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The Caspé Spe Spe

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Contract 400119680 \$1.50 (Tax included)

Bridge opens ahead of schedule

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND: – The Highway 132 bridge linking New Richmond, Gesgapegiag and Cascapedia-St-Jules was reopened on June 8, exactly 13 months after its May 8, 2017, closure due to the undermining of pillar 9 caused by the Grand Cascapedia River current and accumulated debris.

Back then, the closure of the bridge was called within minutes after a shift of pillar 9 and the unusual shape the guard rail above it had taken were noticed by a Sûreté du Québec officer. MacKay Road, des Ponts Road and Route 299 replaced Highway 132 within minutes.

A tentative date for that reopening was first mentioned in June 2017, and it was slated for the beginning of June 2018. That was be-



Minister of Transport Véronyque Tremblay and minister responsible for the Gaspé Peninsula Pierre Moreau were on hand for the reopening of the Highway 132 bridge.

fore launching the call for tenders. The date was then adjusted to the end of June 2018 during the summer and finally, Maria contractor Sani-Sable delivered three weeks ahead of that second tentative date.

The budget was also respected by Sani-Sable. The initial envelope was \$6.2 million and was later increased a bit following problems found last fall that had not been specified in the initial contract. So the total tab amounts to \$6.5 million, points out Yves Berger, regional director of Transport Quebec for the Lower Saint Lawrence and the Gaspé Peninsula.

"As for the detour roads' betterment, the bill was \$3.5 million," adds Mr. Berger.

Minister of Transport Véronyque Tremblay and Natural Resources Minister Pierre Moreau, who is also minister responsible for the Gaspé Peninsula, were on hand for the reopening of the bridge. Minister Tremblay called the imposition of an 11 kilometre detour an "unfortunate incident," but said that she is glad that "it was reopened three weeks earlier than expected," and "on time for the tourist season."

She added that the bridge is safer than before, "thanks to a new pile, the consolidation of its extremities and the new beams installed," between October and this spring.

Minister Pierre Moreau praised Gaspesians "who are patient and resilient people." He added that the spring of May 2017 leaves us "humble in front of nature's force."

The undermining of pillar 9 had been detected in October 2015 by Transport Quebec, and was then slated for repairs in 2018. "Could the damage sustained in May 2017 have been avoided?" SPEC asked minister's regional director, Yves Berger.

"The 2017 incident was following an exceptional water rise and debris caused a vortex that worsened undermining. The 2015 undermining was not putting the structure at risk. It was a different thing," answered Yves Berger.

Cascapedia-St-Jules mayor Gaétan Boudreau has mixed feelings about the whole issue.

"The positive side is that our road network is greatly improved. It was also cleared during the winter. We saved money on those aspects. There are negative elements too. We picked up garbage. The people delivering mail had to be careful because of the traffic. With between 6,000 and 10,000 vehicles per day (instead of a few hundred), it was not quiet anymore. Even if we got used to it to a certain point, we will appreciate quietness again. The Café du village found new customers. Some people discovered our area," explains mayor Boudreau.

Route 299 was not paved during the last 13 months and comes out of that stretch quite damaged. "It will be repaved over the next months though. I have a commitment of Transport Quebec on that point. I just don't know when it will take place," he adds.



Cascapedia-St-Jules mayor Gaétan Boudreau says the population of the village will be happy to regain some quietness.



2017 marks another year with a deficit for SPEC

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: – Sea-Coast Publications Inc., the organization that publishes The Gaspé Spec, had a deficit of \$36,000 for the year that ended on March 31, 2018. It is more than the previous year's deficit of \$26,261. The difference comes essentially from a \$16,036 decrease in advertising sales.

Overall revenues reached \$294,690, compared to \$321,635 in 2016. The subscription revenues also decreased a bit, from \$64,896 in 2016 to \$59,860 in 2017. The counter sales also dropped but by a slimmer margin, from \$18,540 in 2016 to \$17,693 last year. Announcements and classifieds brought in less as well, as they went from \$12,752 to \$9,174.

The revenues coming from the tourist guide dropped to \$16,640, from \$19,334.

Expenses also decreased between 2016 and 2017 at the SPEC, from \$347,896 to \$330,690. Most of the \$17,206 drop can be explained by a cut in salary expenses, from \$146,285 to \$133,903. The



The SPEC annual general meeting was well attended. Some participants suggested means to increase the revenues of the paper or reduce its costs.

other expense budgetary items were generally not marked by sizeable changes.

The balance sheet still presents numbers showing that the SPEC remains relatively healthy financially, since the paper still has \$83,527 in cash, either in its bank account or in term deposits. On March 31, its total assets amounted to \$110,448, including \$14,136 in amounts receivable and \$12,785 in fixed assets.

The liabilities amount to \$22,967. It consists of accounts payable of \$8.511, salary remittances of \$6,118 and revenues received in advance of \$8,338. The capital balance at the end of the year amounted to \$87,481.

At the June 5 annual general meeting, Sea-Coast Publications president, Roger Wise, praised the work of publisher Penny MacWhirter and office manager Joan Imhoff during the year, notably to

keep the expenses down.

Mr. Wise still believes in SPEC despite a few consecutive money-losing years and invites the public to make suggestions regarding means that would allow the paper to increase its revenues "before we hit the rocks."

Louis Sexton presented the financial statements of the SPEC and linked the loss to the general context of diminishing advertisements in papers, a phenomenon that is worldwide and experienced with acuteness in Canada.

"The federal government advertising is decreasing everywhere. The government finds other ways to advertise (its programs and activities)," emphasizes Mr. Sexton, who thinks that some new ways to bring in revenues must be found and applied within the next two years.

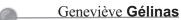
"The paper needs to save \$40,000 a year, or generate what can't be saved (...). We can't wait until 2020," added Mr. Sexton.

Publisher Penny MacWhirter mentioned that some savings will be obtained through a smaller rent since the paper moved in December and consequent reduced electricity costs but that will not be enough, she emphasized. The staff, however, has put other wheels in motion in regards to advertising and increasing subscriptions and are starting to see a positive outcome.

Regular stringer Cynthia Dow pointed out that a meeting attended by several business people could lead to good ideas to better the situation of the SPEC.

GASPÉ RIDING:

Gaétan Lelièvre won't be running in the next election



GASPÉ: – Gaspé Member of the National Assembly Gaétan Lelièvre won't be running during the campaign leading to the October 1 provincial election, either as a Parti québécois candidate or as an independent candidate. Elected for the first time in September 2012, he found it difficult to deal with the "extremely partisan game," and confronta-"unproductive tion," at the Quebec National Assembly.

"I change my vehicle, but not my destination," Mr. Lelièvre repeated during the June 5 announcement. He wants to go on defending the regions and, if possible, as part of an interregional movement. The Member of the National Assembly (MNA) observes "a very strong wave of centralization," in Quebec. "The regions don't get their fair share. They have to work two or three times harder to get only a part of the results obtained more easily somewhere else," he says.

Mr. Lelièvre, who was elected under the banner of the Parti québécois, became an independent MNA in May, 2017. The PQ leader, Jean-François Lisée, excluded him from the caucus because he had accepted or asked for gifts and services from engineering firm Roche when he was the director general of Gaspé.

"I've had regular discussions with Jean-François Lisée. The door was open for

me to come back (to the PQ)," Mr. Lelièvre reports. However, the 55-year-old MNA needed to "step back" and to "rise above the political fray,"

Mr. Lelièvre perceived several positive aspects about being an independent MNA. "This status gives you some flexibility, an increased visibility and protects you from extreme partisanship."

However, he couldn't imagine campaigning as an independent against his former PQ colleagues.

After six years as an MNA, Mr. Lelièvre can obtain a transition allowance equivalent to one year of wages, that is to say a taxable \$100,000 amount. He hasn't made any decision about his professional future yet, he

savs.

Former Bloc québécois Member of Parliament (MP) Yvan Bernier wants to seek the Parti québécois nomination in the Gaspé riding, reports the president of the local executive council, Marina O'Connor. The nomination meeting will take place on July 8 in Sainte-Anne-des-Monts. One more person showed interest for the nomination, adds Ms. O'Connor.

Mr. Bernier, 57 year-old, supported Jean-François Lisée during the PQ leadership race in 2016. He represented the Bonaventure-Gaspé-Îles-de-la-Madeleine-Pabok riding from 1993 to 2000 in Ottawa.

In regards to the Liberals, local radios mentioned the name of Alexandre Boulay, manager of the Gaspé LM Wind Power plant, as a potential candidate. Mr. Boulay didn't comment on that possibility. The interim president of the Gaspé Liberal Association, Sylvio Lebreux, didn't confirm either.

He stated that some candidates can be accepted by the party but still have to be given the green light by their employer.



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Police report

Freddy Stoneypoint, 30, a social science student at Carleton University and a member of the Amishhnabe Nation was accused of break and enter, mischief of over \$5000 on equipment and buildings, theft of equipment of over \$5000, and setting up traps with intent to cause death or bodily harm at the Junex exploration site in Gaspé on August 15, 2017. His preliminary was heard earlier this winter at the Percé courthouse before Quebec Court Judge Janick Poirier.

On June 5, 2018, Judge Poirier discharged the accused of all charges because, in her opinion, the evidence was not sufficient to put the accused on trial.

On June 6, at the Percé courthouse, Quebec Court Judge Janick Poirier sentenced Nadia Dupuis to 90 days in jail to be served intermittently during weekends, ordered the accused to reimburse an amount of \$13,850 to the victim and to execute 240 hours of community work within a delay of 18 months. Nadia Dupuis will be on probation for three years.

Nadia Dupuis was employed by the Gaspesie Health and Social Service Centre as the social intervenor of Murielle Pelletier, 80, of Rivière-au-Renard since 2012. Between January 2015 and March 2016, she stole an amount of \$13,850 from Mrs. Pelletier. The family members of the victim had noticed the irregular transactions in her account at the Caisse populaire.

World Kidney Cancer Day, June 21

Kidney Cancer Canada is the only bilingual Canadian patient and caregiver led charity organization focussed on kidney cancer. It provides peer support, information and education, awareness of kidney cancer as a significant health issue, research and advocacy as well as advising government.

Kidney Cancer Canada is one of 30 kidney cancer patient organizations around the world who are affiliated *D* with the International Kidney Cancer Coalition.



David Ross.

Leading up to the 2nd World Kidney Cancer Day on June 21, people all around the world will be asking questions and looking for answers to help raise global awareness of kidney cancer.

World Kidney Cancer Day provides the opportunity for patients, caregivers, their friends and supporters, health care professionals and local kidney cancer organizations to come together to raise awareness and start to answer these questions that will make a difference to stemming the growth of kidney cancer.

Kidney cancer is a silent disease and one of the fastest growing cancers in the world. Men are almost twice as likely to get it as women. The steady rise in the incidence of kidney cancer is a global health risk. The International Agency for Research projects a 22% increase from 338,000 newly diagnosed in 2012 to 412,000 cases annually worldwide by 2020. Explanations are incomplete, but experts point to risk factors such as aging, obesity, high blood pressure, smoking and many other possible factors.

Please join the global kidney cancer community to help "Kiss Off Kidney Cancer." You can help by answering the simple 7 question quiz at worldkidneycancerday.org. Use your Smart Phone or tablet to do the quiz and be rewarded with a fun "green kiss" selfie to share your results to your social media network or complete the quiz on your computer or laptop and share your results with your friends on social media asking them to do the same.

There is still much research needed for a cancer that has no detection screening YET, has only kidney cancer interventions and management treatments that prolong life and no cure YET.

Kidney Cancer Canada is here to help kidney cancer patients, caregivers and their families. David and I found so much support and helpful information in this community over the years. If you know of anyone who has kidney cancer or has just received a kidney cancer diagnosis, please mention to them that there is a bilingual organization that can help them. All they need to do is go to www.kidneycancercanada.ca or call 1-866-598-7166.

Kay (Karen) Ross, Board Member for Atlantic Canada, Kidney Cancer Canada, 1-866-598-7166.

Bylaw draft on oil and gas signals the end of the Haldimand project

Geneviève **Gélinas**

GASPÉ: – Oil and gas drillings will be forbidden within urbanized perimeters and within one additional kilometre around them. The latest version of the draft regulation on oil and gas, presented by Quebec's Energy and Natural Resources Minister Pierre Moreau on June 6, is "the last nail in the coffin," of the Haldimand project, reacted Gaspé mayor Daniel Côté.

The first draft of four oil and gas regulations, considered much too weak, generated an outcry in September 2017, when it was presented by former minister Pierre Arcand at the beginning of the municipal electoral campaign. The draft presented by his successor tightens the rules.

Fracturing will be prohibited in shale, a type of rock found in the St. Lawrence Lowlands. It will also be forbidden to use that technique in a hydric environment, that is to say watercourses and lakes.

Elsewhere, the companies will have to fracture rocks from a minimum of one kilometre below the surface in order to limit the risk of contaminating underground water. No vertical distance was specified in the first draft.

It will be forbidden to drill at less than 300 metres from a house and at less than 550 metres from a school or a hospital. Those buffer distances are double that of the initial version.

Drillings will be prohibited in waterways, including the St. Lawrence River.

Gaspé mayor Daniel Côté considers that the Pieridae project to produce oil from the Haldimand No. 4 well, located 350 meters from houses of the Gaspé urbanized perimeter, is dead. "Not just because of the regulations but also because of its low potential," Mr. Côté specifies.

The mayor had described the first draft regulations as a total disappointment. "This time, I have the feeling that we've been listened to more than ever," he says.

"There are some uncertainties left," adds Daniel Côté. He wants to make sure that the Gaspé Bay is included in the definition of the St. Lawrence River, where drillings are forbidden.

The Gaspé mayor would have liked to obtain clear zoning powers for municipalities in the new regulation. The



The Haldimand No. 4 well is located within one kilometre from the Gaspé urbanized perimeter, where it will be forbidden to develop oil and gas projects, if the new Quebec bylaw draft is adopted.

municipalities might demarcate territories incompatible with drilling activities but they will enter into force only after the expiration of the five-year claims that cover a large part of the Gaspé Peninsula.

The citizens have 45 days to comment on the new draft, from June 20 to August 3.

An expropriation from Haldimand, considers Pieridae

Pieridae Energy, the Alberta-based company which manages the Haldimand project, reacted through a press release. "If the draft by-law is adopted (...), the Haldimand resources may be negatively impacted by the new restrictions imposed as they are partly within the urban perimeter. (...) If a change is

made that prohibits the development of a validly issued exploration license, Pieridae will seek to negotiate a fair settlement for the expropriation of the right to develop the resource."

As for the Bourque project, between Murdochville and Grande-Vallée, it "could go forward under the proposed new regulatory framework," Pieridae adds.





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Editorial page



Commentary Gilles Gagné

A bit of humbleness wouldn't have hurt, dear ministers

It was a rather odd sight on June 8 to watch two ministers trying to make political gains out of a bridge reopening. It was not the inauguration of a brand new structure. It was the reopening of a bridge that had likely been neglected to a certain degree before sustaining heavy damage during the spring water rise of May 2017.

Transport Minister Véronyque Tremblay and Natural Resources Minister Pierre Moreau won't leave the Liberal Party between now and October 1 which is election day. They were obviously in an electoral mode. Considering their party's poor survey results of late, they didn't want to waste a good occasion to get some attention.

Being also the minister responsible for the Gaspé Peninsula, it was probably a good thing that Pierre Moreau was in the area to make some files progress. He has not exactly delivered a stellar performance since his October

nomination in the region.

Let's suppose that their presence was justified. It would have been a good idea to show real humbleness.

In September 2017, Carleton-based lawyer Nérée Cormier found out that the ninth pillar of the bridge was already posing an undermining problem in October 2015, and that Transport Quebec decided at the time to wait three years before repairing it. That department's management explained that it was standard procedure, before the undermining problem was "minor". That decision to wait was made during the peak period of Philippe Couillard's government's austerity measures.

A doubt will always subsist about that "minor" undermining status. For attorney Cormier, who expressed real concern about the safety of drivers in September because he travels every day between his New Richmond house and his Carleton office, the following events proved tragic. His sister died in the second fatal accident that occurred in the detour.

Unfortunately, not a single mention of the two deadly detour accidents was made during the reopening ceremony. No reference to the countless smaller accidents, involving trucks notably, was made either. It would have been normal.

Minister Moreau was a tad better than his colleague in that he at least praised Gaspesians for their patience and resilience.

No regional spokesperson was invited to speak before or after ministers Tremblay and

Moreau. Gaétan Boudreau would have been good at describing the hassle experienced by the population of the area during thirteen months.

Towards the end of the ceremony, as journalists were interviewing local stakeholders, minister Tremblay, with minister Moreau standing beside her, made a short but cheerful speech, as her assistant was shooting the intervention, probably for her department's social media. That sounded ill-placed too.

The Highway 132 bridge was closed for 396 days and seven hours. Considering an average of 6,600 vehicles on a daily basis and 11 kilometres covered by all the drivers that passed in the two detours put up to correct the situation, people covered 29,040,000 useless kilometres in 13 months. That is the equivalent of 724.64 trips around the world, passing along the equator.

If every passage in the detour took ten minutes (most people will agree that it was taking more often 15 minutes than ten), drivers lost a combined total of 45.83 years in those detours.

That is not counting the time wasted by their passengers and the useless consumption of tens of thousands of gas litres.

Wouldn't have been a good idea for the government to accelerate the upgrading of the Gaspesian railway in the meantime, or putting up compensation measures to nullify the emissions of just as useless greenhouse effect gases?

It is probably asking too much from a government whose environmental record is lame.







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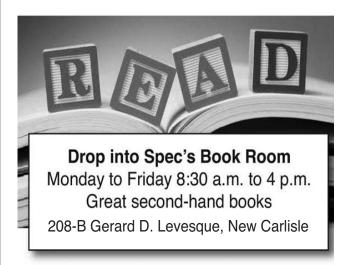
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Espace René-Lévesque now open after years of hard work

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: – Former Member of the National Assembly for the Madgalen Islands, Jeannine Richard, wipes the tears rolling down her cheeks. She has just seen the 15-minute documentary about René Lévesque, the former Quebec premier who died almost 25 years before Ms. Richard served an 18-month term starting in 2012.

The documentary is being screened at Espace René-Lévesque, New Carlisle's brand new attraction pertaining to a unique man who, during and after growing up in New Carlisle, was a radio announcer, a war correspondent, a journalist, a television show host, a Liberal Party minister in Jean Lesage's cabinet, and Parti Québécois' founder and first premier.

Forty-eight exterior panels provide information and visitors can listen to audio clips describing some of the top milestones of Mr. Lévesque's career. The tour is available in English.

Jeannine Richard and her husband Eric Landry made an impromptu stop at Espace René Lévesque on its opening day, June 8. They had taken the ferry between the Magdalen Islands and Prince Edward Island and were on their way to Gaspé to attend a meeting.

"Oh, I can't watch that without feeling emotions resurfacing," said Ms. Richard after the documentary screening. She and her husband were the first paying customers of Espace René-Lévesque. "We didn't know it would be open today. We will keep our tickets," she added.

Project Manager Daniel Galarneau, who supervised the preparation phase and the construction of Espace René-Lévesque, believes that a lot of people, both young and old, will feel the same emotions as Jeannine Richard, when they visit the site.

"No matter the political allegiance, it is moving," he says, referring first to the documentary. "I am always emotional when I watch it," he adds.

The season attendance goal of 5,000 visitors looks modest. The season will be over in mid-October.

"We prefer starting with a realistic objective. Our neighbours, the *Banc de pêche de Paspébiac Historical Site*, and the *Musée Acadien* in Bonaventure, each draw 8,000 visitors. We are located in between. There is also a limit to the number of audio-guides, 48, that we can rent out. With the tablet and the documentary, there is enough for a four-hour visit, if people go slowly," he points out.

The content puts emphasis on René Lévesque's realizations and his contribution to modern Quebec. He died in November 1987. Visitors will find references to some of his best decisions, like the reform of political parties' funding and



Louis Bernard, president of the René-Lévesque House Foundation, and his wife Hélène Leclère spent countless hours in putting together Espace René-Lévesque.

the foundation of the environment department, but his toughest periods, when many Parti Québécois Ministers and Members of the National Assembly left, in November 1984 to oppose his agreement with Brian Mulroney's intention to include Quebec in the Canadian Constitution, are also explained.

The Espace René-Lévesque project has been brewing since December 2013 amongst the management team of the René-Lévesque House Foundation, which had been created in 2009. The initial goal was to use the house in which Mr. Lévesque was raised. The house is located at 16 Mount Sorel, just a couple of streets away from where the site was finally located. The state of the Mount Sorel house is increasingly decrepit and the foundation was never able to acquire it from its owner, Denis Cloutier.

Espace René-Lévesque re-

quired an investment of \$2.26 million. The Quebec government contributed \$1.2 million while the federal government contributed \$750,000.

"Private donations total close to \$1 million. A fund of \$600,000 is invested over the long term and we are using only the interest in order to pay for some of our operating costs," explains Dr. Louis Bernard, president of the René-Lévesque House Foundation.

The Quebec government expressed an intention to acquire and even expropriate the Mount Sorel house in September of 2017 if the owner does not maintain it properly.

"We will commit to that project if we can get money for it. We currently don't have the means to integrate that house to our site. Our budget is tight," adds Mr. Bernard.

The official opening of the site is scheduled for June 26 at the Quebec level and on July 16 at the federal level.



Owners undecided about building's fate

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: – The owners of New Carlisle's Heritage Restaurant are still undecided about the fate of the building, damaged heavily on March 5 by a fire.

Rumour has it that the owner, Russell Dow et Fils, a company owned by Michael Dow, could soon demolish the building, possibly in 30 days, but Mr. Dow and his wife, Cindy Meikle, are still weighing the options and have not even set a time frame before the decision is made.

"The insurance company put a total loss on the building. We have some projects. We could sell it too. Some people are talking about buying it but we have not seen any money yet. We have not put a price tag on it. It will not be a restaurant if we do something with it. My wife did manage the restaurant for 17 years. It is a seven days a week job. We need her here. I have a transport company. We have 18 employees," explains Michael Dow.

He is not insensitive to the heritage value of the building constructed in 1872 and knows that Heritage New Carlisle favours its acquisition and protection.

"If the right thing comes at the right time, we will make the decision," he says.

Normand Desjardins is the main spokesperson of Heritage New Carlisle regarding that file. He believes that the building can be salvaged.

"In our opinion, after having visited the damages at the Heritage Restaurant, we feel that it is still structurally sound enough to restore the building and re-instate it as a family restaurant, pub, brasserie, whatever. (It would be) viable - historically as well as commercially. Well situated, great potential given the fact that the René Lévesque museum is open. Everyone is looking for a restaurant. All we are looking for is the right promoter with respects to heritage preservation and restauration," says Mr. Desjardins.

Close to 25 buildings located in New Carlisle have a heritage value but that doesn't qualify them automatically for funding that would protect their historical value.



A first major contract for B&B Brake Pads

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – Gaspé-based B&B High Performance Brake Pads gets a first major contract after having been qualified by General Electric. The company's brake pads will be installed on large wind turbines around the world and this contract should open new doors for the company.

B&B Brake Pads signed a contract worth more than \$500,000 (CAN) with a German-based braking system manufacturer that is a General Electric (GE) supplier. "We ship the brake pads to

Germany. They install them in the calipers and then, they can end up anywhere in the world," explains Christian Babin, president of B&B Brake Pads.

The contract provides work to eight employees for six to eight months. "We're working on other export projects," says Mr. Babin. "We're trying with two more big wind turbine manufacturers."

The company had been trying to get its GE certification for a year and a half and obtained it on February 28, 2018. The brake pads are "a critical part of the wind tur-

bine," says Christian Babin.
"The barriers to entry are extreme. We tested our brake pads on a Detroit test bench, which does testing for Boeing, among others."

The brake pads have also been tested on the GE wind mills of Cartier Énergie éolienne wind farms in the Gaspé Peninsula.

The GE qualification "changes everything," Mr. Babin observes. "It was a milestone. A major manufacturer finds us credible. We're recognized."

The company has already sold small quantities of brake pads but that first major contract is allowing it to start production and to optimize its process.

Christian Babin is planning to employ approximately 15 or 20 people within the next two years. "We'll never hire 300 or 400 people. We have a well-automated process which doesn't require a lot of manual labour," he



President of B&B Brake Pads, Christian Babin, thinks that having been qualified by GE is "a milestone" for the company.

adds.

The Gaspé brake pads are marketed under the Kuma name.

B&B High Performance Brake Pads was founded in 2010 and set up its manufacturing plant in 2015 in the Sandy Beach Industrial Park. The company occupies part of the former GDS plant, recovered by the town of Gaspé to use as a business incubator.



Amanda Crozier is considering running the 10 kilometre event in 2019.

Baie des Chaleurs Marathon, a turning point for many

Gilles Gagné

CARLETON: – On June 3 in Carleton, the sixth edition of the Baie des Chaleurs Marathon was attended by 2,000 runners, the maximum number of athletes possible, considering the capacity of the organizing committee. Those athletes covered various distances; 1, 5, 10, 21 and 42 kilometres. One of the participants was Gesgapegiag's Amanda Crozier, who has made significant efforts over the last 15 months to get back in shape.

She shared her experience with SPEC. "Back in January, I decided to give myself a challenge and sign up to do the 5 kilometre run at the Marathon Baie Des Chaleurs. Once April came, I started walking and running to try and get myself ready as I was never a runner and very rarely do cardio. I knew exactly where I had to go to in Maria and back to reach 5 km and did it for a month but I hated every single time I went (laughs) so I stopped. I told myself and some friends that I was willing to lose my inscription money because I knew I wouldn't be able to do it. Well, last week I changed my mind and decided to go for it. I knew I didn't have to run the whole thing so I figured why not? My best friend Wanda and my daughter Blaze came with me to offer support and were there cheering as I finished the race. I had tears in my eyes and ugly cried at the end just thinking about how far I've come this past year. It was an amazing experience and I'm thinking about doing the 10 km next year."

In fact, many Gesgapegiag residents, took part in the event. Sue Helen Caplin, her husband William Martin, and their sons Easton and Nolan, as well as Kayla Caplin and her daughter Leighton ran the one kilometre race. Trisha Caplin also took part in the event. Meanwhile, SPEC board member Ray Venables, an accomplished runner, finished fourth in the 21 kilometre race.

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The beautiful Gaspé Coast: In photographs

compelling reason to have a facebook account is that you can follow Gaspesian Photos of the Beautiful Gaspe Coast. Lloyd Willett, site administrator, started this facebook group about three years ago. He loves to take photos as he visits places on the Gaspé and was posting them on his own facebook account. When there were too many photos he started the group Gaspesian Photos of the Beautiful Gaspe Coast. Originally, he had three members. Now, close to 3,000 people have joined his group. He estimates that the number of photos that have been posted is 20,000 or more. Lloyd says he started this group, "Just for the fun of it." Members are English and French, because photographs are a universal language accessible to all.

Lloyd Willett administers this group with a firm hand. This means that if you are a member, you will not be bothered with

Diane **Skinner** people selling you things or offering you loans at a high NEW RICHMOND: - A rate. Lloyd says, "It's a 24/7 job. I'm always checking the site." He spends a lot of time watching for hackers or scammers and he has rules that are clear. When Lloyd welcomes new members, he posts the rules: "Welcome to the group. Only pictures of the Gaspé Coast are allowed. All other pictures will be removed from this group. No ads or ads for loans of any kind are allowed in this group. Anyone who does not follow the rules will be removed from the group. Thanks and enjoy the group."

The members of the Gaspesian Photos of the Beautiful Gaspe Coast are from all over, but all have ties to the Gaspé in some way. Members come from across Canada and the U.S. Why is this group such a huge success? Lloyd's firm hand and watchful eye keeps the site exactly what it is intended to be. The other reason is that the Gaspé Coast is, if not the most beau-

> tiful place on earth, near the top of that list.

That's an opinion. If you are not convinced, ask to join the group. Photos are of the bay, the woods, the beach, the sky, mountains, boats, wildlife, birds, beautiful old homes and churches. If you want to feel Gaspesian pride, just go onto this facebook group. Not a member? Just go to facebook and type in the group's name and ask to join. If you are not a Russian bot, chances are you will be accepted! Then prepare to enjoy and be filled with pride for the multifaceted beauty of the Gaspé.

Photographers

Meet three of the many talented photographers who post on the facebook group.

Kim Touzel is a member of the group and she grew up in Belle-Anse where her parents still live. She says, "I can't wait to photograph more of our beautiful Gaspé. I left home at 17 to study in Montreal. In 1990 I moved to Sydney, Australia, where I worked in the St. Vincent's Heart Transplant Unit as an R.N. Currently I work in a private cardiology practice as an echocardiographer." She cred-

Elaine Clouter is a native After visiting the Coast seva more panoramic view of the whole coast

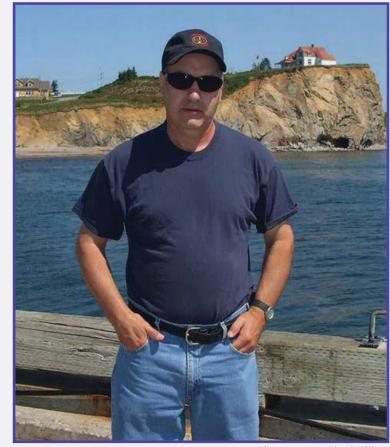


Photo: courtesy Lloyd Willett

Lloyd Willettt is the site administrator for facebook group Gaspesian Photos of the Beautiful Gaspe Coast which has about 20,000 photos posted by members in just three years!

same time meeting very kind and helpful photographic enthusiasts. A vote of thanks to Lloyd Willett for developing this site and making it accessible to us all."

David Girard tells us "I was added to this facebook group by a friend who knew I liked to take pictures. When I retired I had enough of the hot, humid, stinky city and decided to come home. When I first moved back I felt lost in my new surroundings, but I soon found my calling - photography. I had a little experience taking pictures but had never done landscape and seascape. I soon fell in love with this. This site of Gaspesian photos is so important because it links all the little communities on the coast together through social media. Thank you to Lloyd Willett for giving us somewhere to go online and socialize with all

our neighbours along the coast.

Facebook Group Administrator

Lloyd Willett is a community-minded person. He also was a driving force behind the creation of a memorial in Montreal for the victims of the Blue Bird Café fire in 1972 which tragically took the lives of 37 young people, a number of them from the Gaspé. Lloyd Willett is doing a great community service by being the administrator for Gaspesian Photos of the Beautiful Gaspe Coast. He gives his time and attention to keeping the site free from unwanted posts. For, after all, we live in a beautiful, mostly unspoiled place that inspires the talented photographers who post on this facebook group.

PHOTO DESCRIPTIONS

David Girard says his photo shows "Malbay at its finest!!!"

This photo is entitled, "Free Spirits," and was taken at Hill Billie Ranch, New Richmond by Elaine Cloutier

"Kayaking Around the Rock" This is one of my favourite captures because Percé Rock is close to my Gaspé home and my heart. Camera Canon 5DIII, Canon 17-35mm, taken from my kayak one day while kayaking from Percé to Belle-Anse," Kim Touzel tells Spec.



Reflections by

Diane Skinner Flowers

Summer in a Bottle

When we were children, many moons ago, the perfect summer day was comprised of walking to the beach with a towel, a soft drink and a bag of chips. We didn't wear sunscreen, rarely a hat, because we did not know about the harmful effects of the sun. We would arrive home tired, sunburned and famished. More than once we had sunstroke and spent the evening shivering from the consequences of a full day in the sun. Would we trade it all for the price we paid during those summer evenings? Probably not. Those were fabulous, unforgettable days.

Back then nobody took a bottle of water, but more likely a mason jar filled with Freshie or Kool-Aid. Some lucky ones brought a soft drink and the ultimate drink, the one that epitomized summer, was cream soda. Sickly sweet and effervescent, it was more like a dessert than a beverage, but every cool sip going down your dry throat was pure bliss. The envy of your cousins and friends made every gulp worth it.

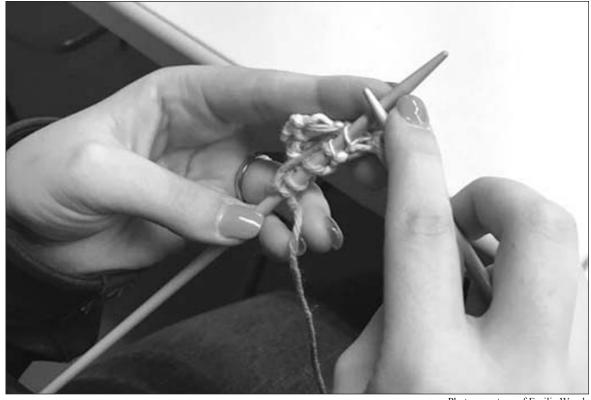
Cream soda is traditionally flavoured with vanilla and raspberry but there is a wide number of variations available, depending on where you live. One of the oldest known recipes in North America was published in 1852. Ingredients included water, cream of tartar, Epsom salts, sugar, egg and milk. This mixture was heated and allowed to cool. Then a teaspoon of soda was added. This made the drink bubbly.

In the U.S., cream soda is often vanilla-flavored and is either clear or coloured a light golden brown; but is available in red, pink, orange and even blue. Also, in some places in the U.S., cream soda is made on the spot when you order it. This type of cream soda contains soda water, vanilla syrup, and cream.

In Canada, cream soda is usually pink. The exception to this is in Quebec and Newfoundland where it is mainly clear and has a flavour somewhat like grenadine. Some people find that cream soda tastes like candy floss. It is indeed that sweet! Currently the biggest selling brand of Cream Soda in Canada is made by Crush.

Cream soda is in no way a healthy drink. A standard sized bottle contains almost 200 calories and has a wee bit of potassium and sodium, but it's the sugar that comes in at about 10 teaspoons per bottle. That is a lot of sugar to ingest in one beverage, but cream soda has about the same amount of soda as other soft drinks, such as Pepsi or Coke. Ginger Ale has a little less sugar, about 8 teaspoons per bottle.

However, on a hot summer day when you are tired and thirsty, a cold bottle of cream soda goes down very nicely. I can remember those beach days as clearly as if they happened yesterday. Cream soda was like "summer in a bottle."



Keeping traditional skills alive

Diane **Skinner**

SHIGAWAKE: - Listening to Emilie Woods speak about the Traditional Skills program she coordinates, organizes and leads in Shigawake, one can sense her enthusiasm for this meaningful project. She states that she hopes to "make traditional skills cool again."

Emilie took her idea to her administrative council and after their approval she submitted her application to the federal government under the New Horizons program. That was in June 2017. She waited and was notified in January 2018 that her project had been approved. Now it has become reality.

The project has two main components. First is the restoration of the Handicraft Loft at the Shigawake Fairgrounds. The second part is the teaching of traditional skills, which may eventually be entered into the yearly competition at the Shigawake Fair. The renovations to the Loft will begin shortly and will make that area accessible and also more visually appeal-

Emilie has been involved in helping with the Shigawake Fair for several years, as a summer student, secretary and organizer. During the year she works part-time on a variety of jobs for the Fair and during the summer the amount of time she contributes increases.

The Shigawake Agricultural Fair and Music Festival will be held this year from August 16 to 19.

The Traditional Skills program has already begun. The first four sessions were for those participants who wanted to learn to knit or cross-stitch, or improve their skills. The next 4 sessions will be about learning to crochet or sew, with two classes spent on each skill. There will also be three classes on painting, including oils, acrylic and watercolour. The classes are offered at no cost, including materials which are provided. The instructors, who are seniors, have generously offered their time and expertise. They do not receive any payment. This is a superb example of positive intergenerational interac-

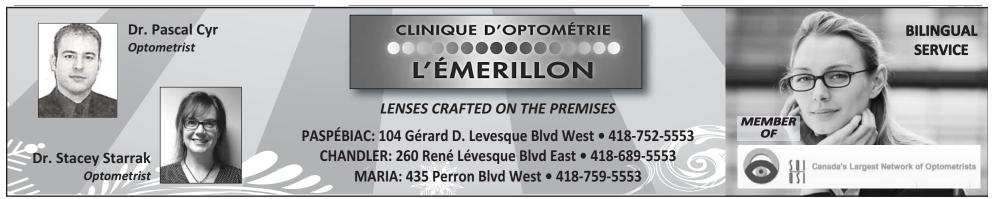
Emilie points out that many of these traditional arts are declining and may be lost in the future. She was a stu-

dent herself for the knitting classes. She laughs when saying that the knitting was a challenge for her. The dishcloth that she made took her about seven hours to complete. Emilie does not plan to use her handicraft, but maybe have it framed. She adds, "Plus that, my fingers were sore because they weren't used to using the knitting nee-

All ages are welcome to join the group for any or all of the classes that are upcoming. Emilie tells us that participants are welcome from any community! Classes are free and materials are included. Try it out. You have nothing to lose and will likely have a fun evening of learning a skill, socializing and enjoying a snack with the group.

To find out more information check your Gaspé Spec weekly or Shigawake Music Festival and Agricultural Fair on facebook.





Announcements...



Obituary



y In Memory

MORRISSON: Lena

To a wonderful mother.

The days go by without you now. All is not the same;
Our lives are missing that one strong force,
But your memories remain.
You're with a bigger family now.
God carried you away,
He needed someone with lots of love
To work with him each day.
We miss you and we love you, Mom,
And we know one thing for sure.
We'll hold each other again some day,
When we meet behind that door.
So for now we'll try and live our lives,
The way you taught us from the start,
To be good to one another,
And love straight from the heart.

Always loved, ever remembered, husband Blake, and children Lee Ann and Blake.

Nifty, Nifty look who's 50!



Love from Mom, and the family.

CULLIGAN: Junia

The death of Junia Culligan of Belledune occurred Tuesday, May 29, 2018, at the Chaleur Regional Hospital at the age of 84. Born in Port Daniel, Quebec, she was the daughter of the late Hubert Lorne and Sarah Christine (McPherson) Journeaux.

Junia is survived by her sons Gary (Mary Ann) of Belledune and Kelly (Jinky) of Toronto as well as her granddaughter Breanna and siblings David and Sandra. She was predeceased by her husband Arthur.

A graveside funeral service was held at the St. Gabriels Cemetery on Wednesday, June 6. Funeral arrangements were in the care of MacMillan's Funeral Home, Black Point.

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CLASSIFIED: \$6 per week

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CLASSIFIEDS

For Rent: Barachois Recreation Centre available for rental: family reunions, baby and bridal parties, birthdays, bingos, memorials, meetings etc. Fully furnished kitchen, seating capacity (90 people), \$50 daily rental. For reservations: Erica DeVouge 418-783-2293, edevouge@hotmail.com, Helen Lucas Chicoine sarsha67@gmail.com, 418-782-4067 or Patricia Ste-Croix Annett, pannett55@gmail.com, 418-645-3779.

Looking For: The Barachois Recreation Centre is setting up a fitness centre. If you have gently used equipment which you would like to donate, please contact: Patricia Ste-Croix Annett, 418-645-3779, Erica DeVouge, 418-783-2293 or Helen Lucas, 418-782-4049.

COAST ROUND-UP

POINTE-NAVARRE:

Shrine of Pointe-Navarre Saturday, June 16: A diocesan pilgrimage will take place from 10 a.m to noon at the Shrine of Pointe-Navarre. A community picnic will follow. Bring your lunch. Everyone welcome.

Tuesday, June 19: We will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the death of Father Watier at 7 p.m. at the Shrine of Pointe-Navarre. We will give thanks to the Lord by recalling the life of Father Watier and his mission among us.

YORK:

York ACW Advance Notice

York ACW will be holding its summer sale and afternoon tea on Saturday, July 14, beginning at 2 p.m. at the York River Community Hall. There will be baked goods, handicrafts, and a white elephant table. Afternoon tea will be served for \$5.

YORK:

Picnic

The York River Seniors will be having their annual picnic on Sunday, July 8, (Rain date: July 15) at Fort Peninsula starting at 11 a.m.

DOUGLASTOWN: Douglas Community Centre

Registrations are open for the Douglastown summer day camp. Register before Friday, June 22, and get a special rate. For more info: campjourdouglas@gmail.com, message us on the facebook page, or come to the reception of the Douglas Community Centre.

Sunday, June 17: Community breakfast from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. \$8 for adults (12 and over), \$4 for children (5 to 11) and free for children 4 and

Monday, June 18: Workshop on meditation techniques starting at 9 a.m. Cost \$20. Presentation about finding inner happiness starting at 7 p.m. Cost \$10. Please register on facebook, (offered in French only).

Tuesday, June 19: Douglas Community Centre AGM starting at 6 p.m. Light meal offered.

Thursday, July 5: Board games starting at 7 p.m. Come and play your favourite games.

BARACHOIS:

Barachois Rec. Centre

We invite you to join our walking club, "Making Strides," on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings beginning at 9 a.m., leaving from the Barachois Recreation Centre. Followed by tea/coffee social.

The Barachois Recreation Centre will be holding 18+ money bingos at 7 p.m. on June 22 and July 6. Bilingual. Over \$600 in cash prizes.

BARACHOIS:

Legion Branch 261

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

Sunday, June 17: Brunch from 9 a.m. to noon. Adults \$8, children 12 and under \$4.

Wednesday, June 27: Sandbags at 7 p.m. Come, join us for an evening of fun and exercise. Drop in program. New teams each week.

PORT DANIEL:

Fundraisers for

St. James Anglican Church June 30: Canada Day Entertainment Evening

July: 28: Annual Bazaar October 6: Harvest Supper

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. For more information call 418-752-

PORT DANIEL:

Three Star Golden Age Club

The following events will be held at the Three Star Golden Age Club in Port Daniel.

Saturday, June 23: Military Whist at 8 p.m. \$5 per person. Saturday, July 7: 500 card party at 7 p.m. \$5 per person.

SHIGAWAKE:

St. Paul's ACW

Thursday, July 12: St. Paul's ACW will be holding a tea, bake and craft sale at the Shigawake Community Center (across from the Anglican Church) from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Adults \$7, children 6 and under free. Door prizes. 50/50. Come out and enjoy an afternoon with family and friends.

Saturday, September 8: Harvest Supper beginning at 4:30 p.m. at the Shigawake Community Center. Adults \$15 and children 10 and under \$6, Take-outs available. Everyone welcome.

SHIGAWAKE:

Shigawake Fairgrounds

Live Music every Thursday in the Trough at the Shigawake Fairgrounds from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. \$5 entry. On **Thursday**, June 21, music will be provided by The Landsmen.

Saturday, July 14: Dance with Nash Stanley at the Shigawake Fairgrounds barn, starting at 6 p.m. More info to follow.

SHIGAWAKE:

Shigawake Community Center

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

Saturday, June 23: Fish Cake supper - \$12 per person

Saturday, July 7: Country Hoedown with live music, D.J. and light lunch. Dress up in your best country outfit.

HOPE TOWN: Hope Baptist Church Service

Hope Baptist Church welcomes you. Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. and Corporate Worship at 11 a.m. on Sundays. Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. Young Peoples for grades 7-11 at 7 p.m. on Fridays. 305 Route 132 West, Hope Town, 418-752-5838.

HOPE TOWN:

Hope Town Community Center

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

Friday, June 29: Gift bingo starting at 7:30 p.m. organized by the Hope Town Sports and Recreation Club.

Saturday, July 14: Military Whist.

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:

Royal Canadian Legion

Saturday, June 16: Mussel supper starting at 5 p.m. \$15 per person. To reserve your spot contact: 418-752-6799 or 418-752-5495.

NEW CARLISLE: LIFE Association

Saturday, June 16: Bingo at 7 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion in New Carlisle. \$10 series or 3/\$20.

NEW RICHMOND: Flea Market

New summer clothing has arrived, \$1 each. Good, hot meal at noon, free, donations accepted. We also give away hundreds of items every week. To donate or obtain furniture please call 418-392-5161. Open on Friday and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 248 Perron Blvd, New Richmond.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: Book Room

Please note that the book room is now closed for the summer months. For more information, please contact Kathleen Paquet at 418-392-4896.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: Royal Canadian Legion Br. 172

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 172, meets monthly every third Saturday at the Legion located at 55 Gallagher St. Please be advised that the Legion will remain open during the summer months. Doors open at 1 p.m. Bring your friends and family for conversation and celebrations. For fur-

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ther information please contact sharoncdavid@gmail.com

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: 50+ Club

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). Friday, June 15: Jam Session for all musicians and spectators. Doors open at 7 p.m. Music begins at 7:30 p.m. Free admission. Canteen service on site.

Sunday, June 17: Father's Day brunch beginning at 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at 319 rte 299. \$12 for adults, \$10 children 12 years old and under. Everyone is welcome to attend.

GESGAPEGIAG: N.A. Meetings

N.A. Meetings held every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Mawiomi 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 CLUB WINNERS The winners for the week of

June 3 are: Lison Leblanc, Alice Gagné, Céline Goulet, Michel Goulet, Marco Leblanc, Marie Moulin-Lévesque, Charles Bellavance.

UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, June 17 2 p.m. Hope Town

ANGLIGAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, June 17 **New Carlisle**

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist **Hope Town** 11 a.m. Holy Eucharist **Port Daniel/ Shigawake**

2 p.m. Joint service with United in Hope Town

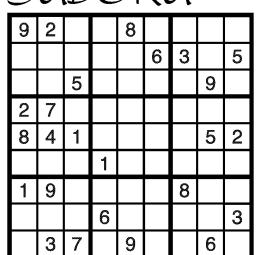
PARISH OF GASPÉ Sunday, June 17

York

9 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the lighter side

SUDOKU



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!

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L	L	9	ယ	8	G	7	2	6

ANSWER:

Do you recognize any of these faces?



New Carlisle High School Grade 4 (1988-1989)

Back Row: Nancy Smith, Angie Smith, Christine Smith, Stephen Gallant, Loretta McRae, Cindy Carney

Middle Row: Teacher Sarah Duguay, Michel Couture, Shirley Dow, Jerry Wylie, Mark Ramier, Penny MacWhirter, Joanne Ross.

Front Row: Natalie Hayes, Donna Major, Nancy Dea, Peter McGie, Randy Sweetman, Gerry Chapados, Gail Hottot.



ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, this week seems like a race, but you may be losing steam. With a lot of distance still left to cover, it's time to conserve your energy and find some assistance.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, your imagination is very active lately, so much so that it may make it difficult to concentrate on anything else. Make an effort to get work done in spite of the distractions.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, others may misinterpret your

enthusiasm for a carefree nature. However, you are actually busy getting the job done — even if you're having some fun doing it.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

It's possible you may misread someone's intentions, and it could get you in a bit of hot water, Cancer. Don't make any assumptions and apologize if you make mistakes.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, if your energy levels are waning, find a way to put some hop in your step. Take a break from work if necessary. This is a great way to recharge.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you haven't yet found your groove at work, but don't get discour-

aged because it will happen. Pay attention to others around you and how they act.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Even if others think you are ambivalent, you possess a clear picture of what you want and where you are heading, Libra. Don't let others' misconceptions sway you.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, if left to your own devices, you can get your work done quickly. But overcoming distractions may be difficult in the days ahead. Do your best to stay the course.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, if you are feeling high strung or nervous, you may just need to take a little time away from a situa-

tion to reorient yourself. Come back with a fresh perspective.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20 Capricorn, don't put others off by being too serious. Learn how to let loose a little bit this week and your friends will flock to you in no time at all.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18 Aquarius, you're normally a people person, but every once in a while you enjoy solitary time to think and avoid crowds. This could be the week for that.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20 Everything seems to be unfolding on schedule, Pisces. This is advantageous because you don't have to put in extra effort or sweat the details.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JUNE 10 Kate Upton, Model (26) **JUNE 11** Joe Montana, Athlete (62)

JUNE 12 Adriana Lima, Model (37) **JUNE 13**

Chris Evans, Actor (37) **JUNE 14**

Donald Trump, President (72) JUNE 15

Ice Cube, Actor/Rapper (49) **JUNE 16** Rick Nash, Athlete (34)



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School time blues

Jeanie LeLacheur

GASPÉ: - Rob Lutes the accomplished Canadian singer/songwriter who was nominated for both Acoustic Act and Songwriter of the Year in the 2018 Maple Blues Awards was recently in Gaspé for a second appearance at local schools. He was there as part of a history and creative writing workshop organized by Don Barclay, coordinator for the Community Learning Center.

Rob Lutes brought an inspiring music history experience to the Coast, and Gaspé Polyvalent Secondary 3 history students had only good things to say about the exercise. Consisting of a unique mix of Black history and the origins of music, the workshop had students engaged, on task, tapping their toes and singing.

During the activity students learned about the very beginnings of music and the birth of the blues; then had an opportunity to create their own songs with just a little guidance from Rob. The group opted to use events and memorable moments from the school year and wound up with a funny but meaningful music story called *Sec. 33 Blues* (which they may actually record at a later date). It



Canadian singer-songwriter Rob Lutes held creative writing workshop at Gaspé Polyvalent.

should also be noted that *The Donald Trump Blues* was also created at the workshop and it was an interesting composition to say the least. (If you're curious about content, talk to Don Barclay at the CLC.)

The second part of the creative writing activity had students pick three items from a bag and write a song using them for inspiration. Many of the participants exclaimed "we can't do that," but some incredibly entertaining lyrics emerged including the *Blind Man's Blues* inspired by a bro-

ken flashlight. Another student's song ended with, "If I learned anything from this, it's this, just don't miss, cause when you do, you wind up blue."

After an outstanding lesson in spontaneous creativity and making writing fun, students only had a few minutes to come up with ideas and a song and they all did.

If you'd like more information about Rob Lutes and or to listen to his *Walk in the Dark* single visit roblutes.





This display at the entrance of the church was created by Therese Gallant with the help of Zoe and Jenny Coull and Richard and Michel Boudreau.

Fundraiser for church is a great success

Elaine Sexton

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: - On May 5, the church was the place to be as wonderful music and singing entertained many. The fundraising event was organized to raise money to replace the cemetery fence and other necessary repairs.

Organizers are grateful to Richard Boudreau, President of the Fabrique who came up with the idea, the church wardens and all who participated in the event. Donations are still coming in through the mail and at church. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

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