bonaventure MRC. “I was able to count on

great people, who provided me with the tools I needed to work,” he said with emotion, unable to say more for a moment, while wiping his eyes.

After the meeting, Jean-Guy Poirier was questioned about his retirement from public life. Asked if people will hear from him again, he replied that “chances are that it will happen,” without saying more.

While Éric Dubé won by acclamation, the vice-prefect position was contested between the mayor of Bonaventure, Roch Audet, and the mayor of Paspebiac, Regent Bastien. Mr. Audet won after the 19 people allowed to vote cast their secret ballot. There are 19 people voting because the biggest municipalities can cast more than one ballot.

The MRC also elected an administrative council. Three people were nominated for the three positions so no vote was required.

The mayor of Hope Town, Linda MacWhirter, the mayor of Saint Alphonse, Gérard Porlier, and the mayor of Paspebiac, Regent Bastien, will fill those positions.



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Police report

Julie Laurencelle, 26, from the Val d’Espoir sector of Percé, charged with the August 6 hit and run causing the death of Luce Hautcoeur, 62, from Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé, appeared at the Percé courthouse on November 27 for the orientation and declaration in her case. The orientation and declaration was put over to January 22, 2018.

At approximately 9:25 p.m. on August 6 the victim was crossing Route 132 when she was struck and killed by the vehicle driven by the accused. The accused turned herself in a few hours after the accident.

The accused had appeared at the Percé courthouse on August 7, was remanded in custody until August 8 at which time she was released on bail on a \$300 deposit, was prohibited to drive a motor vehicle and was ordered to remit her driver’s permit to the court.

On November 27, Jerome Viktor Legacé, 23, from Ste André de Restigouche charged with the August 22, 2017 premeditated murder of Fabrice Durand, 23, from France, appeared at the New Carlisle courthouse before Quebec Court Judge Janick Poirier. The pro forma preliminary hearing was put over to December 8, 2017 and the accused was remanded in custody.

Complaints lodged against local psychologist

Gilles Gagné

GASPE: -Pascal Soucy, a psychologist who practiced at the Trois Sources Clinique in Gaspé and who has been a part-time teacher at the Gaspé Cegep since January 2017, is the object of three complaints to the Quebec Order of Psychologists.

Three female clients lodged complaints against him for professional misconduct to the Quebec Order of Psychologists. He had relations of a romantic nature with a client from 2012 to 2015 in Chandler and Gaspé and with another female client in 2015 and 2016 in Gaspé. The third complaint is about making remarks of a sexual nature to a Ste. Anne Des Monts client in 2016. The psychologist has admitted to the three contraventions to the code of deontology of psychologists.

The code of deontology of psychologists expressly stipulates that during a professional relationship, a psychologist must not establish relations of an intimate nature likely to affect the quality of his professional services, or relations of an amorous or sexual nature with a client, and must refrain from making remarks or improper gestures of a sexual nature to a client.

The Quebec Order of Psychologists will sanction the misconduct of the psychologist, but has not yet determined the disciplinary measures to be imposed. At the present time, the psychologist can continue to practice. He is no longer an associate at the Trois Sources Clinique in Gaspé.

The Director General of the CEGEP Yves Galipeau points out that for now Mr. Soucy is suspended with pay. “We take the case very seriously. He came forward and told us that he would admit his professional misconduct regarding the relationships he had with his clients.” says Mr. Galipeau.

“We must also respect his rights and we must follow our employment policies (...) He is not charged under the criminal code. We do not require that our psychology teachers be members of the Quebec Order of Psychologists. We are assessing the case and we will soon make a decision. There is no evidence that Pascal Soucy is guilty of any kind of misconduct at the Gaspé Cegep. “We have a clear zero ‘tolerance’ policy regarding relations between teachers and students. Teachers are forbidden to have a romantic relationship with students. In fact, that rule applies to all staff members,” says Mr. Galipeau.



Commentary

Cynthia Dow

This is a Man's World

This commentary is hard to write. It is as hard to write as it was for countless Hollywood starlets and other women who have come out lately to describe the sexual harassment they have endured for eons. But it's 2017... time to come out of the closet and talk about the misery, fear and anger women have felt and repressed for far too long.

My experiences of sexual harassment go WAY back. I was not even in puberty yet and my breasts were as flat as any boy's when I was scolded by an aunt for running around without a shirt on. I was confused: if my brothers and their friends could enjoy the sun on their skin on a hot summer day, why couldn't I? The assault on my person had begun... and it was a woman putting me "in my place!" A place where anything overtly feminine must be hidden from sight.

Skip ahead to high school where I – and probably every girl -- experienced sexual harassment on a regular basis. Boys tried to break my bra straps by pulling on them, threw burdocks in my hair and tried to push me up against the walls or lockers to try to steal a kiss or a grope. I guess they were trying to signal that they were stronger and could do what they wanted to me physically. What I learned was to try to stay a step ahead by avoiding unwanted contact, like somehow it was

my job to protect myself, not my right to be respected.

One particularly embarrassing situation happened when a male classmate put an open, oozing plastic packet of ketchup under my chair and exclaimed loudly, "I guess Cynthia's on the rag." I was, in fact, having my period that day. It made me want to magically disappear from sight. A male teacher was in the room. He said not a word. Was I surprised? No... this was the same man who felt free to run his hands over the girls' backs as he walked between the rows of desks. He never touched the boys.

I went off to CEGEP at age 16, used to being bullied and bandied about but ill-prepared for the onslaught of attention in my co-ed residence and on campus. It was the era of the so-called sexual revolution. Women had been burning their bras in public and the Pill was now an accepted part of life. Result? The male students expected us young women to be generally "available." The pressure was strong to "come across" on dates. Luckily I found an awesome group of friends who were much more respectful than that.

On to the workplace. I was fortunate that, in many situations in my early years, I was actually the boss in the office. But when I moved on to more national pursuits, there the pressure to "come across" resurfaced and the age of the man or his marital status did not seem to matter! The power imbalance made a difference: instead of firmly putting these guys in their place I struggled with how to politely decline while keeping the working relationship healthy. No doubt I lost some career leverage by not "playing the game."

My experiences, while painful enough to me, pale in comparison to the violence many women face. In Canada, on average, a woman is killed by her intimate partner every six days. Rape is now used as a weapon in many armed conflicts

around the world. Violence against women is often influenced by racial inequalities: here on home turf, we have the excruciating legacy of perhaps as many as 4,000 Indigenous women murdered or gone missing over the past 40 years.

Our culture is steeped in the myth of the superiority of all that is masculine. Our God is male, his Son is male, the roles ascribed to women in the Bible are those of virgin, mother, handmaid or whore ("the oldest profession in the world!"). The power differential seems to flow out of mother's milk and is reinforced by cultural customs and media of all kinds. Is it any wonder that even enlightened men – and women for that matter -- seem oblivious to the power aspect of it all: physical power, emotional power, economic power? Given that power differential, too many women deny their own rights by dodging unwanted overtures, hiding how they feel and negotiating with abusers.

The sexual revolution was supposed to liberate both men and women from social roles that had become staid, confining and moribund, but it seems to have opened the door to increasing abuse, power plays and pressure on women to get jiggy with it. What went wrong? While males in this country have certainly made great strides taking on child care and domestic chores, statistically women still do the bulk of that. And women continue to be a small minority in political and corporate leadership roles.

We need to get to a place where this is no longer a man's world, but a person's world. A world where every human being, no matter their gender or how they identify themselves, feels safe, secure, respected and their contributions fully valued. The question is how to get there. Perhaps with all these recent revelations, a real revolution has begun.

Letters to the Editor

Municipal voters list

Now that the municipal elections are over, as a citizen of Hope Town, I would like to congratulate all those who were elected. I would also like to congratulate all those who opposed. It is not easy to put yourselves out there but your interest is essential in a democracy and lastly I would like to congratulate all the voters who took time to vote and showed that their municipal governments are important to them.

This brings me to my question "whose responsibility is it to make sure the voters list is accurate and up-to-date?" This question has been bothering me since I heard about a senior

whose name was not on the list. This person did not go on time to have his name added so some of the responsibility rests with him. However he has lived in the same house and has had the same address for many years.

Shouldn't all residents who pay taxes be on the list automatically? A few people told me their names were not on the voters list. So Mr. Gagné could you clear this matter up for me. Thanking you in advance

Lynda Mace MacWhirter
Hope Town, Quebec

Dear Gaspé residents,

First let me say how saddened we were upon hearing of the deaths of the family in (a house fire) in Cap Chat. It is always a great loss and tragedy to all.

On September 7, seven of us flew to Quebec

to visit Gaspé for the first time. Quebec City was a delight and we really enjoyed driving all around Gaspé. Only one in our party, a woman born in Germany, spoke good French, the rest of us blundered with our high school French. Nevertheless, all whom we met were unfailingly friendly and helpful, and I would like to thank those people with this letter. It is beautiful place to live and a real pleasure to visit.

Ken and Diane Bryden, and friends,
Vancouver BC

Once again, the power of community get-togethers for a worthy cause was shown in that lovely "Soup Luncheon" put on by Heritage New Carlisle. The community not only enjoyed a tasty variety of soups, "à volonté" but displayed, in their one hundred present, a clear message of support.

I was personally moved by this event as I'm sure Heritage New Carlisle's hard-working and dedicated committee was too. Whether it be a harvest supper in Shigawake, a Support Bingo game at the Legion, an IODE Tea and Dessert afternoon, or a Filles d'Isabelle Breakfast in Bonaventure, these and many more are examples of immeasurable support for human causes which rally us, bind us and keep our identities alive.

We can forever be grateful to all these people who volunteer, roll up their sleeves, put their thoughts into action. They make a positive and healthy difference in our communities and in all our lives for that matter. Thank you Heritage New Carlisle.

Normand Desjardins,
Bonaventure



128 Gérard D. Levesque
New Carlisle, Que.
G0C 1Z0

Tel: 752-5400

specs@globetrotter.net
thegaspespec.com

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Éric Dubé has important issues to tackle

Gilles Gagné

SAINT-SIMÉON – The new prefect of the Bonaventure MRC, Éric Dubé, starts his two-year term with half-a-dozen important issues almost simultaneously, like maintaining harmony among the mayors, changing a few green zones into areas where houses can be built, tackling the hydrocarbons file, transportation issues, manpower recruitment and demography.

He agrees with his predecessor, Jean-Guy Poirier, about the urgency of convincing the Quebec government to consider changes in green zones according to criteria that differs from the ones enforced around big cities.

“Currently, we cannot authorize construction outside our so-called urbanized zones. However, according to article 59 (of the law enforcing urban planning), we can predetermine some areas where building houses will have no impact on agriculture. They (government officials) want to enforce regulations here that have been adopted for areas around Montreal or Quebec City. We have pieces of land in white zones (where it is permitted to build) but sometimes, it is not available, because people (the



Photo: G. Gagné

Inspections have started along the railway, including on the Cascapedia-St. Jules bridge.

owners) don't want to sell it. We are stuck with a government that wants houses on all free spaces. As long as those spaces are not filled, there is no room for green zone

changes. This is not adapted to our reality,” explains Mr. Dubé.

He thinks that submitting an agriculture development plan taking into account the

possibility of changing green zones might be a solution to make government officials, including the representatives of the *Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec*, change their perception of the reality on the Gaspé Peninsula.

“Our demographics represents the main issue, and it is linked, among other factors, to the possibility of greeting newcomers. Those newcomers must be in a position to build a new house if they want. Despite a relatively high unemployment rate of 12%, we experience a shortage of manpower. We need all the tools to attract manpower,” states Mr. Dubé.

Regarding the areas' transportation issues, he wants to work at reducing plane fares and of course, as president of the Gaspésie Railway Society, he wants to accelerate decision-making regarding the \$100 million promised by Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard on May 5 for the Matapedia to Gaspé railroad.

“We understand that the Quebec government has undertaken the studies pertain-

ing to the work that must be carried out on the line. We hope that they will work on the plans over the winter and be in a position to launch some calls for tenders by the spring,” he explains.

Regarding the Quebec government regulation projects on hydrocarbons, submitted to the municipalities in September, Éric Dubé says that his MRC is now studying those documents and will communicate a position to the government soon. He hopes that the intention expressed by regional minister Pierre Moreau, to the effect that social acceptance is required for oil and gas exploration and exploitation projects, will be respected.

Meanwhile, Mr. Dubé was surprised to be elected by acclamation, having anticipated a battle from one or two other mayors. During a reunion that preceded the Bonaventure MRC public meeting, he presented his plans for the next two years.

“It is not like a municipal campaign. I only had 13 electors to convince,” he sums up.

FINANCIAL POSITION		STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	
<p>Commission scolaire Eastern Shores Eastern Shores School Board</p> <p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Is hereby given, that in accordance with sections 286 and 287 of the Education Act, the financial statements and independent auditors report for the school year 2016-2017 ended June 30, 2017 will be deposited at the meeting of the Council of Commissioners of Eastern Shores School Board on December 12, 2017 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. at the Administrative Center, 40 Mountsorrel, New Carlisle, Québec.</p> <p>Given at New Carlisle, Quebec November 27, 2017</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Denise Paulson Interim Secretary General</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2016-2017</p>			
FINANCIAL ASSETS		REVENUES	
Cash	\$2,766,905	MEES operating grant	\$23,666,762
Operating grants receivable	\$3,123,757	Other grants and contributions	\$684,945
Financing grant receivable	\$4,375,324	School taxes	\$2,248,324
School taxes receivable	\$1,207,165	Tuition and other fees	\$701,295
Accounts receivable	\$1,024,303	Sales of goods and services	\$215,368
Other assets	\$82,260	Other revenues	\$249,430
		Depreciation of deferred contributions -	
		Acquisition of capital assets	\$17,393
Total of financial assets	\$12,579,714	Total revenues	\$27,783,517
LIABILITIES		EXPENSES	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$2,453,076	Educational Activities	\$11,208,676
Deferred Contributions - Acquisition of capital assets	\$717,442	Educational Support Activities	\$6,904,859
Deferred Revenues	\$111,240	Related Services	\$2,260,889
Employee future benefits provision	\$2,012,773	Administrative activities	\$2,352,127
Long-term debt subject to a promise of grant	\$19,399,277	Activities related to buildings and equipment	\$3,138,947
Other liabilities	\$385,570	Complementary Activities	\$1,004,824
		Expenses related to the variation in the provision for Employee future benefits	\$110,473
Total liabilities	\$25,079,378	Gain on disposal of capital assets	(\$15,388)
Net financial debt	(\$12,499,664)	Total expenses	\$26,965,406
		SURPLUS OF THE YEAR	\$818,111
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	
Capital assets	\$15,167,915	Accumulated surplus, beginning of year	\$1,977,348
Prepaid expenses	\$127,208	Surplus of the year	\$818,111
Total of non-financial assets	\$15,295,123		
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	\$2,795,459	ACCUMULATED SURPLUS END OF YEAR	\$2,795,459

Howard Miller, Director General



Province of Québec
Municipality of New Carlisle

PUBLIC NOTICE

Deposit of the triennial evaluation roll
for the first fiscal year of application - 2018

Public notice is hereby given by Denise Dallain, General Director

That the **triennial roll of real estate assessment for the fiscal years 2018, 2019 & 2020** has been deposited at the office of the Municipality on October 26, 2017 and that any person who wishes to do so may examine the assessment roll during regular office hours.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 74 of the Act Respecting Municipal Taxation, notice is also given to any person who has an interest in contesting the accuracy, the presence or absence of an inscription to the roll, concerning a property this person or any other person owns, can file an application for review under Division I of Chapter X of this law.

To be admissible, the application for review must follow the following conditions:

- Be deposited **BEFORE** the 1st day of May 2018
- Be deposited at the following place or sent by registered mail to :

Municipality of New Carlisle
138 Gerard-D.-Levesque Blvd
New Carlisle (Québec) G0C 1Z0

- Be made on the required **prescribed form** which is available at the Town Hall.
- Enclose the amount of money as prescribed in By-law 2014-07 of the MRC of Bonaventure and applicable to the assessment of the property described in the request.

Given at New Carlisle, this 20th day of November 2017.

Denise Dallain,
General Director & Secretary-Treasurer

Reflections

by Diane Skinner Flowers

Visions of Sugarplums

*The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
while visions of sugarplums danced in their heads.*

This is from the famous poem 'Twas the Night Before Christmas. Turns out that sugarplums are not made with plums at all! They are a kind of hard sugar candy, traditionally made with a nut, bit of spice or seed.

Food is such a big part of Christmas celebrations and many of us pine for the traditional festive foods from our childhoods. Spec readers shared their Christmas food memories and plans for this year.

Elaine Almond recalls that each Christmas her mom made sugar cookies using her many Christmas cookie cutters. "Before she popped them into the oven it was my task to make a hole using a drinking straw at the top of each cookie. Once cooked, she took great care to help me decorate each shape with all colours of icing. There were Christmas trees, bells, stars, Santa faces, reindeer and stockings shapes. My next task was to string a ribbon through the hole and choose the best ones to hang on our Christmas tree, which we decorated a couple of weeks before the big day. Then on each of the 12 days before Christmas my brother and I were allowed to choose a cookie for our 'before bedtime snack.' I still have my mother's cookie cutters."

Penny MacWhirter shares, "My mom always made a turkey dinner for Christmas. We had lots of mixed nuts, chicken bones, and nasty ribbon candy as well. We had a variety of pies and sugar cookies. My kids will tell you it is not Christmas without shortbread with a cherry on top and molasses gingerbread men. Cultures are more blended now and many of the food traditions in our house are Quebecois. We make tortieres, cipailles and pouponnes."

Anne MacWhirter tells us that her Mom was the best cook ever. "We looked forward to mincemeat pies, shortbread, plum pudding with caramel sauce (which I once mistook for turkey gravy, and ruined my mashed potatoes!) and fruitcakes. Also, creamy fudge with lots of walnuts."

Amie Major is clear about her favourite Christmas foods! "I like all the sweets! I still look forward to visiting people and seeing what kinds of cookies and squares will be on their tray. It doesn't feel like Christmas until I've done some baking."

Linda Drody shared these Christmas memories with Spec readers: "One of my favourite things my mother prepared for Christmas were her meat pies. She would cook up her beef and pork in the morning and later in the day would use the meat grinder and once ground she would cook that again adding onions, soya sauce, sometimes a beef broth, spices and sometimes cloves. That same evening she would bake her pies, and usually that was what we had for supper that evening. The rest was put away until Christmas Eve. All the children went to midnight mass with our father while mum stayed at home and prepared a delicious lunch. When we arrived back home she had the table set and there would be meat pies, chicken pot pies, home made bread and relishes and beet pickles. She always had a pot of tea ready to serve and squares galore. She didn't cook the squares weeks ahead but probably 2 days before Christmas Eve so they would be tasty, not freezer burnt. The peanut butter squares, date squares, lazy daisy squares and countless others kept fresh in the porch as it was not insulated. The Christmas Eve meal after mass was one memory of my important childhood memories, so naturally I do the same thing today in my home. With a loving family, a warm home and delicious food, who could ask for more?"

By the way, the people from Grande-Grève, in Forillon National Park, have their own traditions. They take dried cod, heat it in the oven and have it just like that. People help themselves to fish bits passed around. They have beer or some other drink with it."

(Next week – Part 2 of Visions of Sugarplums)



Walgwan Centre awarded highest accreditation level

Gilles Gagné

GESGAPEGIAG - The Walgwan Centre, founded in 1996 in Gesgapegiag, has been granted accredited status with exemplary standing, the highest status possible by Accreditation Canada.

The Walgwan Centre has been providing treatment and a healthy environment for young members of indigenous communities struggling with substance abuse for the past two decades. The Centre celebrated its 20th anniversary this past July.

In the current context of reconciliation, it is important for us to be a leader in our field. We want to inspire governments, public organizations and communities to work with us to help youth and their families. The physical and mental health of Indigenous youth is essential to the well-being of communities and represents a wealth for our future," says board chair Jacqueline Kistabish.

"This accreditation status ensures clients, communities and funders that we are doing the best we can to support Indigenous youth in their healing journey," she adds.

Accreditation is an internationally recognized evaluation system of assessing health and social services organizations against standards of excellence to identify what is being done well and what needs to be improved. Being accredited means that the Centre has been assessed by the third party organization, Accreditation Canada, and has proven to be meeting or exceeding current health care standards.

The only facility of its kind in eastern Canada, Gaspé Coast's Walgwan Centre has a mission that is essential to the

future of Indigenous peoples, who want to build the capacity of Indigenous youth to take charge of their well-being.

Because of its large territory of intervention, people from several communities, not only Gesgapegiag, compose the Walgwan Center administration board.

The actions of the centre are based on tradition, respecting client expectations and needs, as well as the values of the family and the community.

As a member of the National Youth Solvent Addiction Committee (YSAC), the Center is working to guide the transition towards a healthier and better life by offering Indigenous youth personalized, holistic and cultural care. The Walgwan Center team takes care of the four aspects of well-being in life: physical, mental, emotional and spiritual.

With only a dozen beds, the Walgwan Treatment Cen-

tre can meet only a small portion of the needs of the Indigenous population, with addictions representing an alarming issue affecting Indigenous communities in Quebec, Labrador and the Atlantic provinces.

The board of directors of the Walgwan Centre recently approved a new strategic direction for 2017-2022. Under the theme "Get together, journey together, grow together!" this new strategic plan defines a series of actions to support, engage and empower each Indigenous youth, their family members, and their communities.

The Centre is making an application for charitable status to the Canada Revenue Agency and will soon be launching a fund-raising drive to diversify its funding sources.

Some physical changes to the current facility are under study to improve the services provided to the youth.



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PÉTROLIA:

Gaspé mayor says, the minister must “fight, even if it means going to court”

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ – “The Environment ministry has to take responsibility in regards to Pétrolia,” states Gaspé Mayor Daniel Côté. The Quebec government has to make sure that the company, which drilled the Haldimand No. 4 well 350 metres from houses, is submitted to the Water Taking and Protection Regulation, he says.

“The Ministry wanted the power. It has to take it, assume it and fight, even if it means going to court,” says Daniel Côté.

The mayor made those statements following the publication of an article in last week’s *Spec*. Pétrolia stated that it wasn’t submitted to the Water Taking and Protection Regulation (*Règlement sur le prélèvement des eaux et leur protection-RPEP*) involving Haldimand No. 4. That provincial regulation was adopted in 2014 to protect drinking water in case of oil and gas drillings.

The Town of Gaspé had to defend its own regulation in court against Pétrolia in 2014. The company argued that Quebec, and not a municipality, has the power to regulate oil and gas exploration and exploitation. The Municipality abandoned the battle when the province adopted the RPEP.

The mayor “doesn’t understand and doesn’t accept,” that the results of underground water analyses close



Photo: G. Gélinas

Haldimand No. 4 was drilled from November 2014 to January 2015.

to the drilling remain confidential. “When the Ministry has nothing to hide, it has to show a clean bill. If it was a secret recipe to extract more oil, it would be different. But it’s a matter of public concern,” states Mr. Côté.

Pétrolia received a non-compliance notice from the Environment Ministry for not having sampled underground water around Haldimand No. 4 drilling in 2015, a RPEP requirement. The company did this sampling and analysis in 2016 and 2017 but refuses to make those results public.

Gaspé riding independent

Member of the National Assembly, Gaétan Lelièvre is asking the Quebec government to stop the Haldimand oil exploration project. However, Daniel Côté doesn’t go that far: “We cannot take this step for legal reasons. I don’t want the Town to be included in potential indemnification (claims) if Pétrolia decides to go away. I play the game differently: I’m asking for a BAPE and real zoning powers, for this situation not to happen again.”

Pétrolia was acquired by an Alberta firm, Pieridae Energy, earlier this year.

New prefect in Côte-de-Gaspé

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – Gaspé mayor, Daniel Côté was elected prefect of the Côte-de-Gaspé MRC by acclamation on November 22. He succeeds Délisca Roussy, the Murdochville mayor, who has held the position for the last four years. “When the mayor of the central city becomes prefect, everybody wonders if he’s going to neglect the small municipalities. But I’m from Grande-Vallée, my roots are in Petite-Vallée, my in-laws are in Cloridorme and my younger brother is in Murdochville. I want to work with the other mayors to develop the socio-economic fabric,” states Daniel Côté.

Mr. Côté will work with Délisca Roussy, who was re-elected mayor of Murdochville, and Noël-Marie Clavet, elected by acclamation in Petite-Vallée. Mr. Clavet was the prefect of Côte-de-Gaspé from 1996 to 2005. Two new mayors are at the table: Noël Richard for Grande-Vallée and Cloridorme mayor, Denis Fortin, who is Côté’s brother-in-law.

Mr. Côté wants to work with all four of them to bring services together. “There are big challenges relating to residual materials management. Each municipality has its own garbage truck. There’s also something to do about the administrative part of the fire departments,” the new prefect adds.



Photo: G. Gélinas

Daniel Côté



Photo: G. Gagné

CASA building likely to be ready before Christmas

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: – The former Laurentian Bank building in New Carlisle is currently being renovated and will soon house CASA, the Committee for Anglophone Social Action. CASA purchased the building at the end of September. Until now, CASA was located in a building owned by Family Ties, but the space had become too small for the needs of both organizations. “It was an amicable agreement. CASA is growing and needs more space. CASA will be better suited in its own building. Family Ties needs more space as well,” explains CASA’s director general, Cathy Brown. The \$150,000 renovation contract was awarded to Mac-Woods, a local contractor. The building is expected to be delivered before Christmas and the community will be invited to an open house. CASA has 23 employees.

LACK OF WORKFORCE: Provincial government could help employers

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – Gaspesian employers could receive more support from the Quebec Government to attract migrant workforce to the region. A larger number of types of training could also be offered on the Gaspé, another way to address the needs of workers in the region, stated Employment and Social Solidarity Minister François Blais, who was in Gaspé on November 20.

Mr. Blais is on a consultation tour, in order to prepare a national strategy on the workforce. During this tour, he was told a lot about the lack of employees, including on the Gaspé: “Businesses have difficulties finding a workforce. It risks their development and the development of Quebec,” the Minister said after a meeting with Gaspesian employers.

“A challenge is to attract migrants for the jobs to be filled. They (business people) need help to understand how to do it (...). There are a lot of expectations in regards to the Immigration Ministry,” said Minister Blais.

The Quebec Immigration Ministry doesn’t have an office on the Gaspé. The government must find a way to bring these services to the region, believes François Blais. It could be through Emploi-Québec, who “could play a larger role in the regions,” stated the Minister.

Even though if there’s a lack of workers in the whole province, the Peninsula case is “more worrisome,” admits Mr. Blais, because the population is decreasing. “There were various proposals, including giving training in the region. If there were more interesting trainings here, it could allow the youth to stay here (...). It was proposed that some unique training, not offered elsewhere, could be given on the Gaspé.”

Minister Blais was also asked for financial aid to mechanize fish transformation. “In fisheries, you could also see temporary foreign workers,” he added.

Mr. Blais remained vague about his future strategy. “It could be tax and budgetary levers, changes to laws and regulations or mandates given to ministries,” he said.

On the Gaspé and Magdalen Islands, the unemployment rate went from 15.8% in October 2013 to 12.2% in October 2017. Social assurance rates also decreased, from 9.9% in September 2013 to 8.2% in September 2017.

Érablière Escuminac gets international recognition at UK Great Taste contest

Gilles Gagné

ESCUMINAC: – Érablière Escuminac, the largest producer of organic maple syrup on the Gaspé Peninsula, won two international awards in London, England, at the UK Great Taste competition, where its late season syrup and its maple butter received one star each.

The contest took place in September but the award winners were informed of the results of the competition at the end of August in order to put the prize tags on their products in time for the UK Great Taste event, called Specialty and Fine Food Fair.

“We submitted two products, our late season syrup, called Récolte tardive, and our maple butter, and both won awards. We could have submitted other products but we wanted to start that way. We will submit more products next year,” points out Philippe Gadoury, director of exports for Érablière Escuminac.

The company started exporting retail maple products to the United Kingdom in February 2016. The management of Érablière Escuminac is selling through online shops.

“We found out that there is a shortage of quality maple syrup in that (United Kingdom) market. People are asking for food traceability, for terroir products. It looks as if we were the first ones ready for that in this country,” referring to the organic food certification of Érablière Escuminac.

The company had already sold syrup to United Kingdom clients but in bulk. The retail market is more advantageous financially if a company can find a way to reach



Photo: Courtesy of Érablière Escuminac

Jason Malenfant, the son of Érablière Escuminac founder Martin Malenfant, was glad to show the company products at the UK Great Taste contest in September. The “late harvest” syrup has a darker amber colour and a taste that is appreciated by consumers.

it, which Érablière Escuminac did.

The company is also successful in selling its maple products “in France, which is our largest export market at the present time, in Germany, Belgium, Spain, Japan and the United States. We also sell in the rest of Canada. We

have submitted the name of our products to China and we are waiting for an answer. We will sell under the Ali Baba online platform there,” explains Mr. Gadoury.

The next international marketing campaign for the company will take place in early 2018. “We are going

back to Asia in February. We are also pushing for the United States market. We are already available on Amazon.com and it is going very well. We also want to develop a traditional retail market there,” he adds.

The recognition stemming from the United Kingdom



Great Taste contest is slowly paying off. “It is a little early to evaluate the spinoffs. Our inventory in France, for example, doesn’t carry the award winning tags yet because it was sent there before the contest. The next batch will bear those tags. It is a matter of logistics. It takes a little while before that kind of attention hits but things are going very well,” says Philippe Gadoury.

Roughly 12,000 products are submitted to the UK Great Taste annually and between 25 and 30% of them get some kind of recognition. The products can get up to three stars from the judges.

Érablière Escuminac was founded in 1998 by Martin Malenfant, a businessman already involved in the production of maple syrup and sugar camp equipment. He is originally from Sainte-Rita, near Rivière-du-Loup. Mr. Malenfant shares his time between Sainte-Rita and Escuminac now.

The company’s annual production reaches between 350,000 and 400,000 pounds of syrup annually. Érablière Escuminac still sells syrup in bulk and its management wants to sell more on the retail market. The company employs 12 people, mostly based at its Escuminac plant.

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Gaspé County Women's Institute – still going strong

Rhonda Stewart,

Publicity Convener WI

GASPÉ: - The Gaspé County Women's Institute has been in existence for more than 70 years. While now much smaller in its membership numbers than in years gone by, it continues to have dedicated and loyal members. There is no greater proof of this than three members of the York branch of the WI. In April, at its monthly meeting, three members were presented with pins in recognition of milestone years of membership in the organization; Sueie Mullin for 50 years, Trudy Patterson for 25 years and Doreen Saja for 10 years. Congratulations ladies and thank you for your many years of dedication to the WI and to your community.

Another mainstay of the Gaspé County WI is the Annual Fair. The 2017 version was hosted by the York Branch and was held on Saturday, September 9, 2017 in the York River Community Hall. There were 21 exhibitors (a mix of WI members and public exhibitors) that worked very hard on the 328 exhibits presented to be judged. On

behalf of the County Executive and all fair participants, a huge thank you to our volunteer judges, without you the Fair would not be possible. The Fair is divided into categories and a point system is used to determine the winners of each category.

The day ended with a delicious salad supper hosted by all Gaspé County Members and organized by York Branch members. It was fantastic to see a large number of community members coming out and enjoying the supper. It was delicious and a nice social event. Next year's fair will be hosted by Dartmouth River Branch and our 2018 fair list is already available. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the fair program please contact Rhonda Stewart at rhondals@hotmail.com.

If are thinking of a way to get more involved in your community, or looking for a social outing for yourself, the Women's Institute could be for you. There are currently two branches, York and Dartmouth River that hold regular meetings and are very active in their community. If you are interested in joining this or-



2017 winners.



Milestone pins were presented to Sueie Mullin, Trudy Patterson and Doreen Saja.

ganization check out the Gaspé County WI facebook

page or contact one of the Branch Presidents, Darlene

Williams (Dartmouth River) or Rhonda Stewart (York).

2017 Winners

Sewing and Embroidery: Gracie Annett

Knitting and Crochet: Gracie Annett

Assorted: Doreen Saja, Wanda Stewart (public exhibitor)

Cooking: Doreen Saja, Wanda Stewart (public exhibitor)

Flowers: Elaine Patterson, Tony C. Patterson (public exhibitor)

Literature: Rhonda Stewart

Vegetables Doreen Saja, Tony C. Patterson (public exhibitor)

Cup for Most Entries: Doreen Saja with 42 entries

Proficiency Cup (Most Prizes): Doreen Saja with 32 prizes

Girard Cup (Most 1st Prizes): Doreen Saja with 11 prizes

Branch Proficiency (most prizes by branch members): York Branch with 131 prizes

Clark Cup (Average of exhibits to number of branch members): York Branch (18.9)

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Bourque location could contain between 256 million and 1.6 billion barrels of oil, according to Calgary consultant

Gilles Gagné

GASPÉ PENINSULA: - Based on a recent assessment, Calgary based consultant, Sproule Associates Limited, estimates that the Bourque site could contain between 256 million and 1.6 billion barrels of oil. The Bourque site is located 30 km east of the town of Murdochville

However, Sproule Associates, which was hired by the operator of Bourque, Pieridae Energy Limited, and that firm point out that these estimates neither “account for the amount of the petroleum in place thought to be recoverable nor the economic factors in their eventual development,

both of which may be affected by the completion and production methodologies utilized in the wells.”

In a press release, Pieridae Energy added that the probability that the Bourque site contains 256 million barrels of oil stands at 90%, while the probability that it contains 1.6 billion barrels reaches 10%.

“According to the best estimate in the report, the volume of petroleum initially-in-place contained in the Bourque reservoir is at 827 million barrels,” also specifies the press release.

The surprising aspect of Sproule Associates’ report is that no mention is made of the gas potential. Since the begin-

ning of the Bourque exploration campaign, that site has always been referred to as a potential gas deposit, and rarely, if ever, as a potential oil deposit.

To obtain the results released on November 23, Sproule Associates and Pieridae Energy, formerly known in the region as Pétrolia, used different methods.

“Upon completion of the drilling of (the Bourque) wells in December 2016, the company installed pressure gauges and the wells were shut-in for the winter. In May 2017, these gauges were recovered with additional production tests conducted in July 2017, mentions the document released

by Pieridae Energy.

“The results of the production tests and sample analyses have been used to assess the best means to put these wells into production. In late August, Sproule received all this new data as well as 66 km2 of reprocessed 3D seismic data obtained in 2015. Sproule was then mandated to prepare an update of the evaluation report of the resource contained within the Bourque project, effective as of September 30, 2017,” the company also points out.

So far the Bourque project has received ample support from the Quebec government, specifically from government-related bodies. Ressources

Québec owns 45% of the initiative’s shares. Pieridae Energy controls 51.03% of the project and Tugliq, a firm so far mostly involved in Northern Quebec wind energy ventures, detains 3.97% of the shares.

If gas is ever produced at Bourque, Tugliq has expressed an interest in developing a floating gas-liquefaction plant at the port of Gaspé, and a pipeline to transport that gas between Bourque and Sandy Beach.

Neither Pieridae nor Tugliq provide details for now about how oil production will be deployed if they only exploit that type of hydrocarbon.

Exceptional year for tourism on the Gaspé

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: - For the first time in 16 years accommodation businesses on the Gaspé experienced a 74% occupancy rate in July, and a 77% rate in August. “There are even people who slept in their car!,” says Joëlle Ross, director general of Tourisme Gaspésie.

On November 14 and 15 Tourisme Gaspésie held its annual convention in Gaspé. Tourisme Gaspé gets its figures from a survey conducted by the Institut de la statistique du Québec for Tourisme Québec. Results have been compiled since 1999.

In 2015 from May to August, the Gaspé Coast achieved an overall occupancy rate for its hotels and other types of accommodations of 50.2%. In 2016, it was 55.3% and in 2017 the number increased to 57.8%.

The exceptional weather, with very little rain, played a



Photo: G. Gélinas

Director general of Tourisme Gaspésie, Joëlle Ross, warned her members that accommodation infrastructures have to be developed and staff has to be found for the Gaspé tourism industry to continue to grow.

role in tourists coming to the Gaspé Peninsula. New attrac-

tions such as, the Percé Geopark or Nova Lumina in Chan-

dlers have helped. The exchange rate, which made travelling to the United States expensive for Canadians, and the price of gas, which remained reasonable, also played in favour of the region.

Quebecers still make up 80% of the tourists visiting the Gaspé Peninsula, but the number of international tourists rose by 6.7% in 2017.

Gaspesian attractions and events attracted 15% more visitors this year, an increase that adds to the 13% rise experienced in 2015 and 2016. This category includes festivals, cultural and heritage attractions, nature, outdoor and water sports.

The Tourisme Québec figures for campgrounds show a slight decrease, which Tourisme Gaspésie finds hard to believe. However, Forillon Park and Parc de la Gaspésie campgrounds, which experienced a very good season,

were not included in the calculation. In 2017, the campgrounds occupancy rate at Forillon National Park increased by 24%.

Ms. Ross reminds us that in its 2016-2017 plan, Tourisme Gaspésie aims at increasing the number of nights and the tourist expenses spent on the Peninsula by 7%. The region cannot rest on its laurels, she warns.

“If we don’t have more lodging capacity, we’ll stagnate and if we don’t have more staff, we’re also going to stagnate,” she states

Tourisme Gaspésie will work at having the peak season start earlier, in June. “In June, our students are here. In the fall, you have trouble keeping your staff,” she says to her members.

In 2017, Tourisme Gaspésie invested \$600,000 in its promotional campaign “Gaspésie, my holidays.”

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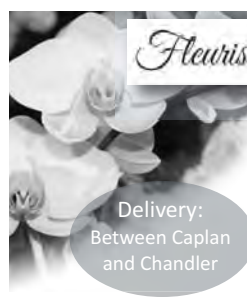
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Announcements...

Obituaries



FERGUSON: Reta (Barter)

March 12, 1932 - November 20, 2017

Reta Grace (Barter) Ferguson passed away peacefully at the Village Nursing Home in Campbellton, NB, on November 20, 2017 at the age of 85. While Reta spent the final years of her life living with dementia, we remember her as the formidable woman and unforgettable teacher she was. Born in Grand Cascapedia, Quebec, in 1932, Reta was well loved by her parents, Percy and Florence Barter, and her siblings, Percy Jr. (deceased), Henry (Bud), Donn, Elsie, and Reid, as well as their spouses and children.

Reta and her dashing beau, Verne Ferguson, were married on December 28, 1954, and after many years of hoping, they finally had their only child, Margot. Reta loved the unruly Ferguson clan and her many nieces and nephews. When Verne passed away too soon in 1994, Reta was comforted and transformed by the arrival of her only granddaughter, Ellen Parker. At that point, Reta forever became "Giggy," a role she embraced with joy. She took enormous pride in her girls' many accomplishments.

Reta followed in her mother's and grandmother's footsteps as an educator at a time when it was uncommon for women to work outside the home. She began teaching in 1949 at the age of 17 in a one-room schoolhouse, with students older than herself. She retired in 1991 as Assistant Superintendent of the school board in Campbellton, having spent many years as Vice-Principal and Principal of Lord Beaverbrook School. Even toward the end of her life, Reta remembered "her kids", referring to the 1000+ students she taught. She was also

a tireless community volunteer, and a woman of faith and conviction. Reta was instrumental in setting up pastoral care at Campbellton Regional Hospital.

Visitation was held at Maher's Funeral Home, 33 Lansdowne St., Campbellton, Thursday, November 23, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m., and Friday at the Chapel, from 1 p.m. until time of funeral.

Funeral was held at Maher's Funeral Chapel, 64 Lansdowne St., Campbellton, on Friday, November 24, at 2:00 p.m. Burial followed at Flatlands Rural Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Flatlands Women's Institute, Campbellton First United Baptist Church, Alzheimer Society, or a charity of your choice.

Funeral arrangements were in the care of Maher's Funeral Home, Campbellton. (506) 789-1699 or toll free (855) 404-1699 email: maher.fh@nb.aibn.com.



MAJOR: Ervin

May 16, 1933 - November 2, 2017

It is with deepest sorrow we announce the passing of Ervin Major on November 2, 2107, at his home with his wife Hilda and niece Sherry Major by his side.

Ervin was born in Hopetown, Quebec, to the late Charles Major and the late Mary Ross Major. He was the 12th of 14 children.

He leaves to mourn his wife of 55 years, Hilda Hayes, two daughters Karen (Dan) and Diane; his grandchildren Rebecca, Hannah, Luke and Chase. His last remaining sibling Watson Barr and many nieces and nephews.

Ervin and Hilda lived in Niagara Falls, Ontario, for 40 years where he was a carpenter with Locals 18 and 38.

He was an active member of Falls View Brethern in Christ Church, where he helped with many projects.

Visitation took place at the funeral home in New Carlisle, Quebec, on November 5.

The funeral service was held on November 6 at the New Carlisle Bible Chapel with Pastor Paul Bedford officiating. Mrs. Lois Hayes was the pianist. The eulogy was given by daughter Karen Major Janzen

Pallbearers were the MacWhirter brothers: Clyde, Nelson, Donald, Dennis, Arliss and Claude Hottot.

Committal service was held at Bay View Cemetery, Hope, Quebec.

Following the committal, a time of visitation and refreshments were held at the home of the late Ervin Major.

Wife Hilda, daughters Karen (Dan) and Diane and grandchildren

Thank You

We would like to thank family and friends for their outpouring of love and sympathy at the time of our husband, father and grandfather, Ervin Major's death.

Thank you so much for the calls, visits, donations, cards, flowers and food.

Special thanks to Sherry Major for all her support and caring.

Thanks to Pastor Paul Bedford, Mrs. Lois Hayes and the pallbearers. Your kindness to us was very much appreciated and will always be remembered.

Wife Hilda, daughters Karen (Dan), Diane and grandchildren



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Social notes...

It has been a while since we had New Carlisle news so I will try to recap what's been happening in our area.

Jack and Jean Bearisto were happy to have their daughter Kim, her husband Bryan and daughter Melissa visit for a week in August.

The local market on Saturdays in the municipal park was once again the place to meet friends and visitors in our area.

I'd like to wish my daughter Heather and my new son-in-law Richard Almond much happiness together. They were married on Saturday, August 19.

Congratulations also to Melissa Castilloux-Allain and Brendan Henry who were married on August 5.

Another newly married couple who are wished much happiness are Ashley Renouf and Christopher Flowers who were married on September 2.

Sincere sympathy to the family of Mrs. Pherne Flowers Walker who passed away on September 3.

A very successful harvest supper was held at St. Andrew's Anglican Church on Saturday, September 23. By all accounts, the food was delicious!

Sympathy to the family of Micheline Francouer, widow of Ralph Francoeur, who passed away on October 27 at the age of 84 at the Centre D'Accueil in New Carlisle.

Happy belated birthday to Rhoda Sawyer Renouf who turned 96 on November 20.

Vincent and Doreen Gallon were pleased to have their daughter Darlene home recently for a visit.



Joan Imhoff

NEW CARLISLE NEWS

Congratulations to my husband, Steven Imhoff, who recently celebrated 25 years with the Ministry of Transports at a banquet held in Rimouski on Wednesday, November 1. Also celebrating 25 years from our area was Guylaine Horth of Paspébiac who began her career the same day as Steven.

Chris Fraser and her sister, Nancy Pasloske, spent 12 days in France this fall. They rented an apartment in Paris, France for four days where they took in most of the tourist attractions together. They enjoyed exploring Paris on foot, covering many kilometers each day to see as much as they could.

After their visit in Paris, Chris and Nancy embarked on a Viking River Cruise. They travelled from Paris on board The Viking Rolf ship for seven days along the River Seine. Some of the ports of call included Giverney and Vernon, Les Andleys and Rouen and the Normandy beaches where they visited the Canadian memorial centre and cemetery at Juno Beach.

It was a trip of a lifetime for the two sisters. They met some wonderful people and made many unforgettable memories during their journey.

The Haunted Maze was once again "spootacular," thanks to many great volunteers.

Congratulations to our mayor, Stephen Chatterton, for his re-election as well as our returning and new councillors.

Sincere sympathy to the family of Carl Cormier who passed away at the Centre D'Accueil on October 26 at the age of 91. Many will remember Carl as he worked for the license bureau in New Carlisle for many years.

A lovely tea was held at the town hall in New Carlisle on Saturday, November 18, by the LIFE Association.

Don't forget about the Christmas bazaar which will be held at the town hall in New Carlisle organized by St. Andrew's Anglican Church from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 3.

Deepest sympathy to Mike and Janice Chesser on the death of Mike's brother, Wayne, who passed away in Calgary, Alberta, on November 21, 2017, at the age of 60 years.

Sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Catherine Flowers who passed away recently.

A very well attended tree lighting ceremony was held on Friday, November 24. A parade started at the school and proceeded to the park with people joining in all along the way. Carols were sung, the tree was lit and delicious snacks were provided. An uplifting experience.

Hello everyone. It looks like we are soon entering that time of year when many folks "high tail it" for much warmer parts of North America. Yet there are others who just love being here in the somewhat laid back lifestyle that only Gaspé can offer. I hope there will be something in my brief submission that you will enjoy. Here we go!

Mary Miller, our much admired centenarian, was hospitalized for a few days just before Hallowe'en. She returned home and has resumed her social activities. Her niece Martha Patterson Costello of Ottawa and son, Sean Costello of Ottawa, were home to Gaspé for a brief visit with Mary. I am sure that Mary appreciated their visit.

The York River Seniors Club is once again sponsoring many social events in the community. Many of their members and non-members gather to play 500 and Military Whist each month. The most recent 500 Card Party was held on November 3 with sufficient players for 11 tables. Yes, Mary was there! As usual, many folks experienced the ups and downs of the fate of the cards dealt them. Yet, when the first and second place winners were announced along with their scores everyone was very pleased for them. Losing doesn't discourage these seasoned players – they seem to find a way to put a positive outlook on the evening and they look forward to giving it another try the next month. The next 500 Card Party is scheduled for December 8. The military whist card party that was scheduled for November 17 was cancelled due to our first snowstorm of the season. Many of the players travel quite a distance and it wasn't a very nice night to be on the roads. The next military whist card party will be in January. Should you wish to play at either one or both of these events, please give Tony Patterson a call at 418-368-3276.

The York River Seniors Club is again offering their members the opportunity to participate in playing darts and kurling on alternating Monday evenings commencing at 7:30 p.m. The kurling is held at Gaspé Elementary and the darts are held at the Legion. Should you wish to play, please contact Tony at 418-368-3276.

The York ACW held their annual Christmas Tea and Sale on Saturday, November 18. The event was held at the York Community Hall and it was very well attended. These events provide the opportunity for many people to take a few minutes to relax and enjoy a nice cup of coffee or tea, some delicious goodies, and good conversation with those they might not have seen in a while.

The Friends of St. Paul's Anglican Church in Gaspé will be having their Annual Christmas Sale on Saturday, December 2 starting at 9:30 a.m. in the basement of the



Sharon Howell

GASPÉ NEWS

church. There is something for everyone including a bake sale, mystery parcels, and free refreshments.

It is always sad to hear about the passing of our friends and neighbours. The following people are remembered with great respect and admiration for their contributions to the community in their own unique ways. Our sympathies are extended to their families, friends and relatives.

Mrs. Ella Clark Gillis passed away at the Gaspé Hospital on October 9 at the age of 95. Mrs. Ella was predeceased by her husband Mr. Carl Gillis, their son Eugene (Gene), their daughter-in-law Doreen Caputo, and their granddaughter Debbie Gillis. Mrs. Ella will be dearly missed by her children: Kevin, James, Christine, and Valerie and their families as well as her many nieces, nephews and other relatives. Her friend and caregiver Charles Smith, who took such great care of her will also miss her dearly. Mrs. Ella loved being around people and she never passed up the chance to take in a party in the community. She loved music and she loved to dance. Up until summer 2016 she was frequently invited to dance at the seniors events. She will be missed by so very many people.

Mrs. Vesta Rabey Smith passed away at the Pavillon Mgr. Ross on October 12 at the age of 84. Mrs. Rabey Smith, originally from Rosebridge, was the wife of the late Mr. Gerald Smith. She will be dearly missed by her son Loren and her daughter Linda and their families and by her dear friend, Mary.

Caroline Morris Drody of Douglastown passed away at the Gaspé hospital on October 24 at the age of 97. She will be dearly missed by her children: Sylvia, Alex, Burton, Marlene, Guy, Perry, Debbie and their families. Mrs. Caroline will also be dearly missed by her sister Nina Morris Kennedy and her sister-in-law Phyllis Morris and her many friends and relatives. Mrs. Caroline was predeceased by her husband, Aaron as well as their son Ralph. The family will gather next July in Douglastown to celebrate her life.

Mrs. Pearl Coffin Patterson passed away at the Gaspé hospital on November 14 at the age of 84. She will be dearly missed by her daughter Ellen and her family as

well as by her grandchildren, son-in-law Douglas Patterson, numerous nieces and nephews and countless friends and acquaintances. Mrs. Pearl will also be dearly missed by her sisters Mabel and Ivy as well as by her brother Bryce and their families. She was predeceased by her husband Mr. Leonard Patterson and their daughter Dorinda. The funeral was held in St. James Anglican Church in Wakeham on November 18.

David Patterson of Wakeham passed away at home on November 21 at the age of 84. He will be dearly missed by his loving and devoted wife, Margaret and their children: Shirley, Paul, Rose-Marie, Stanton, Molly, Sam, Clark, Alma, daughter-in-law Lolene and their families. David will also be dearly missed by his brother Walter. He was predeceased by their son Woodrow. Margaret and David grew up together and then in their teen years realized they were meant to be together and the rest is history. You rarely, if ever saw one without the other; they have been a shining example of how a great relationship looks and acts. David touched the hearts of everyone he met, be they his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, relatives, friends, acquaintances. He was one of a kind and a great guy!

Please join me in wishing happy birthday to the following people who have special days coming up in December. We wish them all the very best throughout the coming year. Eleanor Simon Bourgaize of Sandy Beach (December 3); Rosemarie Kilbride Stanley of Mississauga (formerly of Gaspé) (December 7); Melba Jones Patterson (December 8); Ryan Sams of Ottawa (December 9); Todd Sams of Ottawa (December 15); Phyllis Dumas Coffin (December 15); Rowena Roberts Gallichan of Sandy Beach (December 18); Mary Ann McDonald Foley of Douglastown (December 19); Jack Gaul of Barachois (December 19); Ursula Kilbride Marano of Ottawa (formerly of Gaspé) (December 21); Chester Rooney of Montreal (formerly of Douglastown) (December 21); Sandra Sams Fitzpatrick (December 23); Florence Agnesi of Douglastown (December 29); Heather Mullin of Wakeham (December 30); and, Sylvia Mullin McCallum of Peachland (formerly of Sandy Beach) (December 31).

Happy anniversary wishes to Fay Coull and Omer Lemieux who will celebrate their wedding anniversary on December 11. May you have many more happy years together!

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



CLASSIFIED

For Sale: Horse driven sleigh, one ski-doo sleigh and one hand sleigh, all made by local blacksmith. Also chimney sweep equipment for sale including many brushes and a 2003 Ford Explorer XLT. For information call 392-4001. (N29)

For Sale: 225/70/R16 Winterclaw tires on rims for Ford Ranger. No rust, like new. Asking \$550. Call after 6 p.m. 418-752-6407 (N29)

COAST ROUND-UP

POINTE NAVARRE:

Mass of St. Peregrine

The mass of St. Peregrine, patron saint of the sick suffering from cancer and long-term diseases, will be celebrated on **Tuesday, December 5**, at 7 p.m. at the Shrine of Pointe-Navarre.

POINTE NAVARRE:

Mass

A mass will be celebrated at the Shrine of Lady of Pointe Navarre to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary on **Tuesday, December 12**, at 7 p.m.

GASPÉ:

Christmas Supper and Dance

The York River Seniors Club will be holding its Annual Christmas Supper and dance on **Saturday December 2**, at the Gaspé Elementary School. Cocktails from 5-6 p.m., Supper at 6 p.m. with music and dance to follow. Tickets are \$20 per person with members of our York River Seniors Club receiving a refund of \$15 at the door. Tickets are available from either Tony C. Patterson or at Photo Cassidy. Alcohol will not be sold on the premises so it is BYOB. Tickets must be purchased no later than November 29.

GASPÉ:

Fall and Christmas Sale

The Friends of St. Paul's Anglican Church - Gaspé Fall and Christmas Sale will be held on **Saturday, December 2**, starting at 9:30 a.m. The sale is held in the basement of St. Paul's Anglican Church and includes baked goods, new and nearly new items. Complimentary refreshments are provided. We look forward to seeing you there!

DOUGLASTOWN:

Douglastown Community Centre Upcoming Events

December 10: Sivananda yoga, open yoga class: Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. You can sign up for the entire 10-week session for \$90 or pay \$10 per course. Parent-child Yoga: Tuesdays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. For adults (ages 14 and up), the cost is \$10/session. For children (ages 8 and up), the cost is \$3/session. Cost: Adults \$90/10 weeks. To register or if you have any questions, please call 418-730-3280 or send an e-mail to yogagaspe@gmail.com. Please bring your yoga mat.

BARACHOIS

Upcoming Activities

The following activities will be held at the Barachois Recreation Center. **December 8 and December 22:** There will be a bingo starting at 7 p.m.

Saturday, December 2: Everyone is welcome to celebrate the Christmas spirit with outdoor tree decoration and tree lighting at the Barachois Recreation Centre starting at 2 p.m. Bring a decoration, sip some hot chocolate, sing some carols, eat some food, enjoy some spir-its! Children can bring their parents too!

BARACHOIS:

Legion Branch 261 Upcoming Events

Every Monday: The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 261, will be having a bingo at 7 p.m. at the Legion. We are collecting perishable and non-perishable food items for a complete Christmas dinner food basket. Your donation will be greatly accepted. Gift certificates welcome. All donations can be dropped off at the Legion or by contacting the Legion president, Lloyd Rousel. Tickets on the food basket are available at the Legion. All proceeds will be used to fund the Annual Children's Christmas Party which will be held on **Sunday, December 10**, at 1 p.m.

ST. SIMEON TO PORT DANIEL: Collection for Christmas

On **Sunday, December 3**, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., the entire territory of St-Simeon to Port-Daniel will be canvassed for money donations for Christmas baskets. These cash donations will be used to purchase gift certificates for food that will be donated to families for Christmas. There will be no collection of non-perishable products this year. Hundreds of volunteers (identified) from the social clubs of the territory in collaboration with the Sureté du Quebec will be going door to door on Sunday, December 3. Please be generous! For information: 418-752-5577.

PORT DANIEL AND SHIGAWAKE:

Bible Study

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

SHIGAWAKE:

Upcoming Events

The following events will be held at the Shigawake Community Center: **Wednesday, December 6:** Christmas gift bingo beginning at 7 p.m. (storm date: Friday, December 8, 7 p.m.) Canteen service available **Saturday, December 16:** Kids Christmas Bingo, 1-4 p.m., Free snacks, free bingo. **Sunday December 31:** New Year's Eve dance beginning at 8 p.m. \$12. A light lunch will be served. For tickets contact Ann Benwell at 418-752-8361 or any member.

HOPE TOWN:

Upcoming Events

Saturday, December 2: Christmas gift bingo at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds for the Sports and Recreation Club.

HOPE TOWN:

Whist Party

A whist party will be held on **Saturday, December 9** 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

Hope Baptist Church, 305 Route 132 West, invites you to come and worship with us. Sunday School for all ages at 9:45-10:45 a.m., Family Worship at 11 a.m., Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m., Friday 3:30-5 p.m. King's Kids (ages 5-12) and Young Peoples at 7 p.m. (Grades 7-11) All Sunday messages can be heard on our facebook page. Special Events: **Sunday December 17**, 7 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Concert (November 18 if storming); **Sunday December 24** 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.

NEW CARLISLE:

Bazaar

On **Sunday, December 3**, there will be a bazaar at the Town Hall organized by St. Andrew's Anglican Church from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To book a table (\$10), call Agnes Blais at 418-752-7192.

NEW CARLISLE:

Kempffer Centre Upcoming Activities

Thursday: We will have card games from 1 to 4 p.m. at the New Carlisle Town Hall. Play what you wish and bring your partner. Refreshments will be served. \$5 entrance fee. Proceeds go to Heritage New Carlisle Kempffer Centre.

NEW CARLISLE:

Bible Chapel Services

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

NEW CARLISLE:

Monthly Breakfast

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

NEW CARLISLE:

Calling all Girl Guides...

Were you ever a Spark, Brownie, Guide, Pathfinder, Guider or even a Commissioner? You may be interested in participating in a reunion which is just in the planning stages, to take place in the summer of 2018. The Kempffer Interpretation Centre is planning to have a small section dedicated to Guiding along the Gaspé Coast. (Gaspé, New Carlisle, New Richmond, and Magdalen Islands). We would like to have your input. We will relive those special times. Have outdoor lunch and supper, play the old games and do a craft. Best of all, have a go at those

delicious smores!!!! Close with the good old camp fire (imitation); sing those wonderful songs once again. Exchange some stories and experiences. If you would like to help with this or if you are interested in coming, please contact Betty Anne at bettyasmollett@gmail.com or call 418-752-6181.

NEW CARLISLE:

Upcoming Events at Legion

The following events will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion, branch 64.

December 2: Christmas gift bingo, 7 p.m. \$10 a series or 3 series for \$20.

Sunday, December 10: Breaking news boys and girls, SANTA is coming to the Royal Canadian Legion in New Carlisle from 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Stop by and visit the jolly big guy with your letters and get a treat bag and surprise.

December 16: Vern Huntington will be singing country Christmas carols starting at 8 p.m. \$5 entrance fee.

NEW RICHMOND:

Christmas Concert

St-Andrew's United Church will be holding its Christmas concert, **Friday December 15** at 7 p.m. with a freewill offering. Lunch will be served following the concert. All are welcome.

NEW RICHMOND:

United Church Events

Friday, December 15: Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 17: There will be a special Advent Service at St. Andrew's United Church in New Richmond at 10 a.m. in memory of loved ones. Hand crafted angels will be sold for \$5 each and if desired placed on the Christmas Memorial Tree during the service. For more information or to reserve an angel, please contact Kathleen Paquet at 418-392-4896 or Alice Jane Paquet at 418-392-5391.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

50+ Club Activities

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

Every Tuesday Night: Grocery Bingo at 7 p.m. (2 cards for \$5, each additional card \$1).

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

Upcoming Events

The following events are planned by the 50 Plus Club.

December 8: Christmas Concert at 7 p.m.

December 9: Craft Sale. please contact Linda Cahill at 418-392-6950. (\$10 per table rental.)

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

Book Room

Please note that the book room is now open **Wednesday** afternoon from 1 - 4 p.m. On other days, please contact Kathleen Paquet at 418-392-4896.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

Change of Date

The music night planned for November 24 has been changed to **December 1**. Doors open at 7 p.m.

GESGAPEGIAG:

N.A. Meetings

N.A. Meetings held every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Mawioimi Treatment Centre, located at 85 School Street in Gesgapegiag. Everyone welcome! For more information call 418-759-3522. N.A. is a non-profit fellowship of men and women for whom drugs have become a major problem. We are recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. This is a program of complete abstinence from all drugs. There is only one requirement for membership, the desire to stop using.

Rotary Calendar Winners

The winners for the week of November 19 are Marlene Willett, Charles Gauthier, Gilles Rivière, Gerald Dow, Carol Fugère, Judith Babin and Sylvie Dubé.

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

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UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, December 3

Hopetown 10:30 a.m.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, December 3

Hope Town

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

New Carlisle

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Port Daniel

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

PARISH OF ALL SAINTS BY THE SEA

St. Peter's Malbay

11 a.m. Service

PARISH OF GASPE

Gaspé

10 a.m. Service





The Rock

I had a glimpse into a secret place there I watched a scene unfold.
As it flashed upon my mind, it moved me in my spirit.
From a distance, I watched the rock that stood in the sea.
It stood there in quietness with beauty and strength.
The expanse of water that was far beyond the shore, beckoned in unity as one body.
It summoned each drop toward the rock that stood.

Storm clouds hovered and rain from above too, beat upon the rock.
As the thunder raged and lightning filled the sky, I could not help but stand in awe.
I beheld this war upon the rock as the rain and waves crashed upon it.
The tide was circling in with vengeance, to find its place around the rock.
The wind roared its voice against the rock, and uttered it to move.
The deep with all its might, pushing fervently as a tumult noised abroad.

There was nothing that could deter this force or halt its constraining waves.
The sky echoed with birds as they made their watchful assessment from above.
The deep flooded the rock, as it encompassed it higher and higher,
the rock stood, in solemn silence; yet not overthrown or destroyed ... just stood.
With one last hard blast, the winds moved with the deep as the torrent came against
the rock.
My heart ached, as the rock was buried by the turbulent seas.

Miles from the shore, the rock stood, covered beneath by the deep.
The water was finally quiet, there was no more rush, it had accomplished its feat.
There was now a calm and peace that filled the stillness as the course had been set.
I wanted to pause somehow but the hours kept passing by ...
The resting waters that once raged war on the rock began to move again,
but this time, they retreated, from the rock that stood in the deep.

I beheld the rock, as its defeated enemy, in quietness moved away.
There was no need for the rock to shout in victory: It had the victory!
There is something about a stand, that speaks; even in its darkest hour.
It was the stand of the rock in the beauty of its perils, from its silence,
that spoke so loud as it stood there on the sea floor, powerfully, undefeated ...
triumphant over the boundless waters, unroveable, as though the years stood still.

Michelle-lee Young

Why do we say ...

By Gary Briand

I met a young man recently and said "Are you and Miss X still an item?" "No," he retorted, "she gave me the cold shoulder." Familiar with the phrase's meaning but not clear on its origins, I quickly added it to my to-do-list.

The first recorded use of the phrase occurred in Sir Walter Scott's novel (1816) *The Antiquary*. In the novel the character of Elspeth Cheyne reports to Lord William on the behaviour of his mother, Countess Glenallen. In her Scottish tongue she says: "Ye may mind that the Countess's dislike did na gang farther at first than just shewing o' the cauld shouter - at least it wasna seen farther."

It is noteworthy that Scott's novel is one of the first to deal with illegitimacy of children and denial of paternity by haughty aristocracy.

We have to assume that the phrase was known in Scotland before 1816 but Scott's use of it came to be associated with aloof body language after a parting of lovers. It became wide in use in the writings of Dickens, the Brontë Sisters, Louise May Alcott and Mark Twain. It remains to this day but has taken on more metaphorical references, even to the point of applying it to a bank who gives a "cold shoulder" to a loan application.

RENOVATE & REPAIR WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

AMPERAGE
APPLIANCE
ARCHITECT
ASBESTOS
BACKFILL
BEAM
BONDING
CAULKING
CODE
CONSTRUCTION
CONTRACTOR
DOWNSPOUT
DRYWALL
ENERGY
FITTING
FLOORING
FURNACE
IMPROVE
LOAD-BEARING
PERMIT
PLUMBING
POWER
REBAR
REMOVE
REPLACE
RESTORATION
RETROFIT
SEPTIC
SEWER
STUDS
TECHNOLOGY
TILE
WALLS
WINDOWS
WIRING
WOOD

Guess Who?

I'm an actress born in California on January 19, 1982. I began my career starring in a hot dog commercial when I was four and had a cameo on the TV show "Valerie." I am best known for a show about the Tanner family.

Answer: Jade Sweetin

What's This Artifact?



Answer: Old fashioned caliper - An instrument for measuring dimensions, it has two hinged legs resembling a pair of compasses and turned-in hooks..

HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you might feel like you do not measure up to others this week. How others see you is completely different from your perception. Don't be too hard on yourself.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, letting go is a hard lesson to learn this week. You may have to retire a plan that just can't come to fruition. But don't worry, new ideas are in the works.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Gemini, try not to hold onto negative emotions. Focus on all of the happy

memories you have made with others and your mood will instantly brighten.

CANCER - June 22/July 22

Honesty is the best policy, Cancer. So have that frank conversation with someone even if full disclosure can be a bit uncomfortable. Afterward, you'll be glad you did.

LEO - July 23/Aug 23

Don't underestimate your abilities, Leo. You are imaginative and creative when the mood suits you, as it will this week. Look for your muse and get started.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, stay open to external influences and you may be able to infer some things about the future that can guide you in the

days ahead. It's good to stay ahead of the curve.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, this is a good week to take stock of the people who mean the most to you. Express your feelings to these people and spend some time with them.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

A little dose of being naughty might do you some good this week, Scorpio. Call in sick from work and enjoy a day shopping or simply indulging in a little entertainment.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

You have basic needs that have to be met, and a strong network of friends and coworkers can get you through any

rough patch, Sagittarius.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, although you can't narrow it down just yet, something doesn't feel right in your world. Keep investigating and trust your instincts.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you have reached a crossroads where everything you have dreamed and worked for has finally converged. This is the time to enjoy the fruits of all your labor.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, rather than looking at the differences between you and someone else, look at the similarities. This is a great way to begin a friendship.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER 26

Rita Ora, Singer (27)

NOVEMBER 27

Jaleel White, Actor (41)

NOVEMBER 28

Trey Songz, Singer (33)

NOVEMBER 29

Russell Wilson, Athlete (29)

NOVEMBER 30

Chrissy Teigen, Model (32)

DECEMBER 1

Zoe Kravitz, Actress (30)

DECEMBER 2

Charlie Puth, Singer (26)

SPEC'S SPECTACULAR Christmas QUIZ

Based on reader feedback, we are overjoyed to know that Spec readers enjoy our quizzes! This week have fun researching the answers for this Christmas quiz.

- Diane Skinner Flowers

In the spirit of Christmas, we will be awarding a prize of a prepaid \$50 Visa card!

- The name of Scrooge's deceased business partner.
- Who tried his best to steal Christmas from Whoville?
- In which ocean is Christmas Island located?
- What is the best selling Christmas song ever?
- Brenda Lee was _____ around the Christmas tree.
- What reindeer is NOT mentioned in *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*?
- What colour Christmas did Elvis Presley sing about?
- Charles Dickens' famous novel *A Christmas Carol* was first published in _____.
- How many maids-a-milking in the *The Twelve Days of Christmas*?
- Bing Crosby sings about his favourite colour for Christmas. What colour is he dreaming of?
- What reindeer's name starts with V?
- Also from a famous Christmas song, *All I Want For Christmas is My* _____.
- If you meet your love under the mistletoe, what does tradition say you should you do?
- What reindeer's name starts with B?
- What is the most famous Christmas ballet?
- Somebody saw *Mommy Kissing Santa Claus* in a song. Where did this happen?
- What two words does Ebenezer Scrooge famously say about Christmas?
- How many reindeer traditionally pull Santa's sleigh?
- In what carol do you hear this line – star with royal beauty bright?
- The most popular doll of 1984 was named after what vegetable?
- In *Home Alone*, what was the little boy's name that was left behind?
- There are 365 days in a year, what day # of the year is Christmas?
- In the poem *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* how many times is Santa Claus used?
- Who said "God Bless Us Everyone!"?
- If you give a Spec subscription for a Christmas gift (always much appreciated) how much does it cost for a 1 year digital or paper subscription?

Answers can be sent to

The Gaspé Spec, 128 Boulevard Gerard D. Levesque, New Carlisle, QC, G0C 1Z0, dropped off at the Spec office or a photo of your answers can be texted to 418-752-0606.

Answers will be published in the December 20 edition of Spec.

Please be sure to include your name and phone number. **DEADLINE: December 15, 2017.**

Business & Professional DIRECTORY

CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE

AUBERGE DOUGLASTOWN

HOSTEL

Tel.: 418-368-0288
28 St-Patrick, Douglastown, Quebec
Email: centre.douglas@douglastown.net
DOUGLASTOWN.NET

abca⁺

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AN APPROACH THAT PAYS!

ASSOCIATES

ALPHONSE BERNARD, FCPA, FCA
CLAUDE BERNARD, CPA, CA
HÉLÈNE LAGACÉ, BAA

alphonsebernard.ca
CARLETON-SUR-MER
418-364-7471
CPA

Art-DENT

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349, boul. Perron
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10, rue de la Cathédrale,
Gaspé (Québec) G4X 1N8
Tél. : 418 368-2414
Télé: 418 368-4703
physiogaspé@cgocable.ca

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