

Inside this week



Gaspé airport: a project
to lengthen the runway



Minimum gauge
of lobster increases



Transport Quebec earmarks
\$153M for Gaspesian roads

The Gaspé Spec

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Winter Carnival at New Richmond High School

Wendy Dawson

NEW RICHMOND: The Winter Carnival at New Richmond High School provided the perfect lead into March Break which followed the end of the week's events.

The New Richmond CLC in collaboration with NRHS's Home and School hosted a week of events for elementary students which included thematic days and friendly competition to lighten up the end of February.

Everyday of the week included a theme. Superheros, Western Day, Career Day, Crazy Hair Day and an end of week visit to the Bruce Ritchie Pool provided students and teachers alike a happy diversion from daily class.

CLC coordinator Trudy Brown was very pleased with the participation of teachers and students alike. "The level of participation of the kids was great, and they were really so creative." On Wednesday poor weather forced the students to stay inside. Explained Trudy "Of course a Winter Carnival would mean having a variety of activities outside, but the weather just didn't allow it. So with the help of Mark Galli-bois, we put together an obstacle course and a game based on the old Minesweeper video game that we all used to play on our computers. The kids really enjoyed that too and showed some good collaboration, pulling together to help students get as far ahead as they could."

The week's events were tied together with all elementary classrooms decorating their doors in the theme of Winter Wonderland. "It was a great way to get ready for March Break," explained Ms. Brown.

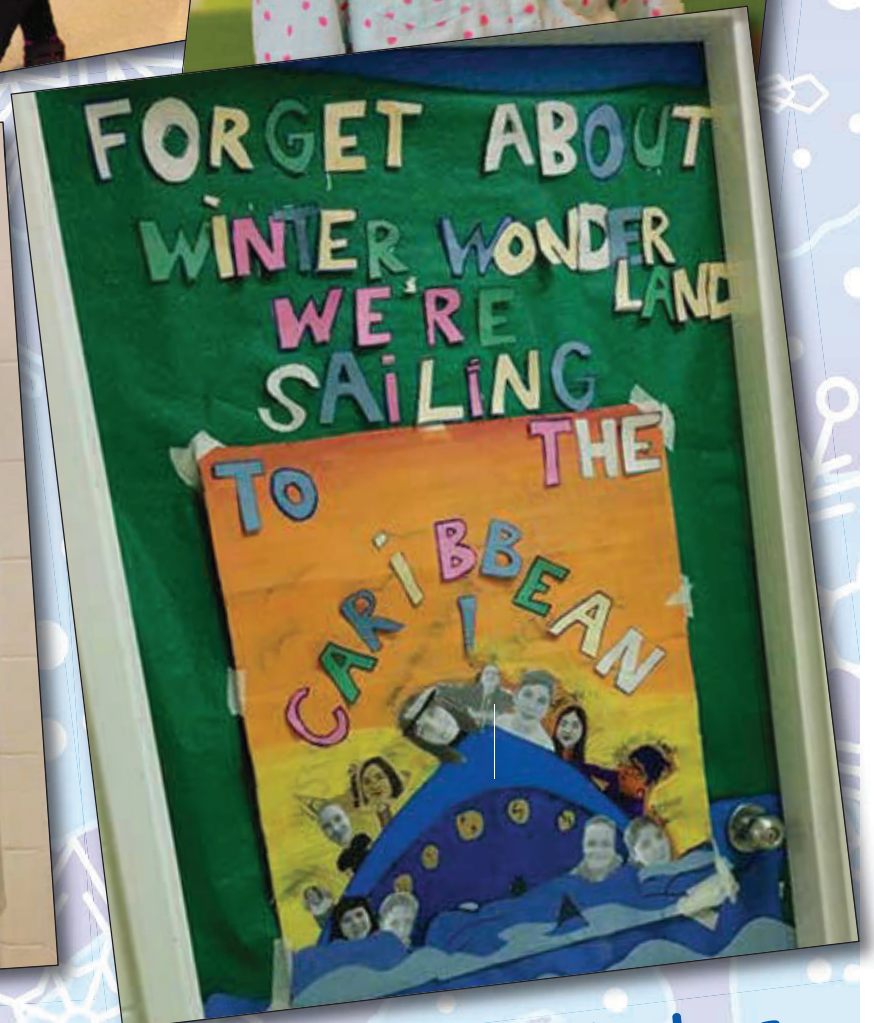
Super Hero Day



Cowboy Day



Career Day



The Grade 6 class
was already dreaming
of a holiday

Photos: Darlene Dimock

Heartfelt cry to save Vachon Lake

Thierry Haroun

CHANDLER: - The members of the governing board of the Revitalization Committee of Vachon Lake in Chandler have decided not to renew their mandate for another two years. The decision is mainly because of pollution related to the chlorine that was dumped in the lake for years from the Chandler Polyvalent's swimming pool.

Spec's journalist was present at its Annual General Meeting which took place recently at Chandler's Arena community room. The now former President of the Committee, Marylin Duguay, spoke about activities over the years to make the lake and its environment a better place to live around, its pedestrian paths and other rest areas, which were a success. But the chlorine issue was just too much. Despite the efforts they made to convince the Town (owner of the lake) and the Commission Scolaire René-Lévesque (owner of the swimming pool) to find a solution to end the chlorine problem, no solution was put forward.

After her heartfelt speech asking the partners involved to save the lake she said that the members wouldn't renew their mandate and would leave it to others to continue the work they started. There was no one on hand to take their places so there was no vote to elect new members. Therefore, all the documents, reports and other financial results will be passed on to the Town of Chandler that will, at term, transfer it to the new Committee if ever there's an-



Photo: courtesy of Marylin Duguay

Marylin Duguay, former President of Revitalization Committee of Vachon Lake.

other one.

After the meeting, Ms. Duguay gave Spec a short interview during which she insisted that she wasn't pointing fingers at any one or at any organization. "We're not blaming any one, but we don't feel that there's a true will by the parties involved to do something about it. Overall, we as members, think that we did what we had to do and we wish the best for those who take over the Committee because we truly believe in this cause for the betterment of our community and our beautiful Town. But the reality is that this lake is seriously deteriorating," she concluded.

The lake is in such bad health, because of the chlorine dumped in it, that there are no more fish in it and no more frogs around it. Moreover, green algae are growing more and more in it. The numbers from the committee show that 450 000 litres of chlorine water are dumped by the pool once a year to empty it totally in June and 44 times per year it does a backwash. For every backwash, 6800 litres are dumped by the pool. This said, currently there are discussions going on between the Commission Scolaire and the Town to find a long-term solution. But we still don't know who's going to pay the bill.

News briefs

The forgotten ones of the Health Sector

Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ PENINSULA: - Besides the nurses, it's now the members of the APTS de la Gaspésie ringing the alarm bells concerning their situation in the health sector. This organisation has 900 members in the Gaspé. They work in many fields in the region, such as psychologists, technicians of all sorts, clinical support, prevention readaptation, nutrition, office work, etc. They are the forgotten ones in the region, the ones not covered by the media as much as doctors or nurses, but they are in a way the backbone of the system. To make themselves heard, they have launched a campaign called "Is Anybody Home?" referring to the lack of attention they get from the Quebec Health Ministry and its Minister, Gaétan Barrette. "We invite our members to call us anonymously and tell us about the distress they live on a daily basis and talk about the Omerta that exists within the Ministry. Did you know that a recent survey shows that 50% of our members are faced with serious distress on the job?" said Guy-laine Michel, regional spokesperson for the APTS. Across the province, the APTS has 52,000 members.

\$2.5 million to be invested through the FARR

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: - Forty-two Gaspesian projects will share \$2.5 million from the Quebec government's *Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions* (FARR), announced the minister responsible for the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands, Pierre Moreau, who was in Sainte-Anne-des-Monts on March 8 and 9. The Commission jeunesse gets \$412,000 to implement a strategy for the sustainable settlement of people on the peninsula. The *Technocentre des technologies de l'information et des communications* will use \$300,000 from the FARR in a digital strategy for the Gaspé. The Chaleur Bay Chamber of commerce gets \$100,000 to set up a fund for business succession. The Committee for Anglophone Social Action (CASA) receives \$40,000 to "mobilize the anglophone community of the Gaspé."

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PUBLIC NOTICE

MINOR EXEMPTION FROM URBANISM BY-LAWS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town Council, at a regular meeting that will be held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at 8 pm, will consider the request for minor exemption from the zoning By-Law 1156-11, presented by Isabelle Simard, notary, for a property situated at 221, Domagaya street.

The nature and consequences of this exemption are the following:

- the nature of the minor exemption is to reduce of 38cm the minimum distance required of 1.5 m from the left lateral line expected at the article 8.8.1 of the zoning By-Law 1156-11.
- the minor exemption will have for consequence to regularize the implantation of an isolated shed located at 1.12 m from the left lateral line.

During this meeting, the Town Council will hear the interested wishing to be heard on that request.

Given at Gaspé, March 14, 2018.

Sébastien Fournier,
Assistant clerk

H & S Tax Return Services

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- Call Donna Harrison or Louis Sexton at any time in Cascapedia-St-Jules at (418) 759-5790.
- Call the Spec office on Tuesdays at their new address: 208-B Gérard D. Levesque, New Carlisle (front west entrance) from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at (418) 752-5400.
- Email taxes.serviceshs@gmail.com

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A BAPE on the Galt oil project

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – Gaspésians will have a chance to give their views on the exploitation of Galt oil before the Bureau d’audiences publiques sur l’environnement. Junex wants to drill 30 wells and exploit Galt property for 40 years which is located 20 kilometres west of Gaspé.

Local representatives were guaranteed a *Bureau d’audiences publiques sur l’environnement* (BAPE) process on March 7, when they met with employees of the Quebec ministries of Energy and Environment. “We’re satisfied,” says Côte-de-Gaspé MRC prefect and Gaspé Mayor Daniel Côté.

Effective March 23, oil and gas production or storage projects will be subject to the BAPE assessment. “The Galt project can’t avoid this-process, even if the company applied for an operating lease before the law was revised,” explains Mr. Côté.

The BAPE will also examine oil and gas projects in hydrous environments, stipulates the project of regulation on the environmental impact assessment and review procedure, adopted in December. Exploration drillings on dry land won’t be subjected to the BAPE process.

The Galt exploration is the most advanced oil project in the Gaspé Peninsula. Quebec-based company Junex filed for an operating lease with the Quebec Energy and Natural Resources Ministry in September 2016, but has not obtained its lease yet. The project would create 25 jobs for eight years, while new drillings are carried out, and about 10 jobs during the exploitation phase.

No hydraulic fracturing is planned, reports prefect Côté. Junex and its partners have invested \$32 million in Galt. Horizontal well Galt No. 4, one of five wells already drilled on the site, has produced 17,798 barrels of oil during a 221-day period of testing in 2015 and 2016.

A communication channel

Daniel Côté is pleased that “a communication channel,” was established with the department of Energy and Natural Resources and with the Sustainable Development and Environment ministry.

The Côte-de-Gaspé mayors had asked for an informa-

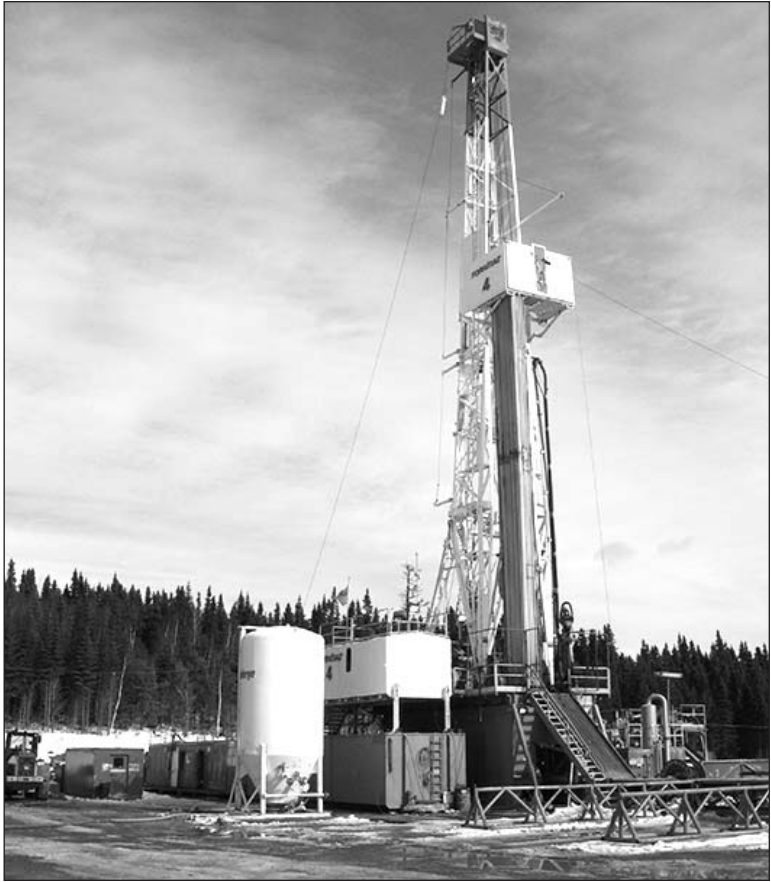


Photo: G. Gélinas

Junex has five wells on its Galt property, among them the Galt No. 4 horizontal drilling, dating back to 2014.

tion session with those ministries. In a survey made last fall in their MRC, between one half and two thirds of the respondents stated that they were badly informed or that they didn’t know the oil and gas projects.

Before the March 7 meeting, “we didn’t know who to contact and get information from and we wanted the ministry to recognize its role. The objective has been achieved. There’s an order from minister Pierre Moreau (Energy and Natural Resources) for the provincial employees to be transparent and to answer the elected representatives’ questions,” says Mr. Côté. In the future, the provincial employees could also inform the population through public meetings, he adds.

What about Bourque and Haldimand?

The Pieridae Energy project at Bourque, between Murdochville and Grande-Vallée, is not ready yet for the BAPE process, states Mr. Côté. “It’s not very advanced and the results are contradictory.”

According to a Sproule report published in November, the development plan proposed by Pieridae relies on hydraulic multistage fracturing, that is to say the application of

fracturing over multiple segments within the well. The company filed no request with the Energy and Natural Resources ministry for a licence of that kind, reports prefect Côté.

The same report announced that the volume of oil initially in-place in the Bourque reservoir was estimated at between 256 million and 1.6 billion barrels. According to the ministry experts, the potential would be around 256 million barrels, and only 2.5% of that oil could be recovered, mayor Côté reports. “We’re rather talking about 6 million barrels that could be extracted. We’re not in Texas or in Alberta.”

As for the Pieridae project in Haldimand, it won’t be the subject of a BAPE in the near future, for the simple reason that the company could abandon the project.

“It looks like there’s not much going on. The ministries received no request for further work. The politicians and administrations’ interpretation is that it really looks like the project has ended and if it has ended, that’s a good thing,” says Daniel Côté.

One of three wells, Haldimand No. 4, is located 350 meters from houses. The project has aroused controversy over the years.

Police report

On March 5 a fire heavily damaged the Heritage Restaurant in New Carlisle. The alarm was given at 3:30 p.m. after flames were detected on the main floor of the building. “It was located on the back part of the building. It was accidental. No foul play is suspected. I cannot talk about the cause of the fire for now because I haven’t met with the insurance representative,” says Bonaventure MRC fire chief, David Thibeault. The building is salvageable, he adds. “It is an old building, with many layers of tongue-and-groove boards. The first row is damaged but structurally, the building is not affected. I expect the estimate of damages to reach between \$200,000 and \$300,000, and because it is a commercial building, the owner will have to deal with a contractor. The decision is not mine, as it will be made once the owner and the insurance representative have met, I guess,” says Mr. Thibeault.

Thirty firefighters from New Carlisle, Paspebiac and Bonaventure intervened for about four hours to extinguish that fire. Water, smoke and heat caused as much damage as the fire itself. Traffic on Highway 132 was limited to one-way on an alternate basis for about two hours following the alarm.

Coroner Mélissa-Amélie Plourde ruled that the death of Ewen Soulard, a French student who died after falling from the roof of the Gaspé Cegep on October 6, 2015, was accidental. The young man accessed the roof by using stairs and then ventured to a sloped portion of the roof. He slipped and fell from a height of 12 metres. He died instantly. Since that tragic event, the access to the roof has been temporarily blocked and further work will be carried out over the spring to secure that access permanently.

At the Percé courthouse, Jimmy Briand, 25, from Chandler was found guilty of possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking and was sentenced to 14 months in jail. At the Percé courthouse, Rémi Huard, 48, from Grand River, was found guilty of assault causing bodily harm, illegal possession and handling of a firearm, illegal storage of a firearm, obstruction in the work of a police officer and possession of drugs and was sentenced to 14 months in jail.

The Quebec Ministry of Forests, Wildlife and Parks is trying to solve a poaching case. A deer carcass was discovered in a hockey gear bag, along the side of McGrath Street in the Pabos Mills sector of Chandler. Game wardens have launched an investigation into that case. Sgt. Richard Hamel, in charge of the game warden squad for the Gaspé Peninsula, is inviting the public to communicate any information that would help his team solve this case.

On March 2, Mathieu Faulkner-Gendreau, 36, from Rivière-au-Renard, was arrested following a drug bust carried out in two houses. During that bust, the officers found 500 methamphetamine pills, 2.3 kilograms of cannabis, a certain amount of cash and drug paraphernalia. On March 5, the accused appeared at the Percé courthouse on charges of possession of cannabis for the purpose of trafficking, drug trafficking and breach of conditions. He was remanded in custody and must return to court on March 12.





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Commentary

Gilles Gagné

Trump fuels chaos once again

The president of the United States, Donald Trump, created havoc once again a few days ago by threatening to impose tariffs of 25% and 10% on steel and aluminum imports, respectively.

Officially, Trump wants to stimulate two industries that are not what they used to be in his country, or so he says. He consequently thinks that he can boost those industries by making life more difficult for the foreign producers of the two commodities.

Canada and Mexico figure on that list of steel and aluminum producers but so are Germany and China, among others. For a tentative period of 30 days, Canada and Mexico are spared the commercial tariffs.

It is not easy to read Trump's mind, or decode his statements. His attempts to "make America great again" are most of the time awkward, ill-fated, insulting, misleading, inconsistent or based on ignorance, sometimes all of the above.

Take aluminum for example. Producing aluminum requires a huge quantity of affordable energy. That is why Canada, mostly Quebec since all the country's aluminum plants except one are located in the Belle

province, is an important aluminum supplier. There are occasional sources of cheap energy in the United States, like shale gas, but they are subjected to fluctuating prices that are not consistent with stable production costs over 20, 30 or 40 years. That is what aluminum producers are looking for.

However, aluminum processing is alive and well in the United States. In fact, Quebecers often complain about the fact that the bulk of their aluminum production crosses the American border without much processing. Developing finished products is not as easy as it looks because they are often light and take up space. That represents a transportation hurdle. So sending aluminum blocks weighing 30 tons south of the border often makes economic sense. It is not always ideal for both countries but it is more often than not the most efficient way to proceed.

Another factor explaining the importance of leaving aluminum and steel untouched by trade tariffs comes from the multitude of border crossings by some metal products, like those used by the automobile industry. Some parts will cross the border half-a-dozen times before a full car is assembled, if not more.

Most Canadian and American economic stakeholders have understood that, but not Donald Trump. It is either too complicated for the American president, or it is not in tune with his political agenda. Chances are that both reasons are right.

Since the November 2016 election, President Trump has shown a liking for simplicity, but elevated to a degree where simplistic notions dominate. Multi cross-border shipments and real economic efficiency are obviously too complicated for him.

It is also too complicated for a dominant sampling of the people voting for him. They will stick to "make

America great again" and wave topics requiring thorough reasoning. That is where Trump's political agenda comes before economic efficiency.

A growing number of American and European observers also think that Donald Trump is creating chaos in international trade because he wants the United States to pull out of the World Trade Organization. He could then run the show, at least in his country.

That World Trade Organization "deals with the global rules of trade between nations. Its main function is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible". The problem is that such a goal doesn't rhyme with Donald Trump's conception of making America great again. In his mind, protectionism is. It must be said that the World Trade Organization has often been inefficient in recent years, a situation Mr. Trump is taking advantage of.

His political agenda will likely explode in his face just the same though. The Congress majority of the Republican Party will probably not vote for the imposition of trade tariffs, not only to Canada and Mexico but possibly to Germany and China as well because many elected people can foresee the detrimental effects of botched protectionism on the American economy. For example, increasing the production of raw steel and aluminum will likely take a decade, without guarantee of profitability.

The companies themselves are not favouring Trump's protectionist model, as they are often the ones that have opted for the advantages offered by a broad range of countries, through investments here and there.

The president will likely hit an economic wall in that file. The big uncertainty is the political gains he can reap in the process.



Guest Commentary

Cynthia Dow

From Women's Day to a Women's World

I got quite a few comments on my November commentary about the #Me, too movement, entitled "This is a man's world." A lot of people were surprised by my experiences of male domination in so many aspects of my life. But most of the women who mentioned it to me recognized their own lives in what I wrote. They know, have known, all their lives: negotiating the male – female divide has always been tricky.

Looking back on my experiences with sexual harassment and assault, I realize how much I contributed to the issue by accepting it as the norm, and trying to live around it. I should have pushed back from day one. But it's hard to do so when everyone else is accepting the same situation. What would my

life have been like if I had decided to take on male dominance? Truth is, it never even occurred to me.

Now as an older woman it's not even an issue. I can barely remember the last time I was propositioned! This may make some people sad; for me it has been a liberation. Finally, free to be me with no games to play and no need to stand up for myself and demand respect! Hallelujah!

So how do we move on? What should balanced, fair and respectful male – female relationships look like?

First of all, women have to stop putting up with bad behaviour. And that means they have to be OK with being alone, as some relationships are not going to survive their assertiveness. And that means that we have to instil in our youth of all genders the self-esteem and confidence to face the world on their own merits and with their own dreams firmly intact. Doesn't sound bad, does it?

Secondly, we have to stand up for each other. We have to encourage each other. We have to speak up when confronted with uncomfortable situations. We have to speak clearly about what we will and won't do: in the living room, in the kitchen, in the bedroom. And in the boardroom for that matter!

Thirdly, we have to have a clear vision of what we

want our relationships to look like, to feel like, to deliver. And we have to describe that vision to our partners, openly and honestly.


Now let's give ourselves the luxury to dream about how the world would look if women were the ones in power. If we didn't just celebrate women one day a week, but if this was a Women's world! If women were the majority of politicians, business leaders, university profs, police, civil servants. I'd like to think that the world would be a friendlier and healthier place, not because women are superior, but because we are different, and often have different values.

I'd like to think there would be a lot less warring, a lot more peace. Women know the cost of loving, raising, and losing children too well to risk losing anyone's child, even children not their own. I just don't see a council of women advocating war and sending young men and women off to the slaughter.

I'd like to think that public investment would go where it really counts: to things like free quality day care, free education from Kindergarten to doctoral degrees. To help for single mums, and families struggling to support children with special needs. To quality food grown on healthy land available at a decent price. Instead of to cement plants, oil and gas companies, and other corporate interests who really don't need the money, but who are great at getting it.

I'd like to think that, with women in charge, we would take much better care of our elders, with beautiful roomy residences. With commitments to keep aging couples together despite differing care needs. To bringing children in on a regular basis to amuse the old ones and bring wisdom to the young!

I'd like to think that if women ran the economy, we'd have an annual guaranteed income that would relieve the pressure on so many workers these days who are juggling several part-time jobs offering no benefits and low wages. I'd like to think female corporate leaders would put their efforts into sustainable industries, increasing our reliance on renewable energy systems and finding the benefits in cleaning up pollution. Am I dreaming in technicolour? I don't think so, because I know a lot of people, men included, who'd like exactly the same thing! Let's go there! Let's make it happen!



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Gaspé airport: a project to lengthen the runway

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – The Town of Gaspé wants to lengthen its airport runway by 305 meters, to allow larger planes to land and reduce the number of flights cancelled because of bad weather.

The runway would be extended from 1,372 meters to 1,677 meters. The trend in regional transport is to use Bombardier Q400 aircrafts, which carry 70 passengers. “It can land in Gaspé, but only if the weather is optimal,” says Gaspé Mayor Daniel Côté.

In Gaspé, Air Canada Jazz uses Bombardier Dash 8-100 and 300, which respectively carry 37 and 50 passengers. Even they don’t land when the cloud ceiling is under 168 meters or when the visibility is lower than 2.8 kilometers. In 2017, 109 flights were cancelled, that is to say 7.5 % of the flights, the vast majority of them because of the weather. In



Photo: G. Gélinas

To lengthen the runway would allow larger planes to land in Gaspé. Air Canada Jazz currently uses Dash 8-100 (on the picture) and Dash 8-300 on the Gaspé.

2016, there were 135 flights (9.2 %) and in 2015, 95 flights (6.5 %). With an expanded runway, “the approaches would be more secure and easy, we would increase the landing rate. We could also

set up an LPV system,” the mayor explains. The LPV (localizer performance with vertical guidance) system is an instrument approach that makes landing easier in bad weather. For that type of ap-

proach, the planes have to get equipped with a GPS and are satellite-guided. The Q400 have the required equipment for the LPV approach, explains Mr. Côté. The Dash 8-100 and 300 don’t have it. The Town of

Gaspé, owner of the airport, hesitate to equip its airport for the LPV approach, an expense of several thousand dollars which would be useless with the current Dash 8.

A longer runway would also “secure the coming of the new hospital plane of the Quebec Government,” the mayor adds.

The runway can be lengthened in spite of the mountains surrounding it, Mr. Côté states. “We can slightly change the angle to navigate between the mountains.”

The Municipality of Gaspé is currently getting ready to file for funding with the Quebec and Canada governments. The topic was on the agenda of the municipal council meeting on March 5. The council postponed the meeting to March 19, in order to finalize its project. Until then, mayor Côté doesn’t want to discuss the cost of the runway expansion.

Transport Quebec earmarks \$135M for Gaspesian roads

An increase from last year but still below the average for the decade

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND – Transport Quebec will invest \$135 million in the Gaspé Peninsula’s roads and bridges over the next two years, including \$9 million in the Magdalen Islands. It means \$67.5 million for the region yearly, which is higher than the \$56 million allotted a year ago, but way lower than the average of the last decade, \$90.9 million.

The two largest investments over the next two years will occur in Hope Town and Chandler. Each of the two projects will generate money injection ranging between \$10 million and \$25 million.

In Hope Town, the bridge on Highway 132 located in the barachois area has to be replaced. It was built at the beginning of the 1960s and had to undergo urgent repairs of close to \$1 million in December 2015, due to the state of the structure.

In Chandler, the long-awaited reconstruction of Highway 132 in the Newport and Pabos Mills area, where sharp curves have caused many truck-and-trailer tandems to tip over the years, will take place. Residents of the area have waited at least 25 years for that decision. Highway 132 will be moved to the north over a couple of kilometres.



Photo: G. Gagné

The Highway 132 bridge in Hope Town, which underwent urgent repairs in December 2015, will be completely rebuilt.

The amounts revealed by Transport Quebec only identify an interval of numbers because ministry authorities can’t provide accurate numbers prior to the call for tender process, in an attempt to get the lowest bids possible.

Seven work sites located along the Peninsula’s south shore will necessitate investments ranging between \$1 and \$5 million. They will take different forms.

Stabilization work is planned in Shigawake over a distance of 200 metres in the Sullivan’s Cove area, where a landslide caused by erosion

forced Transport Quebec to move Highway 132 slightly to the north at the end of May 2017.

The culverts of Bougainville Road in Percé will be upgraded over the next two years. The same kind of work will also take place on the Saint-Edgar Road in New Richmond. The Perron boulevard bridge spanning the Little Cascapedia River in New Richmond will be improved as well.

In the Cape Cove area of Percé, asphalt will be laid over a distance of 4.2 kilometres. In the New Richmond area asphalt will also be laid, between

Des Lilas and Garrett roads, in Black Cape along Highway 132. The centre area of Nouvelle will also benefit from major asphalt laying, over a distance of 2.6 kilometres in that case.

The road budget for the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands was announced on March 8 by Minister Pierre Moreau, who is responsible for the region.

Up to 115 road construction sites will be active in the region in 2018-2019 and 2019-2020. Minister Moreau says that these projects will provide work for 855 people. These

jobs are either maintained or created. The number of upgraded or rebuilt structures amounts to 46, with 28 that are part of Transport Quebec’s network and 18 that are owned by municipalities.

Over the 10 previous years, the largest annual investment announced came in 2010-2011, with an amount of \$141 million.

In 2016-2017, the amount announced was the smallest of the decade, with \$49 million, which was after the second smallest amount, of \$54.1 million, in 2015-2016.

It is worth noting that the undermining related to pillar number 3 of the Highway 132 bridge spanning the Grand Cascapedia River was first observed in 2015 but it was decided at the time that repair work could wait. Work was not carried out in 2016 either. That pillar shift caused the closure of the bridge on May, 2017, and the bridge is currently being upgraded. It will not reopen until June.

Transport Quebec authorities have always refused to link the displacement of pillar number 3 to budget cuts and austerity, even though the problem was detected and purposely not solved over the two years marked by that department’s smallest budgetary envelopes of the last decade.

CRAB FISHING:

Quota to drop 42% but prices expected to remain high

Gilles Gagné

PASPEBIAC: – The Gaspé Peninsula’s main snow crab stakeholders quietly accept the idea that the quota will likely be reduced by 42% in the southern part of the gulf of Saint Lawrence, because the expected volume for 2018 will return to an average level.

Nobody was expecting a repeat of 2017. The global quota will likely decrease from 43,475 metric tonnes to 25,286 metric tonnes. This is due to a predictable decrease in the number of mature crab. That biomass went from 99,125 to 66,021 metric tonnes between the surveys of 2016 and 2017. The exploitation rate of that stock will drop as well, from 44% to 38.3% as a precautionary measure.

Bill Sheehan, vice-president of E. Gagnon et Fils, in Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé, is not too worried about the quota drop in the southern part of the gulf. E. Gagnon et Fils is the largest snow crab processor in Quebec, and possibly in Eastern Canada.

“It will be comparable to 2016. It is back to normal. It is not a disaster like in 2010,” he says, referring to the 63% quota drop of eight years ago.

“This year could even yield a quota slightly higher than in 2016. It would then be the second highest quota of the last 10 years,” adds Mr. Sheehan.

Independently from the Canadian dollar and the exchange rate, the price of snow crab will probably be as high as last year for the fishermen because other fishing zones are experiencing quota drops.

“The quota in Alaska fell to 20 million pounds. It has



Photos: G. Gagné
The president of the Gaspesian Crab Fishermen Association, Daniel Desbois, says that the 2018 quota will return to an average level, despite a significant decrease.

sometimes reached more than 100 million pounds in the past. Twenty million pounds represents less than twice the processing capacity of our plant in the spring. The Newfoundland quotas are also falling. Last year, the catches in the gulf were higher than the landings in Newfoundland, where they could drop again this year. The quotas in zones 16 and 17 (in the Saint Lawrence estuary) should increase a bit and it is possible that Russia will increase its deliveries. All things considered, there should be less crab on the markets and the price should remain high,” says Mr. Sheehan.

In 2017, Gaspé Peninsula snow crab fishermen received around \$5 per pound from processing plants.

At the end of February, the price of snow crab sections was comparable on the American market to the level of 2017 at the same period. “It will look like 2017. The exchange rate

will be the important factor,” says Bill Sheehan.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada economist Martial Ménard confirms Bill Sheehan’s view.

“The wholesale price has been stable at \$US8.25 per pound, or \$10.25 in Canadian dollars, for the sections weighing between five and eight ounces, between August 2017 and January 2018 inclusively,” he says.

“It is a bit surprising that the price of snow crab has not risen since the announcement that the Alaska quota is falling (...) How can we explain that reality? Is it possible that the average price has reached such a high level that it stands still, at its maximum? A high price for the fishermen means that the wholesale price and ultimately the retail price will also be high. That price stability is necessary because there is a limit beyond which the consumer doesn’t have the capac-

ity to pay for snow crab,” explains Mr. Ménard.

Crab fishermen reaction

Daniel Desbois, president of the Gaspesian Crab Fishermen’s Association, says the cut in the quota is “quite predictable. Although we thought it would be closer to 30% (instead of 42%). It remains within the uncertainty numbers. It will still be a good year. Last year was exceptional.”

From a volume of 450,000 pounds per permit, the individual quota will fall to approximately 250,000 pounds. This is the recommendation of the Fisheries and Oceans Canada biologists. “They (the ministry)

follow a formula since it was implemented, three years ago and they have stuck to it,” says Mr. Desbois.

The possibility of a strong price for the fishermen is certainly reassuring for him. “It augurs well. The Alaska quota has diminished again. Only the zones located on the north side of the Gaspé Peninsula will get higher quotas. Those quotas are not rising enough to have an effect on the (overall) price.”

The crab fishermen keep a close eye on the exchange rate. “The Canadian dollar is a little less advantageous now than at the same time last year but there is usually a depreciation of our dollar in the spring,” states Mr. Desbois.

A weaker Canadian dollar compared to the American dollar or Japan’s yen is advantageous for exporters, as they get paid in foreign currencies. The fishermen benefit indirectly from strong export prices.

Bill Sheehan is also watching the evolution of the Canadian dollar.

“It was \$1.24 and it went to \$1.27 (Canadian dollar for one American dollar) in a week, recently. It was \$1.39 during last year’s season. We certainly hope that the Canadian dollar depreciates over the next weeks. However, there is a difference between crab and lobster. Marketing crab takes longer and the market fluctuates more,” concludes Mr. Sheehan.

E. Gagnon et Fils to hire Mexican workers

Gilles Gagné

PASPEBIAC: - E. Gagnon et Fils employs approximately 500 people during the peak spring season, which includes plant workers, wharf workers and the administrative staff.

For the first time this year, the company will hire foreign workers, 30 Mexicans, during the processing period. The company will supply their housing needs.

“Nobody from the region will lose work. We have recruiting problems. The workforce is aging. With 500 employees, there are a few employees that are sick every day and can’t make it to work. Moreover, we are

developing specialized products requiring more manhandling for the Japanese market. We need additional workers. We have reached the point, of hiring foreign workers. The other option is technology. Every year, we add things (equipment) to the plant but there is no breakthrough in crab and lobster processing comparable to shrimp for example,” explains Bill Sheehan.

Last year, the Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé plant of E. Gagnon et Fils processed 12.7 million pounds of snow crab, a peak since the Sheehan family bought the facility in February 2010. The plant should process around 8 million pounds in 2018.



Bill Sheehan (far right), thinks that the price of snow crab will remain high this year because of overall quota drops. He is joined here by his brothers Jerry and George, and their father Raymond, the president of the company.

Minimum gauge of lobster to increase for the first time since 2003

Gilles Gagné

PASPEBIAC: – Gaspesian lobster fishermen have agreed to increase the minimum legal size of their catches, a majority decision that will be applied in 2018. That legal gauge will rise from 82 to 82.55 millimetres at the lobster’s cephalothorax.

This decision should have a positive effect on egg laying. The measure doesn’t apply to fishermen between Mont-Louis and Cape Gaspé, on the north side of the peninsula, since those fishermen are already using an 83 millimetre gauge.

The bulk of Gaspé Peninsula lobster fishermen, based between Cape Gaspé and Miguasha, had refused the gauge increase to 82.55 millimetres in February 2017. The corresponding meeting in 2018 led to an approval of the measure.

“The increase of the size to 82.55 millimetres confirms that all the lobster sold will have a weight of one pound, which ensures their entry into the United States without getting stuck at customs. It is the legal size in the United States, 82.55 millimetres,” explains O’Neil Cloutier, director of the Southern Gaspé Professional Fishermen’s Group.

“The effects of the increase applied this year will be evaluated in 2020 and at the same time, we will analyse the relevance of increasing the gauge to 83 millimetres,” adds Mr. Cloutier.



Photos: G. Gagné

The increase of the minimum legal size will ensure that all lobster caught in the Gaspé Peninsula can make it through the United States’ border.

Gaspesian lobster fishermen have not increased the gauge of their shellfish since 2003. Between 1997 and 2003, the legal size was increased from 78 to 82 millimetres, adding one millimetre every second year according to the “go-no go” principle.

“The goal was to reach 83 millimetres back then but the fishermen were not able to live well off the resource at that time and there was a pause,” notes Mr. Cloutier.

The pause lasted for 15 years. The measures implemented from 1998 and on yielded the expected results, although it implied sacrifices. The number of permits was cut by close to 30% and the

number of fishing days and traps per fisherman was also reduced.

Gaspesian lobster fishermen have collectively tripled their catches over the last decade and prices, hit by a slump between 2010 and 2013, have improved sharply over the last four years.

“We had kept an open door to increasing the legal size in the plan we submitted to the MSC (the Marine Stewardship Council durable fisheries certification obtained in 2015). It is a measure that strengthens our size structure. Our lobster will be bigger. It (the size increase) doesn’t concern a big part of the stock. The (short term) effect will be less than 5% in fishing. It (the increase) concerns 60% of the females and 40% of the males. Egg laying will increase,” says O’Neil Cloutier.

The lobster fishermen also adopted modifications to the maximum size of the lobster catches in certain sectors of the Gaspé Peninsula.

Until 2017, the maximum size of catches of 145 millimetres at the cephalothorax was only applied to zone 20, between Cape Gaspé and Bonaventure. In zones 19, between Mont-Louis and Cape

Gaspé, and in zone 21, between Bonaventure and Miguasha, the maximum size was 155 millimetres.

“We wanted 145 millimetres everywhere. A study was conducted last year and 32,000 lobster were measured in the Forillon sector and 35,000 in the Baie des Chaleurs area. Reducing the maximum size of lobster would only cut the catches by 0.5%. The gauge will be cut to 150 millimetres in 2018 for zones 19 and 21, then to 145 millimetres in 2019. The goal is to leave the biggest breeders in the water,” emphasizes M. Cloutier.

Scientists have noticed over the years that the biggest breeders make more robust juvenile lobster and that their survival rate is higher.

Right whale

Gaspé Peninsula lobster fishermen are expected to receive instructions regarding right whales, although those sea mammals usually feed far from the shore and lobster fishing usually takes place near the coast.

“We will get a file about them in our (electronic) log-book. Lobster fishermen navigate in shallow waters. We rarely see them. We will be asked to notify them, probably so to find their migration pattern,” explains Mr. Cloutier.

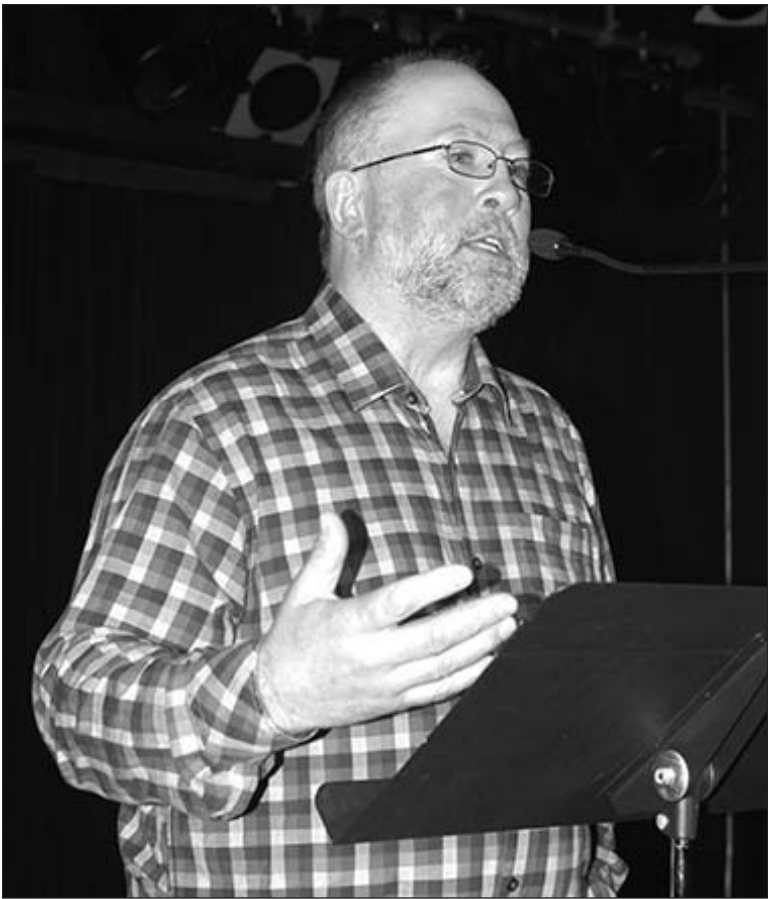
Experimental sector

Meanwhile, the federal department of Fisheries and Oceans will implement an experimental lobster fishery in a new sector on the north side of the Gaspé Peninsula, between Rivière-à-Claude, a village located about 40 kilometres east of Sainte-Anne-des-Monts and Tartigou River, a location situated near Baie-des-Sables, west of Matane.

“It is to check to see if there is an abundance of lobster in that zone, if it could eventually sustain commercial fishing,” points out O’Neil Cloutier.

For now, lobster fishing is slated to open on April 21 in most of zone 20, usually in the area that covers the centre of the Gaspé Peninsula’s south shore.

“There will be many conference calls before confirming that date, mostly to check for the presence of ice,” concludes Mr. Cloutier.



O’Neil Cloutier says that the new measures implemented with regard to the legal gauge will increase eggs laid.





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Happy ST. PATRICK'S day

ST. PATRICK'S DAY ACTIVITIES ON THE COAST

YORK: FRIDAY, MARCH 16:

The York River Seniors Club will hold a St. Patrick's Supper and Dance 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: SATURDAY, MARCH 17:

4 p.m. Mass / 5 p.m. Supper at St. Patrick's Church
On the Menu: Roast pork loin with vegetables or Irish stew
Adults \$10, children \$5. Takeouts available at 4:45 p.m. Everyone welcome

NEW CARLISLE FRIDAY, MARCH 16:

Party with Landsmen and friends performing St. Paddy's themed favourites and a vast array of upbeat music from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight at the Royal Canadian Legion. \$10 cover charge.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: FRIDAY, MARCH 16

Concert at 7 p.m. at the 50+ Club Adults \$4, children \$2

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

4 p.m. Special Mass at the church with Father Pierre Edaye

SUNDAY MARCH 18

Bar service will be open at 2 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion
Pot Luck Supper at the Community Centre. Cost is \$12 adults, \$5 children under 12. Everyone welcome

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**THE MUNICIPALITY OF
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invites you all to join us in
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Friday, March 16

CONCERT at 7 p.m. at 50+ Club
\$4 Adults, \$2 children

Saturday, March 17:

ST. PATRICK'S MASS at 4 p.m. at the
Saint-Jules Parish Church with
Father Pierre Edaye

Sunday, March 18

There will be a BAR SERVICE at the
Royal Canadian Legion
Sunday afternoon starting at 2 p.m.

POT LUCK SUPPER will be held at our
Community Centre on Gallagher Road
from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. All donations of
food would be greatly appreciated.

The cost is \$12 for adults
and \$5 for children under 12.

Hope to see all the "Irish" there!

Four local Native women attend Elected Women’s Conference in Gatineau

Gilles Gagné

LISTUGUJ: – Four local women recently attended the Elected Women’s Conference hosted by the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador. Listuguj councillor Cathy Martin, Gesgapegiag councillor Patsy Jerome, Gespeg chief Manon Jeannotte and Gespeg councillor Nathalie English, attended the event which took place between February 27 and March 1, in Gatineau.

The main theme of the conference was “Women and governance – advocating for change”. The primary objective of the event was to develop and formalize the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL) Elected Women’s Table and create terms of references to define roles, functions, mandate and primary responsibilities. This meeting also provided an opportunity to share community issues and concerns and potential solutions.

Spec was able to ask Listuguj councillor Cathy Martin a few questions in order to gather her impressions following the conference. Ms. Martin also made a presentation during the event.

When was your first Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Elected Women’s meeting? AFNQL elected women’s meeting was first held in September 2008 as a gathering and sharing of ideas and common objectives. The group began to meet approximately once a year from 2011 until 2017. I attended my first AFNQL



Gespeg councillor Nathalie English, Listuguj councillor Cathy Martin, Gesgapegiag councillor Patsy Jerome and Gespeg chief Manon Jeannotte attended the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Elected Women’s conference.

elected women’s meeting in April 2017. The AFNQL Elected Women is a working group formed of elected women from local First Nation Governments of Quebec and Labrador and was mandated to create a structure and support representation of the Assembly of First Nations Women’s Council by resolution from the table of Chiefs of AFNQL in 2007.

The theme was “Women and governance – advocating for change”. What are the most urgent changes you would suggest and why? Many items were discussed at this two-and-half day meeting including Bill S-3 (the Act to amend the Indian Act – bloodline status, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) membership lists), cannabis issue, Quebec Native

Women, our relationship and recognition with Quebec, G7 Summit- gender equality and women’s empowerment, Indigenous services with INAC, economic development, housing, missing and murdered indigenous women and girls, public inquiry commission on relations between indigenous peoples and certain public services in Quebec and stress management.

All of these topics are of interest and concern to the group, in my opinion Bill S-3 is a pressing concern as it affects how Indigenous Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) determines who is eligible for membership and how this is determined. The proposed Bill S-3 will create an influx of applicants to each of our communities and significantly increase registered members through INAC, yet increased funding to communities to provide services for these newly recognized members is not being considered in funding agreements, thereby putting our communities in financial predicaments. Another major concern with Bill S-3 is the lack of respect and recognition given to individual communities who have established their own membership policies and criteria. Thus in many cases there are two lists: one who INAC deems a member and two, who communities deem members.

You made a presentation. What was it about? My presentation was information sharing of two class action suits currently being sought against

the Government of Canada – the 60s scoop settlement; and the Aboriginal Day school settlement. I have presented this information both in my community of Listuguj and in the community of Gesgapegiag, basically to encourage all those who qualify to apply. Chief Manon Jeannotte also did a presentation in collaboration with Emmanuelle Bertrand-Gauvin of the FNQLEDC (First Nations Quebec Labrador Economic Development Council) on strengthening women’s economic autonomy.

The primary objective of the meeting was to develop and formalize the AFNQL Elected Women’s Table and create terms of references to define roles, functions, mandate and primary responsibilities. According to you, were those objectives reached to a certain extent? The primary objective was to formulate the terms of reference for our working group based on our agreement to collaborate and act together to create lasting ties based on discussion and our common values of solidarity, fairness, peace, and social justice. We agreed on the terms of reference with consensus of the approximately 30 communities represented at this meeting. Increase in women’s representation was advocated for amongst our working group and more representation of elected women input at the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) portfolio tables was requested by the AFN Chiefs. I personally voiced interest in being on one or more of these tables at the

national level as I stated to the group that the future I strive for includes local, regional and national political involvement.

The meeting was also supposed to allow the opportunity for the sharing of community issues and concerns and potential solutions. Was that goal reached, based on your perception? Community sharing of issues was ongoing as each topic on the agenda was discussed. Details of dilemmas occurring resulting from the current policies developed by INAC to govern our funding were brought to light. Strategies on how to better communicate our needs to have input at the tables of decision makers was discussed. It is recognized by our group that communication with the federal and provincial governments is still a struggle as their recognition of our nations as equal governments is not fully exhibited by them. An evening networking activity was planned, most of our elected leaders took part in this expressive and relaxing activity of canvas painting.

Other key issues currently affecting First Nation communities such as housing and cannabis were supposed to be addressed. Were they to a satisfactory level? Cannabis laws as they pertain to First Nations, as well as First Nations implementation of their own laws pertaining to cannabis were discussed. This is a developing topic across the country and First Nations like the rest of Canada are planning for how the legalization of this plant will affect our economies and social issues. Housing, or better stated as lack of adequate housing, is an on-going issue in our communities. We are in a critical state with regards to available housing in communities. Part of the issue is the fact that mortgages cannot be obtained to build houses in First Nation communities without the minister’s sanction as property cannot be owned by a non-status community member of that First Nation community. Hence, the bank, or non-native banker, cannot own the property if in default. Another issue increasing the shortage of housing in our communities is the expected increase of INAC (Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada) status band members resulting from the proposed Bill S-3.



Gespeg chief Manon Jeannotte, Gesgapegiag councillor Patsy Jerome, and Listuguj councillor Cathy Martin took part in an evening networking activity, an expressive and relaxing activity of canvas painting. Listuguj’s Jane Gray, who participated in the coordination of the event, joined the group.

Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



Taking care of ourselves

Here is a shocking statistic for you: Prescription drugs are the fourth leading cause of death in Canada. The three leading causes are cancer, heart disease and strokes. Just about 10,000 deaths each year in Canada are caused by prescription medicines. It is terrible to think that what is intended to make you well can in fact harm or even kill you.

Do not even consider stopping your medication because of this alarming fact! Instead take a lead role as a patient by being proactive about using your medications correctly. Take charge. These few simple guidelines will protect your well-being.

1. Talk to your doctor. Ask questions and write down the answers while you are sitting in your doctor’s office. Ask questions such as: Why do I need this drug and how will it improve my health? How and when do I take it? What are the side effects? Be sure you are clear on what you are taking.

2. Be Organized. In case you might need the information quickly about what medications you are taking, for example a trip to the CLSC or Emergency Department, write down everything on one piece of paper that you are taking, including prescriptions, vitamins, supplements and over-the-counter drugs too. Many pharmacies will give you a print-out with this information.

On that same piece of paper include the name and number of a person to contact in an emergency, your doctor and if you have any known drug allergies or reactions.

Keep this handy. You never know.

3. Don’t Use Old Medications. Don’t keep old prescriptions ‘in case’ you might need them in the future. They might be expired OR interact with a new prescription medication that you are taking. Do not flush them. Return them to your pharmacy for disposal.

4. Follow Directions. Read the label. Make sure that you understand the directions. Also pay attention to stickers that include additional warnings such as: Take with food, Take on an empty stomach, No milk products, Store in the fridge.

5. Don’t stop! If the instructions are clear that you should finish the entire prescription, do so. This is particularly true of antibiotics. You cannot stop because you are feeling better. If you are tempted to stop, talk to your pharmacist or doctor first. This leads us to the next important guideline...

6. Your pharmacist. Have all prescriptions filled at the same drugstore because your pharmacist can tell at a glance what you are taking, have taken and any drugs that you have had adverse reactions to. A good pharmacist can answer your questions and if they know you well you feel comfortable asking those questions.

7. Use little reminders. If you tend to forget when it is time to take your medication find ways that work for you to keep track. You can establish a routine by always taking your medication at the same time, use little post-it notes, buy a weekly pill dispenser with the days of the week written on it, have the pharmacy dispense your meds in a blister pack so that you just pop them out as you need to. Place your pills in plain sight.

You are the most important factor in increasing the safety and effectiveness of any drug. When it comes right down to it, we have to take care of ourselves.

Cascapedia-St-Jules: - The loss of a captain

Elaine Sexton

Every community has a person that they respect, appreciate, and know they can depend on. For the little community of Cascapedia-St-Jules, Fire Chief Réal Bujold was that person. I had the privilege of being a volunteer first responder with Réal for many years, along side some of our volunteer firemen that were on the team. Réal was very serious about volunteering as a first responder, so extremely proud, yet humble, of working so hard to become our Fire Chief. He was going to run for mayor, but due to his illness, he remained on as a councillor. Réal was also on the board of directors of the Cascapedia Society. When Réal put his time and energy into these endeavours, we knew he always put his community first.

We all know his very first love was his wife Margaret and their two daughters, Amy and Sophie. His devotion to his family, his mom, siblings, brothers and sisters-in-law, and his nieces and nephews was beyond reproach. We had many talks on how proud he was of "his girls" and all his family. “Life is good” he always said. Réal was a good friend to many and was always happy to hear their good news.

The owners, guests, and his coworkers at Lorne Cottage are heartbroken as well. He so looked forward to the month of May to “get back to work” as he would say. When Réal was diagnosed in September, he never gave up, never said “why me.” He was an inspiration to so many. The loss of his presence will be felt for many years to come. The outpouring of love at his funeral was evidence of the respect that his peers had for him. Réal was respected and loved in his community.

Steady progress being made on Cascapedia bridge repairs


Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND – The repairs on the bridge spanning over the Grand Cascapedia River have been progressing particularly fast since the end of February. Visually, it is evident. The hole that had been created in November by the removal of pillar number 3 and the two spans it partially supported is no longer visible, as the new beams were installed from March 1 and on.

By March 11, not only were the beams installed but the dykes laid to work on the pillars, had been removed. Those dykes were also laid to improve the protection of the pillars in case of another disaster. The beams installed are made of pre-stressed concrete. They each measure 33.35 metres in length and weigh 52.7 metric tonnes, or 52,700 kilograms.

Transport Quebec spokesperson Véronick Lalancette points out that traffic resumption is still scheduled for the end of June. The contract is being carried out by Maria-based construction firm Sani-Sable LB, with the assistance of Saguenay subcontractor Coffrages Bouchard. The amount of the contract is \$6.2 million. The bridge has been closed since May 8, due to a movement on pillar 3. That movement was caused by undermining accelerated by the presence of debris, mostly trees, leaning against the pillar.





PUBLIC NOTICE

MINOR EXEMPTION FROM URBANISM BY-LAWS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town Council, at a regular meeting that will be held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at 8 pm, will consider the request for minor exemption from the zoning By-Law 1156-11, presented by Hôtel Baker Ltée, for a property situated at 178, rue de la Reine.

The nature and consequences of this exemption are the following:

- the nature of the minor exemption is to:
 - increase of 18 m2 the maximum area of 10 m2 authorized for signs affixed flat on the walls of the building established by the section 22.12.5 of Zoning By-law 1156-11;
 - increase of two (2) the number of signs on post in accordance to the maximum number of two (2) signs on post by principal building establish by the section 22.12.5 of Zoning By-law 1156-11.
- the minor exemption will have for consequence to :
 - permit the installation, the regulation and the modification of three (3) signs affixed flat on the walls of the building with a total area of 28 m2;
 - permit the installation of four (4) signs on post.

During this meeting, the Town Council will hear the interested wishing to be heard on that request.

Given at Gaspé, March 14, 2018.

Sébastien Fournier,
Assistant clerk

Business & Professional DIRECTORY

Grenier & Grenier LAWYERS



Réal Grenier, b.a.ll.l.
Jules Grenier, b.a.ll.l.

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Serge Barriault, notary
Gaël Tremblay, notary

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Announcements...



Obituaries



CLARK BUTTLE: Muriel

In loving memory of a dear mother, grandmother and a friend of many.

We are saddened to announce the passing of Mrs. Muriel Buttle (Clark) of New Carlisle, which occurred on February 25, 2018 at the age of 98.

*Her life was a blessing,
Her memory a treasure,
She was loved beyond words,
And missed beyond measure.*

She leaves to mourn her sons Wade (Marilyn); Ellis (Sharon) her grandchildren Chad, Mandy, Miranda, Amanda, Faye, Angie and Billy as well many great-grandchildren.

Sadly gone but never forgotten, forever and always in our hearts.

Your granddaughter Mandy



PATTERSON: Keith

Keith Patterson, born in Gaspé in 1919, passed away March 4, 2018, at the Centre D'hébergement Mgr. Ross. He was predeceased by his wife Alice, his brothers Ted and Alec and his sisters Audrey and Pauline.

Left to mourn are his sister Eva, many nieces and nephews, as well as many friends.

He will live on in our hearts.

A memorial service will be held in the summer of 2018 and the date will be announced well in advance.

St. Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us and forever.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us.

St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us.

R.R.



In Memory



RENOUF: Harold (Buddy)

In memory of a loving husband and father who passed away one year ago, March 16, 2017.

*Sometimes I just sit quietly,
Reflecting for awhile
Imagining your voice, your face
Your warm and loving smile.
For it's so lovely to recall
The happy times we had.
When you played such a special role
As both husband and Dad.
And at this very special time,
I only wish you knew
That I'd give you all the world today
For one more hour with you.
But I still have my memories,
And since we've been apart
It comforts me so much to know
That you're right here in my heart.*

Missing and loving you very much. Love wife Leila, children, Richard (Kathy); Karen (Ricky), grandchildren and great-grandchildren xoxo.

RENOUF: Harold

In loving memory of a dear father and grandfather Harold Renouf, who passed away one year ago.

*One year has passed since that sad day.
When the one we loved was called away;
God took him home, it was His will,
Within our hearts, He liveth still.
God saw the road was getting rough,
And the hills were hard to climb,
So He closed your eyelids,
And whispered "Peace be thine"
There is someone who misses you sadly,
And finds the time so long since you went,
There is someone who thinks of you always,
And tries to be brave and content.
The flowers we place upon your grave,
May wither and decay,
But love for you who sleeps beneath,
Will never fade away.*

Always loved and will never be forgotten by son Donald, Brenda, Steven (Jessica) and Gregory (Dawn) Renouf.

PHOTO QUALITY

Please keep in mind when submitting photos of a loved one please do not send in photocopies, copies printed off a home colour printer or the cards given out at the funeral home. The quality of your photo will not reproduce well in the newspaper.



Special Thanks

We would like to thank Laura Flowers and Tammy Lapointe for organizing the benefit supper held on February 24.

Many thanks to those who served and donated the food.

Thank you, those who gave generous donations.

Your support towards this event was greatly appreciated.

Howard and Norma Chedore

Unfailing Prayer to Saint Anthony

O holy St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints, your love for God and Charity for his creatures made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers.

Miracles waited on your word, which you were ever ready to speak for those in trouble or anxiety. Encouraged by this thought, I implore of you to obtain for me(request).

The answer to my prayer may require a miracle; even so, you are the Saint of Miracles.

O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the Sweet Infant Jesus, who loved to be folded in your arms; and the gratitude of my heart will ever be yours. Amen.

G.R.

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For Sale: 5th Wheel horse trailer. Holds four draft horses. Phone 418-396-3104 (M28)

COAST ROUND-UP

POINTE NAVARRE:

Thanksgiving Mass

During the year 2018, we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the death of Father Watier. On **March 20** at 7 p.m. at the shrine of Pointe-Navarre, we will give thanks to the Lord by recalling a feature of the life of Father Watier and his mission amongs us. Welcome.

GASPÉ:

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 12 Publi-sac. Membership fees are \$12 per year. New members have a 30-day waiting period before being eligible to receive their travel assistance.

GASPÉ:

Bake Sale

The Gaspé County Women's Institute will be having a bake sale at the Carrefour in Gaspé on **Saturday, March 17**. Hope to see you there.

YORK:

Birthday Celebration Cancellation

The 90th birthday celebration for Bridget McDonald scheduled for **March 17** at York Hall is being cancelled. This is simply a preventive measure to reduce the risk of contracting the seasonal flu for Bridget and family and friends. On March 17, please raise a glass to Bridget's continued good health as you celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

YORK:

Advance Notice

Wakeham ACW will be holding its annual summer sale and tea on **Saturday, July 7** at York River Community Hall. We will have baked goods, a

handicraft table, white elephant table, and mystery parcels. Afternoon tea will be served (\$5). Doors open at 2 p.m.

YORK:

Supper and Dance

Friday, March 16: The York River Seniors Club will hold a 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:

St. Patrick's Day Activities

The following events will be held at St. Patrick's Church on **Saturday, March 17:** 4 p.m. Mass; 5 p.m. Supper - On the menu: roast pork loin with vegetables or Irish stew. Adults \$10, children \$5. Takeouts available at 4:45 p.m. Everyone welcome.

BARACHOIS:

Amateur Night

Join us on **Saturday, March 31** at the Legion for an evening of entertainment provided by singers and musicians from Gaspé, Douglastown, St George, Belle Anse and Barachois. Begins at 7 p.m. Admission \$5. All welcome.

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.

PORT DANIEL

Strawberry Social

The Marcil Women's Institute will be holding its annual strawberry social on **Friday, July 27**, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. at the Three Star Golden Age Club at 177, Route 132, Port Daniel West. Entrance \$7, children under 6 free; door prizes, bake table, sales table, 50/50, more information call 418-752-8152.

PORT DANIEL:

Pot Luck Supper

The Three Star Golden Age Club will be having a pot luck supper for members and guests on St. Patrick's Day **March 17** followed by entertainment. Supper beginning at 5 p.m. Please bring something to share with others.

PORT DANIEL:

Upcoming Events

The following events will be held at the Golden Age Hall in Port Daniel.
April 6: Gift Bingo
May 12: Mother's Day Tea.

SHIGAWAKE:

Upcoming Activities

The following events will be held by the Shigawake Community Center.
Friday, March 30: 1st annual Easter Carnival Spring Fling 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Carnival games, face painting, burst the balloon, fishing booth, carnival photo booth, ring toss, etc. Canteen services. Entry is free, bring the whole family. Great fun for all.
Monday April 2: Easter Gift Bingo, 7

p.m. Canteen services available. \$10 or 3 for \$20.

SHIGAWAKE:

Tea, Bake and Craft Sale Advance Notice

A tea, bake and craft sale will be held at the Shigawake Community Centre (across from the Anglican Church) on **Thursday, July 19** from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Adults \$7, children 6 and under free. Door prizes, prizes, 50/50.

HOPE TOWN:

Upcoming Activities

The following activity will be held at the Hope Town Community Center.
Saturday, April 7: A crib tournament will be held at 1 p.m. \$10 per person. Please register your team by April 5. Call Audrey or Linda 418-752-2015.
Saturday, April 14: Military Whist beginning at 8 p.m. Come and join us for a night of fun.

PASPÉBIAC:

Annual General Meeting

The National Historic Site of the Paspébiac Fishing Bank - Site historique national du Banc-de-Pêche-de-Paspébiac will hold its Annual General Meeting on **Wednesday, March 28**, at 7 p.m., at the Paspébiac Cultural Centre, 2nd Floor, 7 Boulevard Gérard D. Levesque E, Paspébiac, QC G0C 2K0.

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:

Cribbage Tournament

A cribbage tournament will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion on **Saturday, March 24** starting at 1 p.m. Please bring a partner. \$10 per person. Call Norma to register team 752-6214 or call the Legion 752-5495.

NEW CARLISLE:

We have moved!

To all members of the Linda LeMore-Brown Foundation. We are pleased to announce that 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:

Saint Paddy's Day

Come celebrate St. Pat's on **Friday, March 16** from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight at the Royal Canadian Legion. \$10 cover charge. Party with Landsmen and friends performing St. Paddy's themed favourites and a vast array of upbeat music.
Saturday, March 17: Vern Huntington will entertaining us with his country singing voice from 8 p.m. to 12 p.m. \$5 cover charge. All are welcome

NEW CARLISLE:

Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the New Carlisle Funeral Association will be held on April 17, 2018 at 4 p.m. at the Town Hall

NEW CARLISLE:

Upcoming Activities

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

May 11: Soup and Sweets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please note There will be no card games until further notice.

NEW RICHMOND:

Jam Session

On **Friday, March 23** at the 50+ Club, 319, Route 299, there will be a jam session open to all musicians and spectators. Doors open at 7 p.m. with entertainment beginning at 7:30 - free admission, donations accepted. Canteen service on site. Welcome to all!

NEW RICHMOND:

Friperie entraide de L.É.P.É.

New spring and summer clothing has arrived. On sale at \$1 each or more. Good hot meal at noon, free, donations accepted. We also give away hundreds of things every week. (contact for furniture to give or receive) Open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. At 248 Perron Blvd. New Richmond. 418 392-5161.

NEW RICHMOND:

Annual General Meeting

Duthie Point, formerly known as British Heritage Village, will hold its Annual General Meeting on **Tuesday, March 27** at 7 p.m., at the New Richmond Town Hall, 99 Place Suzanne-Guité in New Richmond. The agenda will include the financial statements as well as a presentation of the actual development plan, the past year's investments, projects and activities. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome. Come and join us!

NEW RICHMOND:

Ham and Scalloped Potato Supper

The United Church will be holding a ham and scalloped potato supper on **April 14** from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Adults \$10, Children under 12 \$6. Takeouts available starting at 4 p.m.

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:

St. Patrick's Weekend

Friday, March 16: with the concert at 7 p.m. at Club 50 +, 319 Route 299. \$4 adults, \$2 children.
Saturday, March 17: Special Mass at the church with Father Pierre Edaye at 4 p.m.
Sunday, March 18: potluck supper at the Community Center, 55 rte Gallagher. Cost is \$12 adults, children 12 and under \$5. The Legion, with bar service, will be opened at 2 p.m. Welcome everyone.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

Dames de Pique Tournament

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 172 will be having Dames De Pique

Tournament on **March 24** at 1 p.m. at the Legion, 55 Galligher Road, Cascapedia- St. Jules. The cost will be \$5 per person and everyone is welcome to attend this event.

CASCAPEDIA-ST. JULES:

Cribbage Tournament

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 172, will be having Cribbage Tournaments on **March 25**, at 1:30 p.m. at the Legion. The cost will be \$10 per person. Everyone is encouraged to attend these events.

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.

GESGAPEGIAG:

N.A. Meetings

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

Rotary Calendar Winners

The lucky Rotary calendar winners for the week of February 25 are Jacqueline Dion, Fern W. Coull, Benoit Trépanier, Gérald Dubé, Guy-laine Bujold, Jerry Legouffe, Serge Leblanc. The winners for the week of March 4 are Benoit Arsenault, Line Cormier, OGPAC, David Sawyer, Mutual Aid, Jean-Paul St-Onge, Gaby Genest.

UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, March 18

2 p.m. Hope Town

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, March 18

New Carlisle

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Port Daniel

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

PARISH OF ALL SAINTS

BY THE SEA

St. Peter's Malbay

11 a.m. Service

PARISH OF GASPÉ

Sunday, March 18

York

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Guess Who?

I am an athlete born in Louisiana on January 3, 1981. I always knew I'd have a career in football, following in the footsteps of my father and my older brother. I was named MVP of two Super Bowls.

Answer: Eli Manning

Why do we SAY...

By Gary Briand

The door is open. Two people are about to enter the room. One draws aside and voices, "Please, age before beauty." The other replies, "No, beauty before age."

The phrase is well worn and originated in the nineteenth century in England. But its popularity comes from a vitriolic exchange that occurred at the Algonquin Club in London in 1907.

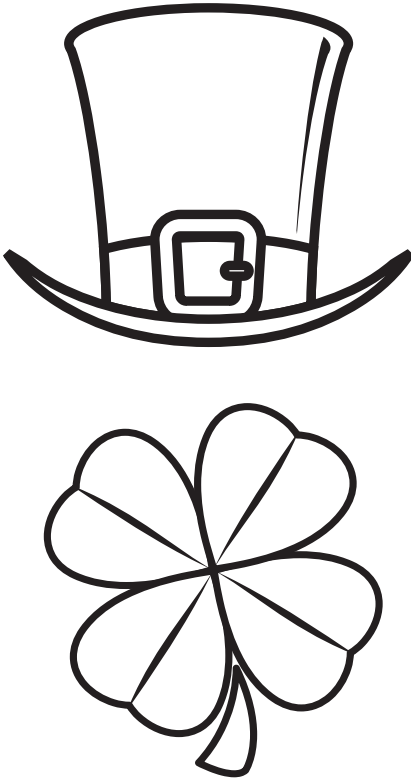
The story has to do with Clare Boothe Brokaw who by marriage later became Clare Boothe Luce. Miss Brokaw had just joined the staff of the prestigious Vanity Fair and was widely noted for her caustic tongue. At the dining room doorway, Clare Luce drew aside and said with a hand gesture, "Age before beauty." Dorothy Parker replied, "Pearls before swine" and swept into the room. Although Clare Boothe Luce denied the incident, she seems to have never spoken with Miss Parker again.

The modern exchange is certainly not offensive. What a contrast to the rejoinder "pearls before swine". A classic insult, indeed! Parallel to "shit before the shovel."

Creative Coloring

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



CANADA HISTORY

1899

CANADA SENDS ITS FIRST TROOPS TO AN OVERSEAS WAR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BOER WAR. THE WAR WAS FOUGHT BETWEEN THE BRITISH EMPIRE, THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC AND THE ORANGE FREE STATE.

New word

CLADDAGH


a ring that represents love, loyalty and friendship

WORLD FACT!

IN TERMS OF POPULATION, WHICH PROVINCES ARE HOME TO THE MOST IRISH CANADIANS?

ANSWER: ALBERTA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

What's This Artifact?



Answer: Carbide lamp as those used by train conductors

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Luck

SPANISH: Suerte

ITALIAN: Fortuna

FRENCH: Chance

GERMAN: Glückssache

Did You Know?

LEGEND STATES THAT ST. PATRICK USED THE THREE-SIDED SHAMROCK TO EXPLAIN THE HOLY TRINITY TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CABBAGE

HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
A voice of reason may be telling you to slow down, Aries. Listen to this voice and take a breather. You will be glad you did when you get a chance to sit back and relax.
TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, it can be challenging to measure progress right now, but rest assured you're on the right track. Trust your instincts and let the results speak for themselves.
GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, communication is your strong suit this week. You may find yourself in


a position to convey difficult directions to others or serve as the mouthpiece of the company.
CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, it may seem like people are judging you, even before they get to know you or your intentions. Be patient and give new relationships time to develop.
LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Your friendly demeanor puts others at ease, Leo. However, they may be so enamored with your personality that they overlook your accomplishments this week.
VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
See if you can go unseen for the next few days, Virgo. Now is not your time to bask in the spotlight. You might get

more done if you sit back and give others a chance to shine.
LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Your relationships mean a lot to you, Libra. You want to do everything possible to solidify those close friendships. Be sure to network whenever possible.
SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you can use a little personal recognition this week, even if you have to encourage others to give you some words of praise. Use those positive words as inspiration.
SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
The ups and downs that have defined a romantic relationship are about to become a little more complex, Sagittarius. These plot twists

can be exciting.
CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
You may want to lighten up your mood, Capricorn. Figure out how to express your fun-loving side. Take some cues from friends who can get you to relax.
AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, people want to share in your current success, but you don't share the same views — especially when you think your accomplishments aren't that big a deal.
PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Try to escape into a fantasy world for a little while, Pisces. You don't have to focus on serious tasks all of the time and will enjoy this respite.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS


MARCH 11
Terrence Howard, Actor (49)
MARCH 12
Liza Minnelli, Actress (72)
MARCH 13
Zella Day, Singer (23)
MARCH 14
Stephen Curry, Athlete (30)
MARCH 15
Kellan Lutz, Actor (33)
MARCH 16
Lauren Graham, Actress (51)
MARCH 17
Kurt Russell, Actor (67)



Today's Lesson:

Reading your community newspaper

1. Builds vocabulary
2. Improves reading skills
3. Promotes critical thinking
4. Brings ideas and current events to life
5. Builds global awareness
6. Promotes social consciousness
7. Makes learning fun!



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