

Could a deer hunting subzone be the answer to overpopulation?

Gilles Gagné

CARLETON: – A number of Bay of Chaleur area stakeholders are asking Quebec’s department of Forest, Wildlife and Parks to create a deer hunting subzone between Matapédia and Port Daniel to reduce the number of cervids in the area and increase road safety in that area.

The number of collisions between vehicles and deer has increased drastically in the Bay of Chaleur area over the last decade. In 2011, the number had already reached a level considered high at the time, 235 collisions, and that total practically doubled, to 461 in 2014. The rise was far from over, as it reached a massive 600 collisions in 2017.

The Member of the National Assembly (MNA) for the riding of Bonaventure, Sylvain Roy, and Alain Poitras, president of the *Fédération des chasseurs et pêcheurs de la Gaspésie et des Îles-de-la-Madeleine*, want the herd to diminish in a



The last population estimate of deer on the Gaspé Peninsula showed that the herd size was between 10,000 and 12,000 deer.

proportion they are not ready to specify.

“The department of Forest, Wildlife and Parks must

absolutely create a subzone from zone 1 in the Bay of Chaleur area and restore the antler-less deer hunting draw

(...) The measure would not have an impact on the other parts of the Gaspé Peninsula, where the population of deer

is way lower,” points out Mr. Poitras.

Zone 1 is defined by the Highway 132 loop starting and ending in Sainte-Flavie. Mr. Poitras thinks that creating a “zone 1 south” with different hunting rules would solve the current problem. Antler-less deer are females and fawns.

Sylvain Roy emphasizes that the overpopulation of deer poses three problems, “a safety issue for drivers, another safety issue for residents, because a number of cowboys are hunting increasingly close to houses, and a stake for farmers, because some crops are destroyed by deer.”

The last population estimate of deer on the Gaspé Peninsula showed that the herd size was between 10,000 and 12,000 deer. It has increased steadily since 1992, when a multi-year hunting ban was put in place because the population had gone under 1,000 deer.

Sylvain Roy and Alain Poitras are far from alone in the movement initiated to make the Quebec government move on the deer file.

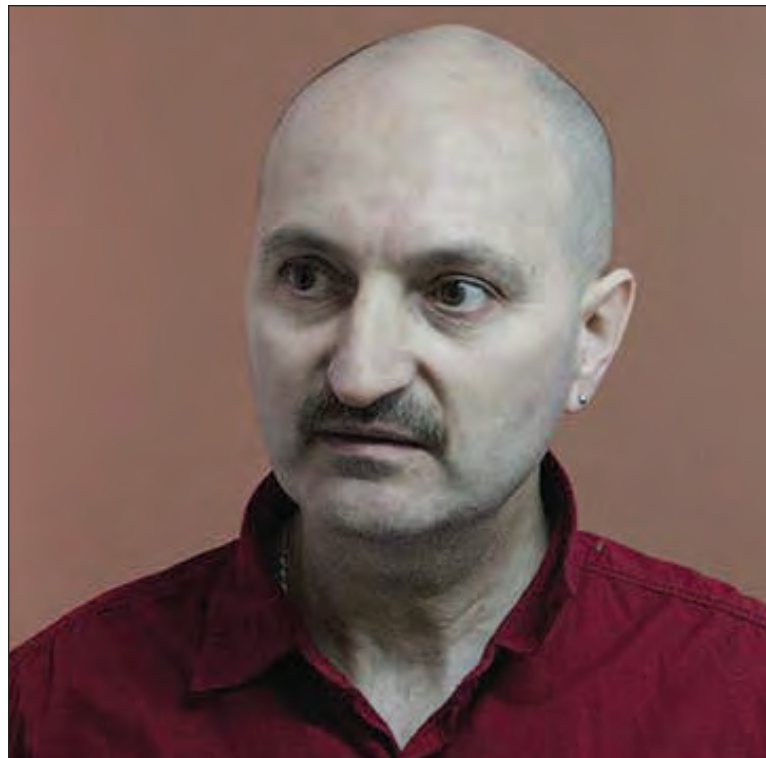
A New Richmond citizen, Vital Normandeau says that shots were fired near his house in the fall, a house located in a trailer park, near the arena. “My wife was coming out of the house and she heard a shot fired from so close that she got down on her knees,” he says.

Mr. Normandeau explains that the presence of apple trees south of Route 132, between the road and the Bay of Chaleur, attracts deer, and hunters. “Rifles can be deadly, even from a distance. Some hunters don’t realize that they are shooting towards relatively close houses, when they are in a wooded area.”

In Matapédia, Daniel Bélanger collected 1,200



Photos: G. Gagné



“Rifles can be deadly, even from a fair distance. Some hunters don’t realize that they are shooting towards relatively close houses, when they are in a wooded area,” says New Richmond’s Vital Normandeau.

“The department of Forest, Wildlife and Parks must absolutely create a subzone from zone 1 in the Bay of Chaleur area and restore the antler-less deer hunting draw,” points out Alain Poitras, of the Gaspé Peninsula Federation of hunters and fishermen.

Snow removal contractors fined a total of \$8,531

Gilles Gagné

GASPÉ PENINSULA: - Three Gaspesian snow removal contractors, including a town administration, were recently fined a total of \$8,531 by Quebec's department of Transport for failures to respect agreement conditions. The roads presenting problems were located in the Anse Pleureuse, Murdochville and Gaspé area, in Saint-Jogues and Percé.

JSC Boulay received two fines, one for \$2,536 and another for \$5,072. The fines were for failing to clear the snow and the ice properly along Highway 132 and Road 198. In Saint-Jogues, Roy Blais was fined \$458 for the same reasons while the Town of Percé was fined \$465. The fines take the form of amounts subtracted from the snow removal payments they receive.

"The ministry's criteria are different depending on the type of roads. It varies. In Quebec, 52.2% of the roads must be cleared completely of snow and ice, while the surface of 33.2% of other roads must at least be partially cleared of



snow and ice. Another category of roads can be covered with hard snow. They represent 14.4% of our roads. The proportion is about the same in regions like the Gaspé Peninsula," explains Sophie Gaudreault, of Quebec's department of Transport.

Inspectors are assigned to keep the road network under scrutiny. "Verification is carried out very regularly. It depends on weather conditions. When two storms occur within a short period, we monitor the situation more closely than

during two weeks of good weather," she adds.

Warnings come in different forms. "There are verbal and written warnings, and then there are (monetary) sanctions depending on the type of roads and the type of repercussion a failure to properly maintain can have. If public safety is compromised, the amount of the fine is higher," she states.

Dialing 511 is the best way to notify the department of Transport of any problem with snow removal on a road, points out Sophie Gaudreault.



Photo: T. Haroun

Kimberley Boyle.

Consulting local youth

Thierry Haroun

PERCÉ: - An online consultation is taking place in the Percé Rock MRC to get to know the priorities of young people (aged 15-35). The consultation started on January 30 and ends on February 16. The *CJE Option Emploi* is fostering the initiative that hopes to reach between 300 and 500 youth out of a potential 2755 in the MRC.

One of the spokespersons is Kimberley Boyle, a student at Evergreen High School. "We have the future in our hands and I feel that it's important that the youth know that the Gaspé Coast will always be their home and that it's important to stay here for the future."

Prefect, Nadia Minassian, promises that what is learned from the consultation "will be at the heart of the MRC's policies in the future. This is a promise and I will make it a top priority."


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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Eastern Shores School Board would like to extend an invitation to the public to attend the presentation of the 2016-2017 Annual Report at the meeting of the Council of Commissioners on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at 40 Mountsorrel, New Carlisle, Québec.

Given at New Carlisle, Québec this 5th day of February 2018.

Denise Paulson
Interim Secretary General

Government Advertising

in Canadian Community Newspapers

The Government of Canada has a duty to inform all Canadians about its programs, services, policies and decisions. Communication is central to the Government of Canada's work and contributes directly to the Canadian public's trust in their government.

The government must tailor messages to specific audiences to reach Canadians regardless of where they reside and ensure that new communications approaches are balanced with traditional methods.

In 2015/16 the government's total media spend was \$30.2 million.¹

Every week in Canada, over 1,000 community newspapers circulate almost 19 million copies in key metropolitan areas, rural and remote regions, and all areas in between.²

83% of Canadians are local community newspaper readers.³

72% of Canadians want to see advertising for government programs and services in newspapers.⁴ Canadians trust advertising content in newspapers more than any other media.⁵

Less than 2% of the government's total media spend was in community newspapers.¹

34% of the government's total media spend was online.¹

24% of Canadians don't use social media.⁴

Less than one in five look at any advertising on social media.⁴

Display ad click through rates in Canada are 0.09%.⁶

Of the \$5.5 billion spent on internet advertising in Canada in 2016, an estimated 72% went to Google and Facebook.⁷

If there is a genuine will to reach ALL Canadians then there must be an investment in meaningful communication with citizens through community newspapers.

Sources:

1. GOVERNMENT OF CANADA PUBLIC SERVICES AND PROCUREMENT
2. NEWS MEDIA CANADA SNAPSHOT REPORT 2017
3. VIVIDATA 2016 Q2 READERSHIP DATABASE
4. TOTUM RESEARCH 2016

5. COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS DRIVE RESULTS 2017
6. DOUBLE CLICK FOR ADVERTISERS
7. CANADIAN MEDIA CONCENTRATION RESEARCH PROJECT



Photo: G. Gélinas

Grouped call for tenders in all Quebec regions could allow other companies to compete with Air Canada

REGIONAL AIR TRANSPORT:

Quebec has to launch calls for tenders, says Lelièvre

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – The Quebec government has to use its purchase power to negotiate lower prices for flying ticket prices in regions, break the Air Canada quasi-monopoly and allow the citizens to benefit from those prices.

The Gaspé riding independent Member of the National Assembly (MNA), Gaétan Lelièvre, suggested grouped calls for tenders as a solution in the context of the Summit on regional air transport, held on February 2 in Lévis.

The ministries, which reimburse the cost of tickets to provincial employees, and health centres, which contribute to travel costs of their patients, have to pool their requirements and launch a call for tenders, according to Mr. Lelièvre.

“In the Gaspé Peninsula, we would say: we’re looking for an air carrier to serve this airport and this airport, twice a day, and we commit to buying this number of tickets,” he says. The bidders should commit to offering the balance of tickets to the general public at a reasonable price, with a ceiling price and a floor price.

“It can be done according to actual laws and regulations, I’m 100% sure,” says Mr. Lelièvre. He admits that it could be “complicated,” as

civil servants are used to a “silo approach,” a system which works department by department, instead of according to a global approach.

The method he is suggesting would “stop a way of doing it that is well-established,” adds the Member of National Assembly. The provincial employees reserve their plane tickets with the air carrier of their choice, and some carriers offer customer loyalty programs. “The more expensive the ticket is, the more reward points the employees get. This is a public secret: how many provincial employees and their families travel at public expenses (through accumulating points),” says Mr. Lelièvre.

Grouped calls for tenders would “create a critical mass” and would encourage competitors, believes Mr. Lelièvre, on a market where Air Canada has a quasi-monopoly. “All air carriers I’m talking to are reluctant to compete with Air Canada,” he reports. They are afraid that the national carrier will temporarily cut its prices in order to crush its competitors.

The Gaspé MNA is concerned that the Lévis summit is being organized again as “consultations and round tables.” Not so long ago, in 2008, Transport Québec identified the problems of the Air Canada monopoly and exorbitant prices. “The time

is not one for reflection, but for results,” says Mr. Lelièvre.

The MNA thinks the problem originates in Ottawa, because the federal government deregulated air transport in 1995. “We want to make sure that Quebec does everything it can do, but a large part of the power is in Ottawa.”

On January 31, Spec checked the prices of a return ticket between Gaspé and Quebec City. For the next day, this ticket was \$1,444. For a flight one week later, it would cost \$784 and for the next month, \$596.

Gaspesian stakeholders want to attract young families and professionals, as well as international tourists, says Mr. Lelièvre. It will be difficult if the tickets are so expensive, he says. “We’re in 2018. The time when one had to endure a ten-hour drive between Montréal and Gaspé has passed.”

Ironically, Mr. Lelièvre himself is afraid of flying and endures long car rides instead of flying. “I’m not fighting for myself. I’m fighting for the Quebec regions,” he states.

A few hours before the summit, Air Canada announced ticket price cuts for frequent travelers on regional flights. For example, they could buy 10 one-way tickets at \$324 each or 30 at \$249 each, reported Radio-Canada.

Police report

On February 17, 2012 a Bay of Chaleur woman injured her sister-in-law with a snow-brush during an altercation in the IGA parking lot in Paspébiac. Because one of the witnesses was a minor at the time, and youth protection services were involved with her, the names of the women cannot be revealed. In fact, the victim had been granted custody of the aggressor’s daughter.

The victim was clearing the snow off her car when her sister-in-law parked her car next to hers, took the snow-brush from the victim’s hands and started hitting her with it. The altercation ended when the snow-brush broke. During the altercation the victim sustained injuries which required stitches to her head and hands and she experienced stress and anxiety.

The victim sued the aggressor in civil court, and she was condemned to pay an amount of \$26,000 to the victim by Superior Court Judge Pierre Ouellet.

The aggressor had previously been found guilty in the Quebec Court, criminal division, of assault with a weapon causing bodily harm to the victim.

Sylvain Lapointe, 56, from the Percé sector of Val d’Espoir, recently entered a plea of guilty to nine counts of sexual offences. Some of the victims were minors when the crimes were committed between 1981 and 1999 which include sexual assault, indecent assault, gross indecency, sexual interference and invitation to sexual touching. Sylvain Lapointe will return to court on May 17 at the Percé courthouse, for sentencing.

No income to report? Why it pays to do your taxes anyway

(NC) Filing your taxes can seem like a difficult task, but knowing the benefits and claims you’re eligible to deduct makes the process worth it. Even if you don’t have any income to report for 2017 or your income is tax exempt, you could still claim helpful tax credits and get benefit payments. Just remember to do your taxes on time every year.

The Canada Revenue Agency will let you know if you’re eligible for certain benefits and credits based on information from your income tax and benefit return. With so many benefits and credits available, it can be easy to overlook one. Make sure you don’t forget any by checking the full list of deductions, credits and expenses.

Some common ones include the Canada Child Benefit, GST/HST credit, disability tax credit, child disability benefit, advance payments of the working income tax benefit and related provincial and territorial payments.



You only have to apply for benefits and credits once, but to keep receiving your payments, you have to do your taxes on time every year, keep your personal information up to date and keep your supporting documents for at least six years in case the CRA asks for them. To keep track of your benefit payments, you can sign up for: the MyBenefits CRA mobile web app or My Account so you can get your personalized benefit information anytime, anywhere; the benefit and credit payment dates reminders electronic mailing list to know when you will get your next payment; and direct deposit to make sure you never miss a payment in the mail.



Commentary

Gilles Gagné

The health reform doesn't work

Most Quebecers following the news have known for a few years that the province's nurses are exhausted because hospitals, CLSCs and seniors' residences are always over-crowded, almost always understaffed and too often ill-administered.

Most observers of the health scene knew in 2014 or 2015 that the reform planned and on the verge of being implemented by Health and Social Service minister Gaéтан Barrette would not work because it was imposed, even shoved down people's throat, with little if any room for other stakeholders' input.

Running the health system is not like running an army. It is true that you are conducting a war, but it is against illnesses, and part of that duty, and it should be a huge part, means sensitizing people to adopt better health practices.

A minister therefore needs the support of a majority of staff members if he or she wants to succeed in a health reform endeavour. Gaéтан Barrette has been centralizing powers for close to four years and he has often done it through hammering his fist on the table, through threats and making decisions alone.

In a field with thousands of intelligent people, such an attempt was bound to fail. It was written in the sky right from day 1. You cannot succeed in such a quest if you cannot get the support of the other members of your organization. That support comes with their involvement, when their leader uses persuasion, not because they obey to barked orders.

Convincing and shoving orders down people's throats are two different things.

The publication of write-ups and facebook posts, as well as the occurrence of sit-ins by worn out nurses have drawn a lot of attention lately and rightfully so. Their outcry comes from the bottom of the heart, and that is probably why the population is more willing to give them credit, instead of to Minister Barrette.

For 20 years at least, the health system has been experiencing a crisis state, since the big cuts of former premier Lucien Bouchard, in his obsession for zero deficit. He reached his beloved breakeven point, but we have been paying since, and Philippe Couillard's government is repeating his mistake.

Nurses do not choose that occupation for its easiness, for the money or for the glory because there is very little of those three notions coming with the practice. Compassion, passion and vocation represent the main driving forces leading them to choose nursing.

Nobody has really listened to what the nurses had to say since the end of the 1990s, since the Bouchard years. Their opinion should be highly considered though. They are dealing directly with the patients, way longer than the doctors.

That's why young nurses like Émilie Ricard, in her mid-twenties, posted a Facebook message describing why she is exhausted, just a few years into her career. Working night shifts with the responsibility of 75 elderly patients, including many heavy cases, should never happen.

That's why too many young nurses eventually give up in the early stage of their career. Sometimes, their level of exhaustion and their psychological state are so bad that they become patients of the health system!

Nurses don't trust the health system's hiring methods anymore. For 15 years, they asked that a permanent status be conferred to more young nurses, in order to alleviate their workload. They were not listened to. Instead of that, they were asked to make compulsory double shifts. So, a high number of young nurses refused those conditions attached to a permanent status and chose to remain on a part-time schedule. Then, they can refuse a double shift.

The same logic applies to working ten weekends in a row, the fate of many nurses hired permanently. Part-time nurses can refuse those conditions. Those two factors explain in part why the system is understaffed.

Working 16 consecutive hours in a plant is tough, but the risk factor is usually lower than when the patients' life is at stake.

Another huge failure of the health system stems from the huge budgetary cuts since 2014 that have affected Quebec's Public health departments, the bodies in charge of prevention. Society consequently feeds our hospitals with too many people that are basically illiterate, health wise.

That is why the next reform should concentrate on listening to what the nurses have to say and on prevention, instead of following the orders of a doctor-minister autocrat.

Letters to the Editor

So much negative press for many attempts to develop our region, I too love our region but we are not immune to our surroundings. Though well intentions to protect the environment, pollution is and will affect us. The Gaspé peninsula represents such a small portion of what is a global problem.

The McInnis cement plant is literally a gold mine for the peninsula people, from waste valorization into alternative fuel, imagine using waste plastics, papers, wood being used and organic matter could

be used in a biomethane plant. Planting willows or hybrid poplar trees to be transformed into biomass every 5 to 6 years or could be transformed into bio coal for McInnis. They need 2.3 million tonnes of coal a year, shouldn't that itself be an incentive. Oil wells are getting a bad rap for past mistakes, they could be used for geothermal energy now that's renewable energy. I will gladly give any more information on my research from Wind turbine recycling to waste valorization, geothermal energy, but only if you ask for it. Thank you !

Tony Leduc,
Gaspé, Quebec

The following letter was published in the Campbellton Graphic in 1949 and we thought it may be interesting for some of our readers.

Dear Sir or Madam:

As I spent 25 years in New Carlisle in my younger days and was for many years one of your correspondents from that town (not called a village in those days), I feel I am at liberty to write you at this time.

Another old timer of New Carlisle, living here many years, but who has never been without the Graphic, kindly gave me a number of your issues to read and enjoy, which I did, until I read the article in the Jan. 6th issue under the heading « Special Celebrations marked Day of Remembrance. » In the second paragraph of that article a « memorial » is mentioned as having been erected through the generosity of a number of businessmen and retail establishments. This is very far from the facts.

When the boys went overseas during the first World War, the girls at home organized the Girls Khaki Club of New Carlisle and it was through their efforts the Cairn was made possible. These girls were very hard workers in the club and went all out to raise money in every way possible to help the boys. They knitted and sent parcels regularly to the boys and when the war was over had funds at their disposal, hence the Cairn or Memorial.

Some of these girls are still living in New Carlisle, some are in the West and some in the United States, and I give you their names herewith; Lena Kempffer, Leora Smollett, May McIntyre, Lily Imhoff, Florence Sherar, Frankie and Oneita Caldwell, Isobel MaGuire, Belle Caldwell, Lizzie Sutherland, Jessie Kerr, Gladys and Willa Kempffer, Opal LeBrocq, Lyde Cooke, Dorothy Major and Lizzie Gilker




Signed, Mrs. R. Campbell
(Lizzie Sutherland)

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Prepartions for hunting zone changes underway

Gilles Gagné

CARLETON: – The Department of Forest, Wildlife and Parks is considering the creation of a deer hunting subzone covering the Bay of Chaleur area, “subzone 1 south,” but its implementation is quite unlikely before 2020, points out the spokesperson of that ministry for the Gaspé Peninsula, Claudel Pelletier.

“It is more complex than just calling for the opening of a subzone. It doesn’t only imply drawing a line. It takes physical markers, like roads and rivers. In the Gaspé Peninsula, most roads are oriented north-south. It takes a technical description. It takes the intervention of Quebec’s Surveyor Office. It takes public consultations, especially with the Native communities. We have to plan the new hunting specifications, like the duration of the season, with dates, conditions for male and female hunting, the

weapons used and so on. Our biologists are at work but it cannot be done in the short term,” explains Mr. Pelletier.

With that statement, he means that it will likely take until the next deer management plan before a subzone is created. “The management plans are province-wide plans. The current management plan is valid until 2019 inclusively. The next plan will therefore be applied only in 2020,” he adds.

“We have two committees at work, one including us, the MAPAQ (Agriculture department) and the UPA for the agricultural part and one with Transport Québec and us, for the collision aspect of the problem,” says Claudel Pelletier.

When asked to pinpoint some measures to reduce the number of collisions since the deer population will likely not go down much between now and 2020, he more or less admits that the solutions will be basic for a while. “The means will consist of

signs and speed limit reductions.”

Expanding hunting to females and fawns has not been excluded before 2020. “The management plan already has provisions for such a rule. When more than 1,500 males are killed by hunters, females and fawns can be hunted the following year. In 2017, the number of males killed was 1,129. It is not enough but there is the possibility for the application of female and fawn hunting. There will be no decision before the end of the winter though. A snowy and cold winter can kill up to 40% of the herd,” says Mr. Pelletier.

Human beings can also play a role in the reduction of collisions and the higher presence of deer in populated areas and close to roads. “People are feeding the deer. They quickly pick up the habit of staying close to houses and roads in that situation. It is not ideal,” he concludes.

DEER COLLISIONS:

Body shops kept busy

Gilles Gagné

CARLETON: – The number of collisions with deer is so high in the Bay of Chaleur area that there is often a waiting list for repairs at local body shops.

In 2017, up to 600 collisions involving deer occurred over the 180 kilometres spanning between Matapédia and Port Daniel, including rural roads.

“It is quieter during the winter but I would say that between 30 and 40% of our business comes from that (collisions with deer). Before, we would see one (deer) once in a while; now, we see them all the time,” says Patrick Cyr, of Caplan’s Cyr Débosselage.

At the Atelier de débosselage in Carleton, the owner, Carol Fugère, sees somewhat less work from collisions with deer, as they represent 25% of his workload but, like Patrick Cyr, he emphasizes that the impact is felt by all his customers.

“We recently repaired a Subaru damaged for \$20,000

because of an impact with a deer. We were forced to repair it in priority because vehicles damaged to that extent don’t work. So insurers put pressure on us to repair them as quickly as possible because they only pay \$1,500 for a courtesy car lent to their client. We just ordered the parts, they are not in yet and the insurer is asking us when the car will be ready.

In the meantime, the lighter cases have to wait one-month-and-a-half to two months before coming in the shop,” explains Mr. Fugère.

The 600 collisions in 2017 represent a minimum, points out Sylvain Roy, Member of the National Assembly for Bonaventure. “That is just the accidents that were reported to the police and Transport Québec. A number of collisions are not reported when the vehicle is not damaged or because the deer runs and dies in the woods.”

Transport Québec has even hired a subcontractor assigned to pick up deer carcasses daily along the Bay of Chaleur road.

DEER:

Cont'd from cover

signatures between the villages of L’Ascension and Pointe-à-la-Croix in the spring of 2017, to pressure the Quebec government over the safety issue. That petition was after 20 collisions on a short stretch of Highway 132, from the school towards the

west, over approximately one kilometre. The petition was presented to the National Assembly by Sylvain Roy.

“I was told that the petition was inadmissible. Do we have to see someone die before a decision is made?” wonders Mr. Bélanger.

“What we see at the government level is a kind of immobility. Is it a budgetary

matter or a lack of will? It is hard to tell,” says Marc Tétreault, director of the *Union des producteurs agricoles* of the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands, the regional branch of the UPA.

“Last year, a farmer lost all the potatoes growing in a field, due to the presence of deer,” adds Mr. Tétreault.

Alain Poitras, of the region’s Federation of hunters and fishermen, fears that the Quebec government will not make a move before the new deer management plan. The current plan ends in 2019 and a new plan might be adopted in 2020.

“The current plan is just an extension of the previous plan,” says Mr. Poitras, who hopes that the extension was not only based on saving money. “What we have seen over the years is a high reluctance from the ministry to modify a management plan before its conclusion. It is feasible though and the situation here certainly justifies a change.”

Sylvain Roy believes that austerity measures have greatly reduced the department of Forest, Wildlife and Parks’ capacity to take action since 2014.



“Last year, a farmer lost all the potatoes growing in a field, due to the presence of deer,” says UPA director general Marc Tétreault.

“The number of employees hired is meager. They (government administrators) apply the principle of extreme caution to the whole wildlife management process because it is simpler.”

The nine-year hunting ban that started in 1992 could be a factor explaining the government’s inertia, points out

Alain Poitras.

That ban was after a series of factors affecting the deer population such as consecutive snowy and cold winters, poaching and the massive presence of coyotes. The size of the Gaspé Peninsula deer population went from 10,000 specimens to less than 1,000 between 1986 and 1992.



“I was told that the petition was inadmissible. Do we have to see someone die before a decision is made?” wonders Daniel Bélanger, of Matapédia.

LM WINDPOWER BRINGS IN NEWCOMERS:

Affordable houses but few apartments

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – The creation of 300 new jobs in Gaspé, because of the LM Wind Power plant expansion, keeps the economy going but also brings housing and integration challenges.

Jean-Philippe Asselin, Nadia Simard and their two children of 8 and 11 moved to Gaspé at the end of the summer. The family, which is from the Quebec City region, chose Gaspé for the relaxed lifestyle and for the proximity of services and nature. “You can go and have a good coffee, but you breathe clean air and you can see the stars,” Mrs. Simard tells.

Ms. Simard, a freelance translator, can work from anywhere, “as long as I’ve got internet.” Mr. Asselin needed a job before moving. He saw the “We are hiring” advertisement from LM Wind Power during the Bye bye 2016 TV show. The plant hired him as a planner/material and resources.

Among the 300 new workers hired between the end of 2016 and January 2018, 120 come from outside the Gaspé Peninsula.

The Simard-Asselin wanted to rent an apartment and then take the time to explore the surroundings before buying a house. “There was nothing to rent, only one-bedroom apartments or very expensive houses for rent,” Mr. Asselin reports. So they bought a house at a “bargain” price, they say, and finally feel at home in it.

A lot of newcomers have had trouble finding an apartment. “We didn’t see that coming,” admits Gaspé mayor Daniel Côté. Mid-2016, the possibility of a closure was in the air, because LM Wind Power hadn’t found any new contracts to manufacture blades. The expansion was confirmed in January, 2017. “You can’t build an apartment building in one night,” Mr. Côté says.

In Gaspé the vacancy rate of apartments fell to 1.7% in October 2017; it was 5.7% the previous fall.

Some B&Bs remained open during the winter. Some residents offered access to bedrooms in their house, like Fernande Chouinard, the new owner of a house in downtown Gaspé. She rents out rooms in her basement to LM



Photo: G. Gélinas

Jean-Philippe Asselin, an LM Wind Power employee, Nadia Simard and their children Mathilde and Victor moved to Gaspé in August.

workers. “Those who arrive and who have no place to stay, it helps them out,” says Mrs. Chouinard. In return, the income from the workers makes her mortgage easier to pay.

The Gaspé municipal council members first thought: “if there’s a market, there will be promoters,” reports Daniel Côté. It’s not been the case, he admits, even though projects are being prepared. “It takes longer to make a profit from an investment in rental property on the Gaspé Peninsula than in an urban center. The construction costs are 30% to 40% higher and the rents are lower.” To rent a two-bedroom apartment in Gaspé costs an average of \$601 per

month; it is \$820 in Quebec City.

Mr. Côté now believes that the municipality will have to help the promoters, “It could be a tax credit. Or we could give land, participate in the extension of the aqueduct and sewer, or to an extension of the road.”

In regards to housing, Gaspé is still “a market favourable to buyers, with more properties for sale than the demand,” states Francine Couturier, a real estate broker for Re/Max. There are 82 houses for sale in Gaspé, according to the Centris website, and it doesn’t take into account the houses whose owners try to sell without the services of a broker.

Ms. Couturier isn’t sur-

prised: new employees “have to complete a probation period. Some of them don’t like the region and they leave.”

Potential buyers need the authorization of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Association if they have less than 20% of the down payment.

They can have trouble getting this approval if their steady job is new.

Labour force in demand

Only one thing tempers the good news of the LM expansion, says Daniel Côté. “Several businesses lost their seasonal workers, who left to go working year-long (at LM plant).”

The seafood processing plants and the tourism sector were hurt. The mayor wants to launch a publicity campaign to attract workers from outside, by touting the quality of life in Gaspé.

Nadia Simard and Jean-Philippe Asselin know which chord the rural municipalities should touch to attract newcomers.

“Given all what you can do from remote locations today, there should be a move to the regions, and it doesn’t happen,” Mr. Asselin points out. “Houses are so affordable here! If a couple does teleworking, it can improve their quality of life. The municipalities should capitalize on that,” Ms. Simard adds.





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LM WINDPOWER BRINGS IN NEWCOMERS:

Tunisian Mohamed Yahyaoui settling in

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – Mohamed Yahyaoui had been in Montreal for a few months when he heard about the employment opportunities at Gaspé's LM blade manufacturing plant. This Tunisian immigrant, who has a degree in engineering, moved to the Peninsula to a job as a process labourer. Four months later, he obtained a position as engineer for LM Wind Power's global management branch.

Mr. Yahyaoui arrived in Quebec in November 2016, alone. He left his wife and his nine-month-old son in Tunisia. His objective was to take the time to find a job and prepare for their arrival.

The 34-year-old man, who was a chemical engineer in Tunisia, has already been a production manager for Exxon Mobil. In Montreal, his first job was making furniture in a factory.

The Tunisian could see that the labour market was "saturated" in Montreal. "I applied for a job as a technician in chemistry. The offer was seen by 2,000 people! I wanted to leave Montreal to find another area in Quebec where I could progress."

Mr. Yahyaoui saw the LM Wind Power ad: the plant was looking for workers. He made the 2,000 kilometre return trip by bus to undergo an interview in Gaspé. The result: he was hired as a "web trimer," the worker who repairs small defects on the blades.

"The Tunisian committee in



Photos: G. Gélinas

Mohamed Yahyaoui, from Tunisia, has been in Gaspé for almost one year and hopes his wife and his son will join him soon.

Montreal told me: "don't go there! You'll be the only Tunisian"! I replied that if I wanted to be among Tunisians, I would have stayed in Tunisia!", Mr. Yahyaoui reports.

In March 2017, he moved to a one-bedroom apartment in Gaspé and started his new job. Four months later, he saw a job offer to become a production engineer for LM Wind Power "Global". He underwent several interviews and finally got the job. Since July, he has been part of the team that fixes problems in the various plants of LM, in China, Brazil, North America or elsewhere. He still works from Gaspé, in the plant offices.

To be hired by LM, with a steady salary, allowed Mr. Yahyaoui to file a sponsorship application for his wife and his son. He hopes to get an answer by this coming spring. Mohamed's son celebrated his second birthday in January. Mr. Yahyaoui hasn't seen him for 15 months, but speaks to his family every day by Skype or Messenger. "I moved to a three-bedroom apartment. I'm furnishing it. I don't want my family to experience a big change in their standard of living."

Mr. Yahyaoui has made friends and spent Christmas in a Gaspesian family. "I have two objectives," he says. "Next year, I want to get my licence to hunt moose, like Gaspésians and I want to learn to skate and to ski."

"When I immigrated, I had to start anew. We have a proverb in Tunisia: you always have to climb stairs from the bottom upwards," quotes Mr. Yahyaoui. For him, the steps of the staircase were on the Gaspé Peninsula.

Welcome committees for immigrants are busy

Amélie Filiatrault, of the Côte-de-Gaspé welcome committee for immigrants, usually helps 30 newcomers per year. From the fall of 2016 to the fall of 2017, the LM plant alone referred her 25 people.

The managers of the Gaspé LM Wind Power facility say that their employees come from 20 different countries. Ms. Filiatrault helps them find apartments, which isn't easy

have to create a sense of belonging to keep them, because we need them," states Mrs. Filiatrault.

From 2015 to 2019, a total of 10,400 new jobs will have been created in the Gaspé Peninsula and in the Magdalen Islands. Several employers see immigration as a solution, as the regional population gets older.

The Côte-de-Gaspé welcome and integration committee, which is under the responsibility of the Carrefour jeunesse-emploi, has also been busy. The committee invited the population to offer housing to the newcomers and helped them in their search for apartments, among other things.

"There's still a problem (housing). We're in a weird situation, where there's a shortage of workforce, skilled and unskilled. We need them to make the economy run, but we have no place to house them," explains Sarah-Michèle Couillard, director of the Côte-de-Gaspé Carrefour jeunesse-emploi.

given the housing shortage.

She also takes care of their social integration. "We organize activities to help mix immigrants and locals. It helps them to start new roots. We



RÉNORÉGION program

Inscription period

The town of Gaspé wishes to inform the household owners that they can subscribe to the RÉNORÉGION program from **February 19th to March 9th of 2018**. The program provides financial assistance in the form of a grant that varies, depending on household income, between 95% and 20% of the cost of eligible work.

People who are interested may make an appointment with the responsible to fill in the registration form.

For the appointment, you must have in your possession:

- Notices of assessment federal and provincial for 2017 of EVERYONE who lives in the house;

Admissibility criteria

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A 95% ASSISTANCE RATE, OCCUPANT OWNERS SHALL MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- Have an annual household income not exceeding (according to the 2017 assessment notices):
 - \$24 000 for a household of one (1) person or couple
 - \$29 500 for a household of two (2) to three (3) people (except for couple)
 - \$33 000 for a household of four (4) to five (5) people
 - \$38 500 for a household of six (6) people or more;
- The municipal evaluation of the residence cannot exceed \$115 000;
- Not having received financial assistance from the RénoVillage or RénoRégion Program during the last 10 years;
- Not having received financial assistance from the Réparation d'Urgence Program (PRU) during the last 5 years.

To make an appointment, please contact the Urbanism department of the Town of Gaspe at 418-368-2104 extension 8530.

N.B. Other eligibility conditions may apply and the granting of financial assistance is conditional on the sums being allocated for this program by the Québec government to the Côte-de-Gaspé MRC.



Gaspé needs newcomers to fill the jobs which become available, explains Sarah Michèle Couillard, director of the Côte-de-Gaspé Carrefour jeunesse-emploi, and Mélanie Roy, migration agent at "Place aux jeunes" and responsible for the Côte-de-Gaspé welcome and integration committee.

Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



The Grandmother Solution

*When grandmothers speak,
the earth will be healed.*

The world is in a wee bit of a mess, currently. The Doomsday clock is edging closer to midnight and the news is disheartening, even disturbing. What lies ahead for our world? There are so many dire predictions for the climate, animals and human beings. What can turn this around? What can be done to give us some hope for the future? The answer is right in front of us. It's the secret weapon that can give us hope. In a word: grandmothers.

The power has been primarily in the hands of men and frankly guys, things are not good. I'm not saying all men are to blame, (or that all women are good for that matter) but its worth a try. Grandmothers possess some exceptional skills that could provide a fresh new approach to running the world. Get it back on track, so to speak. Then hand it back because we have other things to do. Retirements to enjoy.

So what skills do grandmothers have? Where to begin? They have had and raised children. Cooked, cleaned and ran the home. Stayed up all night with a sick child. Observed family milestones, mainly with food. Shopped, attended school meetings, made a house a home, remembered all birthdays and special occasions, put themselves last after their family and ate the broken cookies. Of course, men do these things too, and well, but read over the first sentence in the second paragraph. We need a radically different approach and soon. The clock is ticking.

What could grandmothers bring to high level negotiations with nasty CEOs, banking billionaires and politicians? By the way, we all know the elite can be women, but grandmothers treat all humans as equals. A grandmother who has negotiated a 3-year-old out of a tantrum, convinced a young daughter to wait a bit until she gets her ears pierced or talked a doctor's receptionist into giving an appointment as soon as possible knows how to talk effectively.

Grandmother's have wisdom. Lots of it. They have lived lots of life and know how to solve problems. How to balance their job and home life, shop for the bargains and how much money to leave the tooth fairy. They have made money last until payday, while never telling the children that times are tough. They know all the best books to read to wee ones and grandmothers cry at school concerts because their hearts are so full.

Grandmothers have discretion. If a child or grandchild screws up, and children do, grandmothers can and will tell you the blunt truth. "You screwed up, but I know you will straighten this out because you are a super human being." This is the message that grandmothers could deliver to politicians. It's good advice. Sometimes politicians lose sight of the goal when they are busy blaming each other. "Ladies and gentlemen with power, pick yourselves up, dust yourselves off and get back to work. You have a world to save!"

Grandmothers have compassion and generally know how to treat people with dignity. My own grandmother once heard me making fun of another child. She wisely, and simply, said, "That is someone's baby, somebody's child." She was right. If the powerful people looked at their foes with compassion maybe their goals would be achieved more.

Desperate times call for desperate measures. These are the times. We need a paradigm shift. We need to look for radical solutions. The 'Grandmother Solution' might just be the thing to straighten out the planet. Grandmothers dislike a mess.



Photo: Antoine Amnotte-Dupuis

Mathieu Cyr, Heather Condo, Stephen Jerome and Moïse Marcoux-Chabot were glad to attend the Cinema on the Bayou and receive awards.

Gaspesian film producers win three awards in Louisiana

Gilles Gagné

GESGAPEGIAG: – Three Gaspesian film producers, Heather Condo, Mathieu Cyr and Moïse Marcoux-Chabot, recently returned from a film festival, the thirteen Cinema on the Bayou, held in Lafayette, Louisiana, with one award each.

Their presence in Lafayette was organized by the Percéides, the international film festival which takes place every summer in Percé. The Percéides and Cinema on the Bayou now have an exchange program.

Gesgapegiag's Heather Condo received a special mention by the jury for her now renowned *My Father's Tools*, a short movie shot in 2016 and presenting the efforts of her husband, Stephen Jerome, to preserve the old Native art of basket making. She was assisted by the Wapikoni Mobile unit during the shooting. Her presence in Louisiana was a year after the first invitation she received to attend an international film

event, the 2017 Sundance Festival, in Utah.

Her movie has now been presented in more than ten festivals, including in Australia and Germany. "It was wonderful. We were very welcome there. To get an award was incredible. We met some wonderful people and ate great food," commented Heather Condo shortly after her return.

The movie *Entre la mer et l'écorce*, by Mathieu Cyr, won the "best short fiction movie" award. Gaspesian singer and actor Kevin Parent is in the film which is shot in Maria.

With *Lespouère*, Moïse Marcoux-Chabot won the "best short documentary

award". He presents environmentalist, poet and activist Bilbo Cyr.

Percéides' founder and art director François Cormier had been entertaining the idea of an exchange between Percé and Louisiana for a few years. "It is my role as art director to develop an international side for the Percéides. I proposed an exchange to the director of Cinema on the Bayou, Pat Mire, and he jumped at the opportunity."

Five moviemakers of Cinema on the Bayou will attend the next Percéides with their latest production. The tenth Percéides will take place between August 16 and August 26.

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Serve breakfast in bed this Valentine's Day

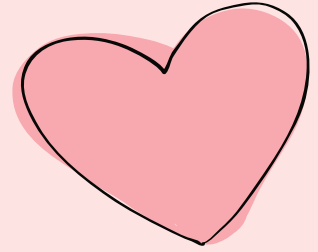


Serving breakfast in bed on Valentine's Day is a romantic way to begin this day that has become synonymous with affection and romance. Of course, pouring a bowl of cereal and bringing it upstairs won't have the same impact as whipping up a homemade breakfast. Those who want to impress their sweethearts this Valentine's Day and start the day off right can prepare the following recipe for "Strawberry-Glazed French Toast with Sweetened Sour Cream" courtesy of Betty Rosbottom's "Sunday Brunch" (Chronicle Books).

Strawberry-Glazed French Toast with Sweetened Sour Cream

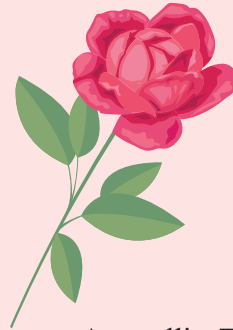
Serves 4

- 8 1-inch-thick bread slices, cut from a country or peasant loaf
- 2 cups half-and-half
- 4 egg yolks
- 3 tablespoons light brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract, plus 1/2 teaspoon
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1 tablespoon granulated sugar
- 1/3 cup strawberry jam or preserves (see note 2)



1. Arrange a rack at center position and preheat the oven to 400°F. Place the bread slices on a baking sheet and bake until dry and very lightly browned, about 8 minutes per side. Watch carefully so that the bread does not burn. Remove the bread from the oven and reduce the oven temperature to 200°F.
2. In a medium bowl, whisk together the half-and-half, egg yolks, brown sugar, 1 tablespoon vanilla, and cinnamon. Pour the mixture into a shallow pan (a 9-by-13-inch glass baking dish works well). Add the toasted bread slices and soak them 4 minutes per side. Remove to a large plate or platter.
3. Place a large, heavy frying pan over low to medium heat. Add about 2 teaspoons of the butter, or enough to coat the bottom of the pan lightly. When melted, add enough bread slices to fit comfortably in a single layer. Cook slowly until the slices are golden brown and crisp on both sides, about 4 minutes per side. Remove to a baking sheet and place in the warm oven. Repeat, adding more butter to the pan as needed until all the bread slices have been sautéed.
4. In a small bowl, stir together the sour cream, granulated sugar and remaining 1/2 teaspoon vanilla.
5. When ready to serve, spread each toast with a thin coating of strawberry jam and top with a dollop of sweetened sour cream.

What various flowers can represent



Flowers are popular come Valentine's Day, as various blooms can signify love and affection. Roses are one of the most popular flowers to gift on Valentine's Day, and according to Bankrate, men and women can expect to spend \$41.66 on a dozen roses.

Some gift-givers may want to deviate from the standard bouquet of roses and offer flowers that are more in tune with their recipients' preferences.

Flowers have long been used to convey certain feelings in many cultures. Folklore, poetry and mythologies have played a role in defining the various meanings associated with certain blooms.

Understanding the meanings behind various flowers can help Valentine's Day celebrants more accurately express their feelings toward the special people in their lives. Read on to learn more about what certain blooms may symbolize.



Customize Valentine's Day bouquets with flowers that have specific meanings.

- Amaryllis: This flower symbolizes splendid beauty and can be given to indicate worth beyond beauty.
- Aster: The popular aster symbolizes wisdom and devotion.
- Bird of Paradise: The interesting shape and rarity of these blooms symbolizes joyfulness and magnificence. It can be an exciting flower, and one that evokes feelings of anticipation.
- Black-eyed Susan: These vibrant blooms represent justice and can be ideal for the person who works in the legal profession.
- Carnation: A less expensive alternative to roses, carnations represent pride and beauty. Furthermore, the colors of carnations represent different meanings. Red symbolizes love, while pink is for a mother's love and white represents innocence and pure love.
- Daisy: Innocence and purity are the meanings behind the yellow and white daisy. This can be the perfect pick for new, young love.
- Freesia: Those wanting to evoke passionate feelings can choose freesia, which is also said to mean "joy."
- Hydrangea: Hydrangeas symbolize heartfelt emotions and can be used to express gratitude for being understood. This may be the perfect "making amends" flower.
- Lilac: Couples seeking tranquility and passion can turn to lilacs. The calming lavender hues also can be a welcome change in floral arrangements.
- Rose: Of course, no Valentine's flower roundup would be complete without roses. Roses represent love and passion, and, like carnations, their colors symbolize different things. Red roses represent desire, pink roses suggest happiness and white roses symbolize worthiness. Avoid yellow roses, which suggest fading love.
- Zinnia: Zinnias symbolize thoughts of distant friends and can make a thoughtful friendship arrangement to send to a faraway comrade.

Flowers are part of many Valentine's Day celebrations. By learning the meanings behind different flowers, men and women can make their feelings better known.

Principal Beryl Boyle is one of the country's top principals

Gilles Gagné

GASPÉ: - The principal of Gaspé Elementary and Belle Anse schools, Beryl Boyle, was recently selected by the Learning Partnership, a Canada-wide organization, as one of the country's top 40 principals.

Canada's Outstanding Principals program recognizes outstanding contributions of public school principals. It highlights principals from all over Canada who demonstrate innovation, entrepreneurial spirit and who have done something truly remarkable in public education.

"The Learning Partnership's Canada's Outstanding Principal program is currently in its 14th year and boasts 400 alumni. It is not only a recognition of the vital role that principals play within school communities but it is also an opportunity to receive an intensive week-long leadership training program hosted at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management. Recipients build a professional learning community and share best practices while also learning about current ideas and issues in leadership at workshops and presentations from academics and business leaders," says Beryl Boyle.

The nomination process for the award is complex and the story behind Beryl's nomination is an interesting one.

Last year, Beryl visited a principal and colleague, Marylene Perron at her school in Montreal. "The goal of this site visit was to learn strategies and best practices for working with students with various learning and behavior challenges. I spent the day shadowing Marylene in her school of 400 students where both inclusion and special learning environments are well established. What we found was that, despite the many differences in our school realities, such as the size difference of our schools, the urban versus rural environment, and the core clientele of our student population, we also had much in common. Regardless of where you are, resources are limited and school teams must seek creative solutions to provide the highest quality education to our students," says Beryl about how this all started.

Following the visit Marylene and Beryl began occasionally sharing ideas. In the



Photo: B. Boyle

Beryl Boyle, the principal of Gaspé Elementary and Belle Anse school says there are many benefits to a small school environment.

fall of 2017, Beryl received a telephone call from Marylene who was offering to nominate her for this award. "I was very moved of course and felt honoured that she had considered making the effort to submit the nomination for me. I also required letters of support from representatives of Eastern Shores School Board (ESSB), my staff, community partners and possibly even parents. I approached Mr. Howard Miller (director general at ESSB), Marquita Roberts (Gaspé Elementary staff assistant), and Amie Chicoine (Vision Gaspé-Perce Now and parent) and each of them graciously agreed and supported my candidacy," says Beryl

The first round of judging is completed by each provincial principals' association and then the final judging is completed by a National Selection Committee composed of leaders from government, business and education. Winners are announced in late January or early February.

According to Beryl "Both Belle Anse and Gaspé Elementary School staff have a solid foundation of collaboration and professional learning. This means that we truly look deeply into the research and practices that would best support and promote learning for our students. We have time to work together every week and this time is precious. We set goals and objectives in literacy, math, French and also in terms of developing the social and emotional health of our students. This type of team

approach has many benefits for our school community. For one, we know our strengths and weaknesses and we are eager to find innovative strategies to help us improve. We have a community minded approach and partners who will help us realize these creative solutions. An example is our early literacy programs. Belle Anse was forward-thinking and had the resources, parental support, and teacher willingness to support a four-day, all-day pre-kindergarten. While Gaspé Elementary partnered with our CLC (Community Learning Center) which mobilized committed community members and interested teachers to hold intergenerational reading with our grade 2 and/or 3 students every Friday afternoon. We also recently renovated and equipped a sensory room that is being used by support staff who work with our students who require special accommodations in the learning environment to be successful."

Beryl further describes the sensory room by saying "The room contains materials and equipment that address sensory processing issues that might be barriers to student learning. It can be seen as a prevention strategy for children who need breaks, often during transition times, or periods in the day that may become overwhelming. The intention is to offer time for children and youth to safely attend to their processing needs, in order to prevent or reduce the prevalence of our students acting out as a result

of feeling overwhelmed or anxious in their environment."

Beryl says she feels that if the school and community create symbiotic relationships both stand to benefit. She says that sharing resources, providing opportunities and looking at ways to "creatively provide students with an engaging educational experience while also instilling the importance and sense of belonging that comes from community-minded living." She says that the students have a lot to give, as well as individuals and community organizations. "This has always been my

philosophy and rationale for the important role that Community Learning Centers play in our communities," states Beryl.

When asked what her next projects will be she says, "the sky is the limit really. When you work closely with a team of motivated educators such as those at GES and BAS one can never be sure what exciting project might be proposed. As always we look at our success plan and develop our priorities based on the targets outlined for improved early literacy, numeracy, and French language development. Most recently we have been given the green light to explore the possibility of implementing full day prekindergarten at Gaspé Elementary School, therefore this will likely take a great deal of consideration and planning."

Beryl says there are benefits to a small school environment, that in a small school staff gets to know the students very well and this permits them to tailor their learning experience. "Furthermore, authentic learning projects are somewhat easier to bring to fruition with a more manageable number of students. At an increased enrollment of 36, Belle Anse often feels like a small family. Gaspé Elementary (GES) enrollment is at 105 right now and this has been quite stable over the past several years with only small

Cont'd on page 11


Ville de Gaspé

CALL FOR TENDERS RENTING FEES FOR HEAVY MACHINERY

Ville de Gaspé will receive until 2:00 p.m. February, 22, 2018, tenders for the renting fees for heavy machinery and other construction and municipal maintenance equipment.

These fees will be in effect from April 1, 2018 until March 31 2019, will be considered fixed fees for the duration of this period and will constitute a list to this effect.

Anyone interested must obtain the necessary documents at Ville de Gaspé's Public Works department during regular office hours.

Whichever mode chosen, the tenders, to be valid, must be received at Ville de Gaspé's Clerk office, in sealed envelopes, before February 22, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. with the following inscription on the envelop "Offre de service – Taux de location de machineries lourdes " to be publicly opened the same day, at the same address, beginning at 2:01 p.m.

Ville de Gaspé reserves the right to accept neither the lowest nor any of the tenders received.

Given at Gaspé, February 7, 2018

Isabelle Vézina
Director of legal services and town

yearly fluctuations. At GES, our class sizes are large enough that we do not currently have multi-grade classes and we offer two different French Second Language (FSL) options, core and enriched. The goal for us is actually to entice more families who have eligibility for English education to see the benefits of our school community and provide a competitive FSL program.”

Beryl has been an educator for almost 23 years. She taught at various grade levels, been a grade level team leader and a principal. She has been employed by ESSB since 2007 and most recently completed a Masters of Education from Bishop's University. “I have always believed that children benefit from a community approach in which each caring adult around them contributes toward their academic, personal, and social development. School environments that cultivate professional growth; reach out to community partners, and who embrace home-school relationships can achieve this and ultimately can be proud of their contribution toward student success. I feel that both BAS and GES aspire to this ideal.”

When asked if she is inspired by nature and the outdoors, Beryl responds by saying “We are so fortunate to live in an area that is surrounded by natural beauty, the Gaspésie is a magnificent place. The opportunities for learning in nature abound. Every walk can be a science lesson, every sunrise an inspiration. As educators, the key is to understand the richness that can accompany learning when we access curriculum goals beyond the classroom walls. Furthermore, in a world where we are all plugged in constantly and screen time continues to rise, by giving our students time in nature, we may actually help some students to develop a very positive outlet for reducing their anxiety and stress for the future.”

Volunteer

It feels great!



Micmac Camp wants to keep fishing rights through court action, says Micmacs of Gesgapegiag

Gilles Gagné

GESGAPEGIAG: – According to a press release issued by the band administration of Gesgapegiag, the owner of Micmac Camp, Quentin Condo, is trying to keep, through court proceedings the fishing rods (rights) that were delegated to his father, the late Guy Condo.

That delegation was following an agreement reached between the band administration, also called the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag, and the Cascapedia Society, the body managing salmon fishing on the Grand Cascapedia River.

The Micmacs of Gesgapegiag decided at the time

to have the fishing rights of the community managed by Guy Condo, who served many terms as chief before and after that period.

In the spring of 2016, after a community meeting, the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag adopted a resolution extending the agreement with Micmac Camp for a year. During the fall of the same year, the band administration adopted another resolution to end the lease agreement with Micmac Camp, effective March 31, 2017.

“The overall objective of the council was to allow a community controlled business to operate the rods while creating jobs and revenues

for the benefits of the membership,” mentions the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag press release, which can be found on the facebook page of the band administration.

The document mentions that Quentin Condo then filed proceedings against the council. He is asking the court for an injunction that would forbid the rods to be transferred back to the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag, also mentions the press release.

The band administration will not comment further before the court case evolves.



thegaspespec.com



ON CALL COOK EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

LOCATION:
CENTRE WALGWAN CENTER

Main function: The Cook is responsible for providing nutritious and well-balanced meals to residents and their families.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Prepares and cooks complete meals according to food guides, menus and procedures.
- Ensures meals are prepared on time;
- Maintains the cleanliness of kitchen and dining facilities to ensure health standards are met
- Ensures sanitation and safety procedures are adhered to;
- Maintains equipment used in food preparation;
- Stores food properly and safely;
- Prepares meals for graduations and other activities;
- Portioning food and clean-up of kitchen facilities;
- Other related duties as required

Skills required:

- Knowledge of dietary guidelines;
- Cook a variety of foods in large quantities from scratch, utilizing standardized recipes;
- Read, write, and understand written and oral instructions;
- Familiarity with the use and care of kitchen equipment and supplies;
- Must be able to lift and carry food supplies for storage;
- Proficient interpersonal relations and communicative skills;
- Attend training related to kitchen and work environment;
- Able to work co-operatively
- Position requires heavy lifting; storing boxes and moving large containers
- Available on weekends

Education and experience:

- Completion of a program in cooking and experience of commercial cooking required
- Demonstrated experience with large meal planning and large quantity cooking
- Criminal record check, Food Handler's Certificate, and references required
- Bilingual

Salary: Based on the salary scale of the Walgwan Center between \$15.24-\$18.21

Based on the organization salary scale

Deadline: February 22, 2018

Please forward your resumes by email to edwalgwan@globetrotter.net to the attention of Pamela Charlong, Executive Director or sent hard copy to Centre Walgwan Center, 75 School Street, Gesgapegiag, Québec, G0C 1Y1



Centre Walgwan Center
First Nations Youth Rehabilitation Centre

JOB OPPORTUNITY ON CALL POSITION-DAY ATTENDANT

GENERAL

Under the supervision of the Team Leader and authority of the Executive Director the Day Attendant will carry out the activities within the rehabilitation program. The Day Attendant will be part of the clinical team at the Walgwan Centre. They are responsible for the care and safety of youth clientele at the Centre by being vigilant to the needs of the youth, providing responsive care, ensuring continuous surveillance and security. The Day Attendants will support youth development by facilitating their personal, social and educational growth and assisting them in reaching their full potential in society. Day Attendants will provide direct goal-oriented assistance to the youth clientele while ensuring their safety and wellbeing.

Specific Functions

- Preparation and support to program, activities and rules
- Actively participate in activities as a supporting role
- Coach and support clients in need
- Keep educator informed of pertinent information regarding clientele in a timely manner
- Report writing in our software
- Organize and animate workshops
- Attend and participate in clinical meeting, staff meeting and debriefing sessions.

Requirements

- High School Diploma or equivalent AND (3) years direct work experience
- Certificate or Diploma in the field of social work, psychology, education or human services AND one (1) year direct work experience
- Excellent communication skills, professional demeanor, sound judgment and strong organizational skills
- Speak English and French, including the ability to write reports. Indigenous language an asset
- Ability to understand the awareness of and sensitivity to the needs of youth and youth culture
- Be of good reputation and free of substance abuse
- Ability to intervene in crisis situations
- Ability to work in team / team meetings
- Positive attitude and good social skills
- CPR First Aid an asset
- Must produce written confirmation of clearance criminal record
- Physically fit and physically active
- Must be committed to a healthy lifestyle
- Must have 4B driver's license or commit to obtaining one once hired

Salary

Based on Centre Walgwan Center salary scale; \$18.74 - \$22.40

Deadline: February 22, 2018

Send applications by e-mail at edwalgwan@globetrotter.net to the attention of the Pamela Charlong, Executive Director or send hard Centre Walgwan, 75 School St, Gesgapegiag, Québec, G0C 1Y1

Social notes...

Hello everyone. Will he or won't he? I am referring to the albino groundhog who has been predicting spring's arrival for many years. Warton Willee, from Warton, Ontario, passed away last September. However, the job is being carried on by his understudy of two years and he is aptly named Wee Willie. This name always reminds me of a song back in the '70s. Oh, well, here we go with this week's news!

Linda Alexander is recovering from knee replacement surgery that was done on January 8. Her husband Glen has been kept pretty busy taking care of his gals on top of his regular busy schedule. Their daughter Kim was home for two weeks during the time of the surgery and they all appreciated her help. Linda is still experiencing a lot of pain and is having some difficulty in getting enough sleep. However, Linda somehow manages to find the bright side of things wherever possible – these days it might be a little more of a stretch.

Gail Gallichan Cote was home from Summerland, BC for another brief visit. Gail and her husband John travelled to Maui for Christmas. Next thing we hear is that "Gail's coming back again." Rowena and Howard are always very happy when she is here. Unfortunately, Rowena slipped and fell on the ice when she was getting in the car. She fractured her right ankle and has had to have surgery. Rowena is in the hospital and she may be able to come home soon. In the meantime her friends have been visiting her or calling her. Howard is doing well and is still at the San. They are looking forward to a visit from their son Francis and his wife Sherry in a couple of weeks.

Heather and Dean Patterson just recently arrived home from Vancouver. They spent Christmas there visiting with their son Craig, daughter-in-law Audrey, and handsome grandson Braxton. They also got to spend some time with their daughter Stephanie who joined them for a week in January. Shortly after they returned home their sweet little grandson turned two on January 19. My how time flies – it seems he was just a wee baby not that long ago. Welcome home folks – we are glad to have you here – you were missed.

The York River Seniors had their first Military Whist card party on Friday, January 19. To say it was a full house is not an exaggeration – they had sufficient players for 23 tables. As in previous times the players ranged in age from recent retirees to those with many years of retirement experience. These people travel from quite far away for Military Whist. You can probably imagine the conversation is fairly lively and in both languages at varying levels of proficiency. All announcements and directions are given in both French and English. Everyone has a good time. This was a particularly wonderful evening for Mrs. Mary Miller who is a team captain. Mary's team was tied for second place which required that she cut a deck of cards to decide the winner. Well, Mary who was soon to have her 101st birthday was successful in getting the higher card. What a treat for her and her team.

Many people in and around Gaspé have been working very hard on a fundraising campaign to help the family of a young girl who is going through treatments to fight leukemia for a second time. Just last year she was featured in the SPEC when her family had spent time at Disneyworld. Dear, sweet Makena Noble had to return to hospital just before Christmas. Her mom is Julie Simon, daughter of Hermeline Smith and Duane Simon of Rosebridge. The communities all around the area have come together to try to do what they can for this family in emotional, financial, and spiritual support. There are not too many people in the area who are unaware of this young girl and her family. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Debbie and Hayden Sams too have been affected by a serious family health issue. Their youngest son, Ryan was diagnosed with leukemia in December. Ryan and his wife, Vicky are a strong team and are maintaining a positive outlook. They have a delightful and adorable two-year-old son, Harry. Vicky and Ryan have been keeping their family and friends updated on facebook with their latest information on their journey in the battle against the disease. Please also include them in your thoughts and prayers.



Sharon Howell

GASPÉ NEWS

Our sympathies and condolences are extended to the family and friends of Penelope LaCouvée Kruse who passed away in Burnaby, BC on January 23 following a brief illness. She was predeceased by her husband Ted Kruse in 1980 and by her son, Sgt. Greg Kruse in Afghanistan in 2008. She will be dearly missed by her sons Christian and Timothy, daughter-in-law Jill and grandchildren Kari, Megan, and Victoria. Her siblings Joan, Elizabeth and husband Klaus Tewes, and brother, Barry will surely miss her and they will share many great memories of their times together. Penelope, known to most as Penny touched the lives of many people and she will be dearly remembered by her many nieces, nephews, family, and lots of friends. The funeral service and interment of ashes will be held during the summer of 2018 in Gaspé. Details of the funeral will be provided at a later date. Rest in peace, Penelope!

We also extend our sympathies and condolences to the family and friends of Lillian (Lily) Moran Mitchell of Airdrie, AB who passed away on January 24 at the age of 92. Lily will be dearly missed by her children Larry, Melody, and Bonny and their families. Lily was predeceased by her husband Simon Mitchell of Murdochville. Lily and Simon and their family lived in Murdochville for many years. They travelled almost every weekend to Gaspé and Barachois to visit their families. We knew Lily since we were very young as she lived across the road from us. Lily was the youngest daughter of Albert Moran. Her siblings were Freda who was married to Gilbert Bond of Prevel; Mildred who was married to Murray Suddard of Murdochville and Haldimand; and her brother Melvin who lived and worked in Murdochville. Lily was very close to all of her family and she was much loved by all her children, her grandchildren, her nieces: Joan White, Irene Bond Rehel, Lorraine Bond, Helen Bond, her nephews Damian and Russell Bond, and her numerous friends. She was a wonderful lady who was softspoken and who had a great sense of humour. In her younger years, she experienced many fun adventures with her close friends Stella, Rita, Ida, Audrey and Edna Howell. We grew up hearing all kinds of stories about them and during WWII there were many soldiers who were stationed in the area. Well, they too were included in many of her treasured fun times during those years. Lily loved the colour red and she was always well dressed and rarely, if ever, without her red lipstick and nails polished in a nice shade of red. Her laugh was also very unique and delightful. She will be very much missed and fondly remembered. Rest in peace, Lily!

The York River Seniors Club held a "5 à 7" at the Royal Canadian Legion on Friday, January 26. The event included toasted club sandwiches along with coffee or tea. The cost was only \$7 per person. This year 180 meals were served. The club sponsored and provided the food, the workers, as well as the clean-up afterwards. There were door prizes as well as other fundraising efforts. The club donated all the proceeds from the evening, which came to \$1500+, to the Legion. Over the years, the Legion has been very generous to the seniors club as well as many other groups in sharing their facilities for their numerous events.

On Saturday, January 27 an Open House celebration was held for Holly Hackett in honour of her special birthday. Holly is a great gal and she is surely loved by her family and her many friends and especially by a couple of very adorable granddaughters. We wish you a wonderful year with many more special occasions to celebrate you.

The 48th Annual Wakeham-York Winter Carnival will be kicking off next weekend beginning on Friday, February 9 and running to Sunday, February 18. Friday, February 9 there will be a Lumberjack Supper at York Hall from 5 to 7 p.m. with tickets available at the door. Saturday is a family day of activities held at the rink in York including

snowshoeing at 10:30 a.m. and a masquerade at 1 p.m. and other activities in the afternoon. There will be a Texas Hold-em Tournament on Saturday evening at York Hall commencing at 7 p.m. The Bingo will be held on Sunday, February 11 at York Hall commencing at 1 p.m. The next event will be a Tuck Tournament at York Hall on Thursday, February 15 at 7 p.m. Please bring a partner to play. On Friday, February 16, there will be a Military Whist Card Party commencing at 7:30 p.m. As usual for Whist you must contact Tony Patterson at 418-368-3276 to let him know if you wish to play as a team of four or if you wish to play as a spare. On Saturday morning, February 17 from 7 to 10 there will be a breakfast at York Hall; then at 10 a.m. there will be a snowmobile Poker Run to Bailey Bridge and return to York Hall at 4:30; at 7:30 at York Hall there will be a dance with live music provided by Nash Stanley. Most of these events are well attended and it is hoped that this year will be a success with your help.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Please join us in wishing much happiness and good health for the coming year to the following Gaspésians:

- Mrs. Ruby Miller Ascah of Chateaugay, formerly of Wakeham has a birthday on February 2; also Nicole Joncas and Helen Lucas have birthdays on February 2; Nicholas Stanley (son of Rosemarie Kilbride & Terry Stanley and the grandson of Francis Kilbride) has a birthday on February 4; Debbie O'Brien Boulay has a birthday on February 5; Marie-France Duguay, (mom of sweet Liam and Logan LaPierre) has a birthday on February 7; Lois Bechervaise has her birthday on February 8; Léon Dumaresq of Sherbrooke, Vernice and Barry Dumaresq's grandson has a birthday on February 9; as well as Vanessa Jean and Dale Patterson of St. Lazare, QC formerly of Sandy Beach; Jeanie LeLacheur has a birthday on February 12; Scott Miller of Stettler, AB (Ivy & Glen Miller's son) has a birthday on February 13; Roberta (Bobbi Miller) Baker of Peachland, BC – formerly of Wakeham has a birthday on February 16; along with Jason Jean and Johnny Cotton. Lillian Rooney Lavallee has a birthday on February 18; Liam Cromey of Orleans, Ont. – son-in-law of Carolyn & Jim Caputo has his birthday on February 19; Agnes Palmer of Calgary (daughter-in-law of Marguerite & Dennis Palmer of Wakeham) has a birthday on February 20; Dennis Drainville, retired Bishop of Quebec has a birthday on February 20; Ray Gallichan of Regina, formerly of Sandy Beach has a birthday on February 21; Karen Briand has a birthday on February 21 (and sometimes on the 22nd too – check with her on it); Karen McCallum Hansen of Kelowna, BC and formerly of Sandy Beach has her birthday on February 24; Debbie Jean, Stella Grant, and Chris LeQuesne have their birthdays on February 25; Allen Falle of Yukon, formerly of Gaspé has a birthday on February 26; Catherine Fortin too has a birthday on February 26; Billy Bannier of Nova Scotia, formerly of Wakeham, son of Hazel Bannier also has a birthday on February 27; Gloria Boulet has a birthday on February 28; and Pamela Patterson has a birthday on February 29.

Please join me in wishing these folks a wonderful birthday and may they be blessed with good friends, family, and good cheer throughout the coming year: Mrs. Greta Mullin of Wakeham is going to be 93 years young on February 1; Mrs. Dorothy Johnson Doody is going to be 89 on February 4; Gabriella Kennedy Howell is going to be 95 years young on February 8; Lester Coffin will be 92 years young on February 10; Mrs. Muriel Cass of Montreal, formerly of Wakeham will be 98 years young on February 20; Mrs. Merle Coffin will be 96 years young on February 20; Vera Simon of Sandy Beach will be 89 years young on February 25 and Ruth Miller Patterson Armstrong of Kitchener, formerly of Wakeham has a birthday on February 27.

Congratulations and best wishes for many more years of happiness are being sent to: Beverly Vibert and Baurice Rehel will be 40 years married this year on February 3.

Best wishes to Christie and Brian Dumaresq whose anniversary is on February 13.

Congratulations to Ron's Resto in Place Jacques Cartier which is celebrating its 8th anniversary in February.

Remember, if you know of some news that touches the Gaspé folk, either from here or away, please don't be shy and contact me at 418-368-3914 or via email at photo_ops@hotmail.com. Until then, keep well.

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COAST ROUND-UP

GASPE:

Gaspé Cancer Bake Sale

The Gaspé Cancer Foundation will be holding its Annual Valentine Bake Sale on **Saturday, February 10**, at 9 p.m. at the Carrefour in Gaspé.

GASPE:

Annual General Meeting

The public is asked to please note that the Annual General Meeting of the Gaspé Cancer Foundation will be held on **Sunday, March 4** at 1 p.m. at Royal Canadian Legion. All citizens of the MRC Côte de Gaspé are invited to attend. Complimentary coffee tea and cheese to follow.

GASPE:

Membership Campaign

The citizens of the MRC of Côte de Gaspé are asked to please note that the Annual Gaspé Cancer Foundation Membership Campaign will officially begin in March. The blue registration form can be found in your March 5 Publi-sac. Membership fees are \$12 per year. New members have a 30-day waiting period before being eligible to receive their travel assistance. If you are a member in good standing, are afflicted with cancer and must travel outside the region for treatment, you are eligible for the following travel assistance: Chandler \$40, Maria \$70, Rimouski \$120, Rivière-du-Loup \$150, Québec \$160, Montreal and Sherbrooke \$220. The Gaspé Cancer Foundation has returned \$286,468 in travel assistance to its members who needed to travel outside our region for treatment since its inception in 2003.

YORK:

Annual General Meeting

The York River Community Center will hold its AGM on **Sunday February 25**, at 1:30. Everyone is welcome, two representatives from the public will be voted in as members of the committee.

YORK:

UPCOMING EVENTS

The following events will be held by The York River Seniors Club.

Friday, February 9: A lumberjack supper will be held with first setting at 5 p.m. and second setting at 6 p.m. Bar service available. Tickets available at the door, adults \$10 children, \$5.

Friday, March 16: St. Patrick's Supper and dance (main meal Irish stew, dessert gingerbread and green whipped cream) in the York Community Center. Cocktails at 5 p.m. with music and dance to follow. Let's all get out and enjoy an Irish evening of entertainment with live music from our seniors band, along with an Irish Coffee and a green beer. Bar services available. The cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Please contact Alfred Cassidy or Tony Patterson.

DOUGLASTOWN:

Upcoming Activities

The following activities will be held at the Douglastown Community Centre.

Tuesday, February 20: The next Travel Talks will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Community Centre. Louis Morin: From Rome to Canterbury: 1900 km on

foot; **February 27:** Newfoundland Scenery.

Friday, February 16: Happy Hour Special: collective cooking at 5 p.m. Please join us to learn about the upcoming plans for collective cooking activities at the community center. Bring your refreshments and a dish to share.

Sunday February 18: Community breakfast with a traditional menu from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. \$8 for adults (12 & over), \$4 for children (5-11 years) would be appreciated (ages 4 and under, free)

Saturday February 24: Garden seed exchange from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Bring your plant seeds of any kind to exchange with gardening enthusiasts in your community.

BARACHOIS:

Gift Bingo fundraiser

A gift bingo fundraiser for Makena will be held at the Barachois Recreation Centre on **Wednesday, February 7**, at 7 p.m. Beautiful prizes. All welcome 18 years old and older.

BARACHOIS:

Upcoming Activities

Saturday, February 10: a Valentine's dance with music by Nash will be held at the Barachois Legion at 9 p.m. Admission \$5.

Saturday, February 17: A pot luck supper will be held at Barachois Legion at 5 p.m., \$10 per person.

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.

Thursday Nights: Darts will be held beginning at 7 p.m. New players welcome. No experience necessary.

BARACHOIS:

Bingo

Friday night money Bingo continues at 7 p.m. at the Barachois Recreation Centre on **February 16**. Everyone is welcome!

PORT DANIEL:

Upcoming Events

The following events will be held at the Golden Age Hall in Port Daniel.

February 10: Music Night; **March 17:** St. Patricks Supper; **April 6:** Gift Bingo and **May 12:** Mother's Day Tea.

PORT DANIEL:

Valentine Tea

The W.I. will be holding a Valentine Tea on **February 17** from 12 noon to 3 p.m. at the Three Star Golden Age Club at 177 Route 132, Port Daniel. Adults \$7, children under 6 free. 50/50 door prize.

SHIGAWAKE:

Upcoming Activities

The following events will be held by the Shigawake Community Center.

Friday, February 16: Valentine's dance for all high school students. Light snack served. Free, 7 p.m. till 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 17: Valentine's Day dance, \$12 per person with DJ Mark Dea starting at 8 p.m. Please note Valentine Supper previously announced has been changed to this dance.

Sunday, March 4: Ski doo rally/lumberjack supper. Register at

12 p.m. Rally starts at 1 p.m. Followed by supper. Door prizes. Everyone is welcome for the supper. Rally +supper \$20, supper only \$12.

March 30: Easter activities for children.

April 2: Easter Gift Bingo

May 13: Mother's Day Brunch

June 23 - Fish Cake supper

July 7: Country Hoedown.

Aug. 4: Benefit Supper

Sept 8: Harvest Supper

Sept. 17: Hunting Gift Bingo

Oct. 26: Children's Halloween event.

Oct. 27: Halloween Dance

Nov. 10: Christmas Tea

Dec. 3: Christmas Gift Bingo

Dec. 8: Christmas bake sale

HOPE TOWN:

Winter Carnival

Friday, February 16: 4:30 - 6 p.m. casserole supper, 12 and up \$10, 7 - 11 \$5, 6 and under free; 7:30 p.m. Gift bingo \$10 series or 3/\$20.

Saturday February 17: 1:30 p.m. Games on ice; 8 p.m. Military whist \$5.

Sunday February 18: 1:30 p.m. Hockey Old Timers vs Young Timers.

HOPE TOWN:

Upcoming Activities

The following activities will be held at the Hope Town Community Center,

Saturday, February 10: A whist party will be held at 8 p.m. Come out and join us for a night of fun.

Saturday, March 3: A crib tournament will be held at 1 p.m. \$10 per person. Please register your team by March 1. Call Audrey or Linda 418-752-2015.

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:

We have moved!

To all members of the Linda LeMore-Brown Foundation. We are pleased to announce that as of January 8, 2018 we have moved to a new building. We will be happy to serve you at our new and improved building located at 168, Gérard D Levesque, New Carlisle (Old Laurentian Bank). For any other information, please call 418-752-5995! Thank you for your understanding!

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. Thanks to all those who have been in contact with us concerning the Guiding activity. There will be quite a bit of preparation for this activity, so if you are interested, please give your name prior to the date. We are looking at a day from 2 p.m. until after campfire (8 pm.) 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:

Monthly Breakfast

The New Carlisle 50+ Club will be holding its monthly breakfast at the Heritage Restaurant on **February 14**, at 9 a.m.

NEW CARLISLE:

Pancake Supper

A pancake supper will be held **Tuesday, February 13**, at St. Andrew's Anglican Church from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Price \$7. All are welcome.

NEW CARLISLE:

Upcoming Activities

The following activities will be held by Heritage New Carlisle at the New Carlisle Town Hall.

Thursday, March 1: Soup and Sweets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, March 17: A telethon from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Friday, April 13: Spring Soup and Sweets from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Please note There will be no card games until further notice.

NEW RICHMOND:

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CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

Valentine's Brunch

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 172, will be having a Valentine's Brunch on **February 11**, from 8:30 - 11 a.m. Cost will be \$10 per adult and \$7 for a child under 12 years. Everyone is encouraged to attend this celebration.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

Legion Meeting

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 172 meets monthly on a regular basis every third Saturday at the Legion, located at 55 Gallagher St.

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:

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:

Family Day

Saturday February 10: will be the annual Family Day. If you wear something red, your name will be entered to win a little prize. The day will begin with registration at 10 a.m. and the activities will begin at 10:30 a.m. All activities will be taking place at the youth center. We will have face tattoos, Minute To Win It games and build a snowman where the kids make a snowman and bring items to decorate it. We are hoping to have a snow hill so bring your sled. Hotdogs, homemade soup,

sandwiches and sweets will be on sale at noon in the hall. There will be more activities after lunch including the popular egg toss and maybe a hockey game. We are always looking for volunteers to help with the games and in the kitchen, so please feel free to get in touch. You can check out the day on our Facebook Family Life page. We look forward to seeing you all.

GESGAPEGIAG:

N.A. Meetings

N.A. Meetings held every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Mawimi 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.

BLANKET CLASSIFIEDS

GET UP TO \$50,000 from the Government of Canada. Do you or someone you know have any of these conditions? ADHD, Anxiety, Arthritis, Asthma, Cancer, COPD, Depression, Diabetes, Difficulty Walking, Fibromyalgia, Irritable Bowels, Overweight, Trouble Dressing...and Hundreds more. ALL Ages & Medical Conditions Qualify. CALL QUEBEC BENEFITS 1-(800)-211-3550.

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UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, February 11

Hope Town Municipal Hall

12 noon Annual Meeting

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, February 11

New Carlisle

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Shigawake

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Ash Wednesday

February 14

New Carlisle

7 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Imposition of Ashes

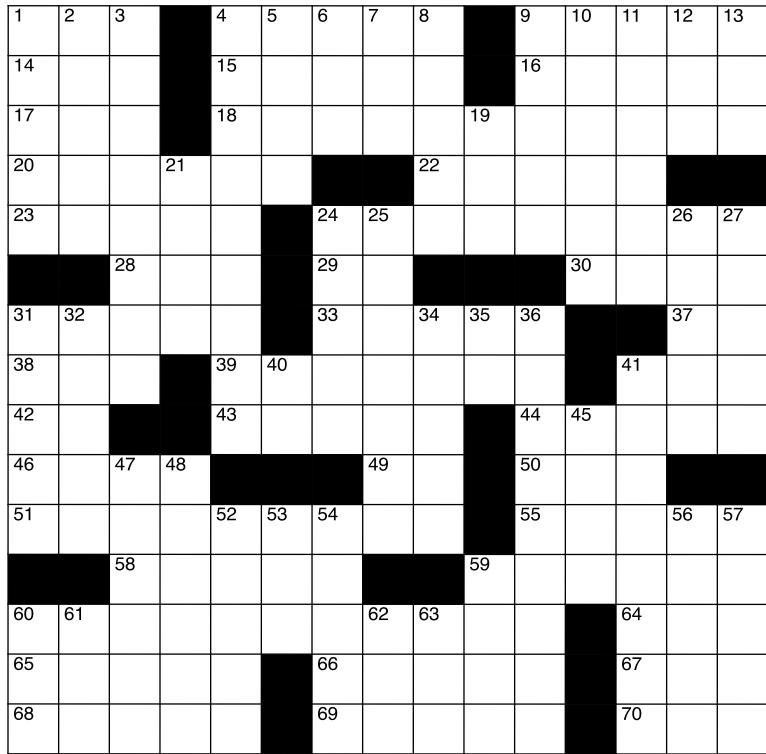
PARISH OF GASPÉ

Sunday, February 11

Gaspé

10 a.m. Service

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

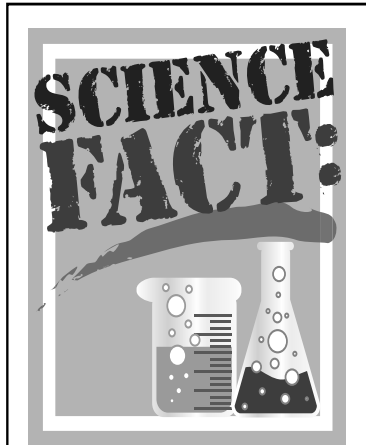
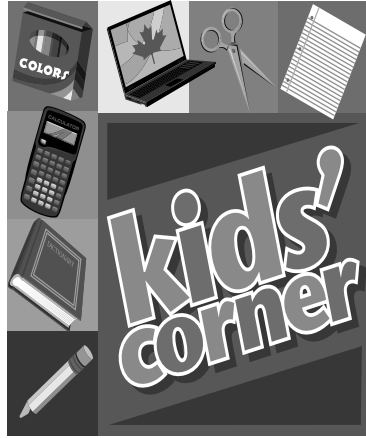
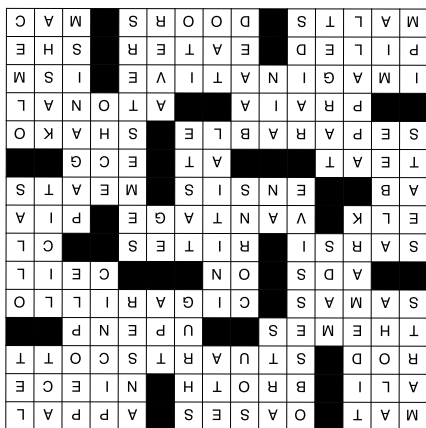
- Thick flat pad
- Green regions of desert
- Fill with dismay
- Boxing legend
- Soup
- Your sibling's daughter
- A long thin implement
- Late ESPN anchor
- Motives
- Astronomy term
- Semitic Sun god
- Small cigar
- Promotions
- Not off
- Line or plaster the roof
- African Indian people of Alberta, Canada
- Rituals
- Chlorine
- Red deer
- Offers a good view
- Post-indictment arrangement
- Blood group
- Razor clams
- Fleashes of animals
- Nipple
- Indicates position
- Electrocardiogram
- Can be disconnected
- Tall military cap
- Cape Verde capital
- Not written in any key
- Creative
- Suffix
- Stacked
- One who consumes
- Not he
- Whiskey and milk] are two
- Entryways
- ___ and cheese

CLUES DOWN

- Grey geese
- Meal in the park
- Human beings
- What thespians do
- Allow
- Third-party access
- "Casino Royale" villain Mikkelsen
- Painful foot problems
- The very first
- Lawful
- Ceramic jars
- Hind ends
- "Virginia Woolf" author
- Try
- For instance
- Academic terms
- Article
- Religious belief outside the mainstream
- Sound caused by reflection
- Greatly horrify
- Prey
- Forays
- River in eastern France
- Bleated
- Soft food cooked from buckwheat
- Pre-Mayan civilization
- Assert to be the case
- Inches per minute (abbr.)
- "Rosemary's Baby" actress Farrow
- Chinese philosophical principle
- Simpson trial judge

CLUES DOWN

- Marketplaces
- Hawaiian greeting
- Mark left by the sea
- Strongly affected by something
- Music and painting are two
- Small coin (French)
- Letter of the Greek alphabet
- A gesture involving the



GASOLINE AND JET FUEL ARE BOTH MADE FROM THIS RAW MATERIAL.

ANSWER: CRUDE OIL

Automotive Word Find

Find the hidden words in the puzzle.

- | | | |
|--------|----------|----------|
| BRAKES | ENGINE | OIL |
| CAR | MAINTAIN | STEERING |
| CARE | MECHANIC | TIRES |
| DRIVE | NOISES | TRUCK |

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

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

ERV ORUY NENGEI

ANSWER: Rev Your Engine

CANADA



HISTORY

1843

THE BRITISH BUILD FORT VICTORIA TO STRENGTHEN THEIR CLAIM TO VANCOUVER ISLAND.



CARE

doing what is necessary for maintenance



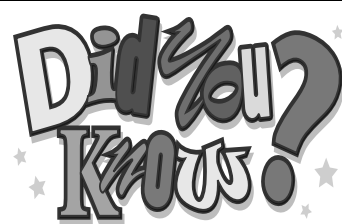
ENGLISH: Window

SPANISH: Ventana

ITALIAN: Finestra

FRENCH: Fenêtre

GERMAN: Fenster



RPM STANDS FOR REVOLUTIONS PER MINUTE. THIS IS A MEASURE OF THE FREQUENCY OF ROTATION OF A VEHICLE'S TIRES.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CAR GRILL



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you give everyone the benefit of the doubt, and that's commendable. Such a positive outlook will serve you and your relationships well.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, you may do a bunch of sitting around and waiting at work in the days ahead. Stay patient and rest up, as you'll need energy reserves when things pick up again.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Gemini, you may need to work on communicating with some coworkers. Mixed messages can lead to delays, so convene a meeting to clear the air.

CANCER – June 22/July 22

Cancer, in attempt to stay calm, you may be suppressing feelings that really should come to the surface. This may only lead to a blowout later on. Transparency is key.

LEO – July 23/Aug 23

Leo, it may be tempting to put on an overly cheery attitude, even if things are bugging you. Masking your true feelings may lead to miscommunication. Better to keep things honest.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, your ego is strong enough to withstand some criticism this week. Use the feedback to develop an even better version of yourself, which will only benefit you in the long run.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

A current situation has you feeling a bit pessimistic, Libra. But that outlook can be adjusted by looking into the future. Let upcoming plans restore your sunshine.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, this is a good week to discuss an important issue with that special someone. It's fine to have differing opinions, just be sure to respect each other's point of view.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, your energy levels may start off very high at the beginning of the week, but they may quickly fizzle out. Roll up your sleeves and try to trudge through.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Feeling needed this week can quickly

recharge your levels of motivation, Capricorn. Helping others is a surefire way to realize personal satisfaction.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you have an opportunity to further your education by doing some traveling. Don't let responsibilities at home clip your wings this time around.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, a busy work week is on the horizon, but you are set to make the most of every situation. Your confidence can make a difference.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY 4

Lawrence Taylor, Athlete (59)

FEBRUARY 5

Jeremy Sumpter, Actor (29)

FEBRUARY 6

Charlie Heaton, Actor (24)

FEBRUARY 7

Garth Brooks, Singer (56)

FEBRUARY 8

Seth Green, Actor (44)

FEBRUARY 9

Tom Hiddleston, Actor (37)

FEBRUARY 10

Elizabeth Banks, Actress (44)

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