







We appreciate your valued patronage. See you next year!

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All the best from all of us during the holidays

With warm wishes and gratitude from Sylvia, Dayna, Vanessa and Michael for all our customers and friends.

It's been a privilege and a pleasure serving you.

Thank you for your support!

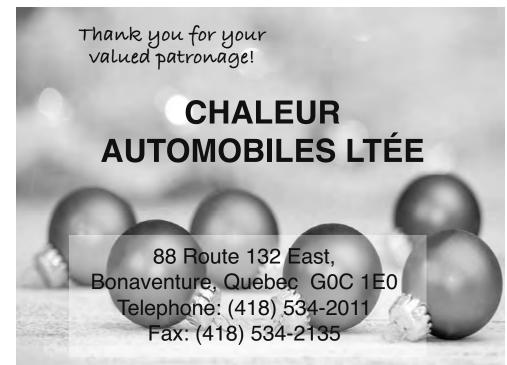


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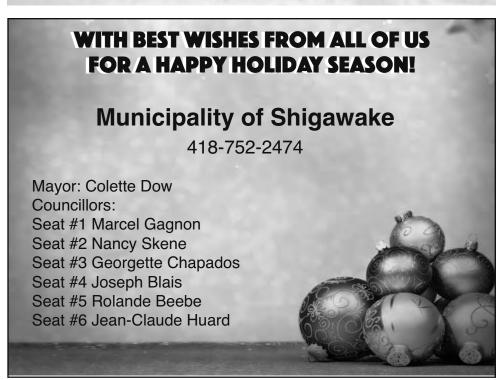


Merry Christmas and many thanks for your business this past year!



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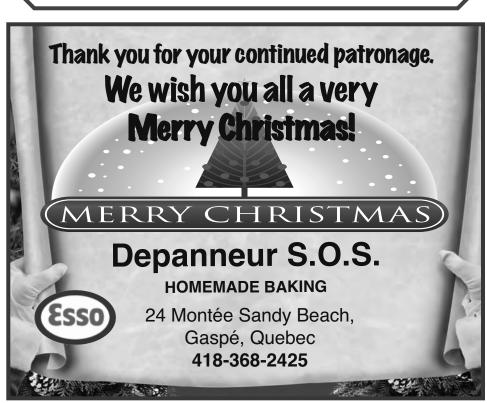
Merry Christmas!



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Reflections by Diane Skinner Flowers

A Plump Little Partridge

'Twas the night before Christmas, all along the Gaspé, Not a creature was stirring even out on the Bay. The stockings were hung up with a bit of twine. We were eating grandma's cookies, that suited us just fine.

A plump little partridge stood out in the snow,
A proud father buck and a cute little doe.
A light dusting of snow covered the bales
And grandmas were telling the wee ones some tales.

On the Coast, little dears, some 200 years past, Came settlers so hearty and also steadfast. They were tough and brave: struggling to survive After harsh, stormy seas they were grateful to be alive.

They came to the Gaspé from far, far away, From Scotland, France and Ireland. I'd like to say That some lived here before us in this gorgeous land— Mi'gmaq: They're natives, something you should understand.

Some were Acadians who settled here too
From what's now Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, maybe you knew?
From Islands called Guernsey and Jersey my child
They came here to these shores where the forests grew wild.

And then there's the Loyalists, loyal to the Crown Loyal to Britain, they came here...not even a town. They were given some land, some grain and an axe. They worked very hard. No time to relax.

They farmed, and they fished, and they made their own way And the descendants of them live here to this day.

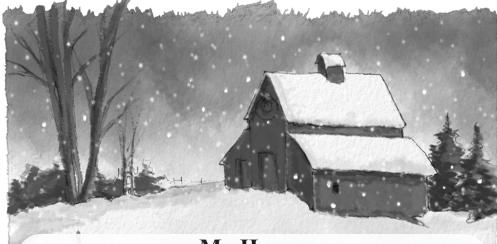
And you must stand tall and be very proud.

They fished in the lakes. The land they plowed.

So, if you are Gaspesian don't ever forget, That the blood of these ancestors flow through you yet. You know who you are. You're from the Gaspé Whether you're living here or maybe away.

Now hush go to sleep for Santa is near. And when you awake in the morning, my dear The sun will be shining on the new fallen snow But remember the Gaspé wherever you go!

Merry Christmas to all Gaspesians living here or away! This is my yearly offering based on 'Twas the Night Before Christmas. Each year, small changes are made. Makes a cute read-aloud for Gaspesian children, of all ages.



My Heroes

When most people think of heroes, they think of people who fight wars, police personnel, fire fighters, ambulance technicians and many more. I would like to tell you about some of my heroes.

My husband lives in chronic pain and what keeps him going are cortisone shots, pills and morphine patches. There is no cure; just stronger medication to make life livable. I depend on him for so many things which are harder for him to do now, but he tries anyway. Life isn't as much fun as it used to be.

I think of my sister who worked so hard and took such pride in her work. Her struggle with cancer took her life way too soon. She came into this life on April 1, 1959 and she left again November 11, 2011. She was 52

My father was a quiet, gentle man who always said that he was looking forward to getting his old age pension at 65 so he could sit back and relax. Cancer came for him when he was 63.

Then there are the heroes who have become a part of my life like the people who retire early. They are able to travel and do the things that are of interest to them.

There is a couple I know who volunteer time and time again. Their generosity impresses me to see how selfless they are with other people. It would be so easy to say no to some of the things that they are involved in, but they are always there to help.

The people who live alone, especially the seniors who have to depend on others for support are very strong as far as I am concerned. It isn't easy to have to ask for help when you are used to depending on yourself. To have others help you with your personal care, getting someone to do your errands like going to the doctor, getting groceries and going to visit friends is harder when you have to ask for help. For some of them, their world becomes smaller and they don't go out as much so they enjoy visits from friends.

There are others who have made an impact on my life like the guy who delivers our mail or the man who brings the Pharillon and the sales each week. These men travel in all kinds of weather, both good and bad and they are always so friendly.

I'm sure if you take the time to think of all the people in your life, you would see all kinds of heroes too. Doctors, nurses, and so many others are somebody's heroes.

I just wanted to tell you some of my heroes Have a very Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year!!!

Bonita Baird

Merry Christmas

Christmas is slowly on its way and small towns along the snow covered Chaleur Bay await in anticipation. The fresh smelling air reminds us of Christmas joy, happiness and laughter.

Let the Christmas Star shine into our hearts and make our spirits bright so that families near and far, will feel the warmth of Christmas. Homes are decorated for the holidays with love; stockings and mistletoe hang for everyone to see.

Snowflakes rest on decorated windows while the outside Christmas trees standing tall against the brisk wind that comes from over the Chaleur Bay. This year, may your Christmas be linked with a friendship chain of unconditional love and continue throughout the holidays and into 2019.

Merry Christmas!

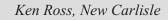
Happy New Year everyone

As another year unfolds many Gaspesians may wonder what 2019 will bring. My wish is that this year brings waves of opportunaties our way. Remember that resolutions start out as dreams and can turn into reality with enough effort.

I hope that Gaspesians will experience the fragrance and freshness of the beauty of friendship and kindness throughout all four seasons of the year.

Let God spread prosperity, love and peace to each household along the Bay of Chaleur for the coming year. Our hearts can be filled with hopes in 2019. New horizons can come our way in promises and all the tomorrow can be brighter.

I wish all Gaspesians a very Happy New Year











A Christmas Poem

Christmas brings a mixture of thought...
Of children that are with us
Of family that are not.
Of longing to be with them
Of need to be here
A warmth that seeps into our soul.
A touch of sadness

A thankful prayer we all should say
For the privilege of this beautiful day.
A little time so we can share,
And let someone know how much we care.
A warm embrace, a friendly smile
A meaning of love

And so amid the pots and pans
And wonderful kitchen smells,
The crunching of the frozen snow
The ringing of the bells...
My thoughts go back to a different time
But Christmas was the same.
The love that was given to me then
Always will remain.

- Christmas 1971, Verna Gray

A holiday cocktail to warm up your guests

(NC) This extra-festive twist on a Moscow mule is sure to spice up your holiday party. Flavoured with the zing of ginger beer, notes of caramel and vanilla from bourbon, and balanced by the sweetness of apple cider, it strikes a perfect balance.



"To make your drink look as good as it tastes, try garnishing with accents such as crystallized ginger," suggests Michelle Pennock, executive chef for the President's Choice Test Kitchen. "This small step brings the drink to the next level."

Maple Bourbon Cider Mule

Prep time: 5 minutes Serves:1 Ingredients:

- 1/3 cup (75 mL) honeycrisp sweet apple cider
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) bourbon (1 oz)
- 4 tsp (20 mL) pure maple syrup
- 1 tsp (5 mL) fresh lime juice
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) ginger beer
- 1 slice crystallized ginger (optional)

Directions

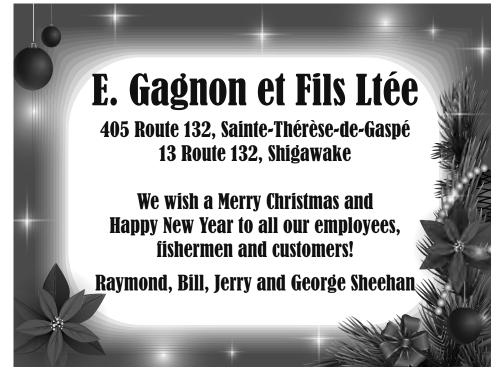
- 1. Fill cocktail shaker halfway with ice. Add apple cider, bourbon, maple syrup and lime juice. Cover and shake vigorously 15 to 20 seconds.
- 2. Strain into PC Stemless Red Wine Glass filled with ice. Top with ginger beer. Thread crystallized ginger onto wooden cocktail skewer (if using); place in glass.

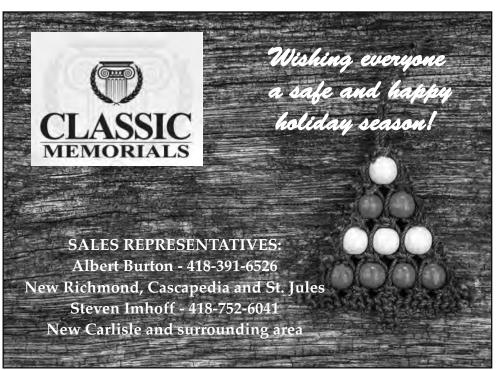
Chef's tip: Leave out the bourbon for a non-alcoholic version.

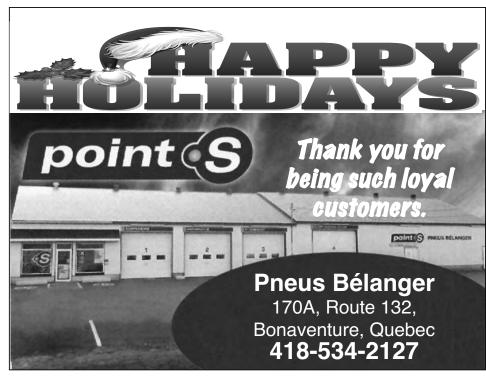
Nutritional information per serving: Calories 220, fat 0 g, sodium 10 mg, carbohydrates 39 g, fibre 0 g, sugars 36 g, protein 0 g.















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