

## St. Simeon-Port Daniel Volunteer Centre recognizes its volunteers

PASPEBIAC: - Activities for the 45th week of volunteerism, held from April 7 to 13 began on April 8 with an afternoon of activities organized by the Bonaventure Senior Volunteer Committee. Other activities took place during the week in St. Elzéar, Port Daniel and St. Siméon.

On April 10, volunteers from the St. Siméon-Port-Daniel Volunteer Centre (CAB) attended a breakfast in their honour at the St. Pie X Community Centre. In a cordial and warm atmosphere with over 100 volunteers in attendance, the centre took the opportunity to welcome new volunteers and those who have five, ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five and thirty years of volunteer service.

The meal was served by Marie-Chantal's Les délices catering service and there were prizes offered by sponsors from the region.

This breakfast was a great way to recognize volunteers who dared to volunteer.

From April to March each year, a monthly draw is held among the active volunteers. The volunteers of the year for 2019 are: Mr. Gérald Gagnon from Paspébiac, involved in Meals on Wheels and in his community and Mrs. Denise Doyle of Bonaventure, engaged in transportation support and the tax clinic in 2018. Their involvement is very much appreciated and



Over 100 volunteers attended the CAB activity.



First year volunteers with the CAB received an award recognizing their efforts.

the CAB would like to congratulate them once again on being our volunteers of the

year!

The slogan this year was "What if we dared to volun-

teer!" So, let's dare every day to make a gesture to bring support to the people of our

community. A deep gratitude to those who dare to volunteer!

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# Legault will be personally involved in the file

Nelson **Sergerie**

GASPÉ: – Quebec Premier François Legault will personally get involved in the file pertaining to the refurbishment of the Gaspé Peninsula railway, which needs to speed up, according to all the people involved in this matter.

That guarantee was obtained by Bonaventure Member of the National Assembly Sylvain Roy hours after he requested such intervention and days after a stern battle launched by Gaspé Mayor Daniel Côté who is trying to convince the Legault government to cut the refurbishment time of the repairs.

During their April 25 visit to New Richmond, Premier Legault and Transport Minister François Bonnardel said that it will take seven years before completing the Mata-pedia-Gaspé line repairs, a delay that is unanimously considered too long by the region's stakeholders. In that context, the line would only reopen to Gaspé in 2026.

Daniel Côté asked at least 50 municipalities in the Gaspé Peninsula and Lower Saint Lawrence for support



Photo: N. Sergerie

Premier François Legault is ready to get involved personally in the railway file.

by adopting a resolution requesting the reduction from 2026 to 2022 - the time required to restore rail services to Gaspé.

“What I want is a large mass movement from Eastern Quebec that comes to tell the government that enough is enough! At one point, equity between what is going on in the city and what is going on in regions (must occur). That is what we wish,” states Mr. Côté.

## Parti Québécois MNAs get involved

Following a press statement made at the National Assembly on the morning of May 9 with his Rimouski riding colleague Harold Lebel, Sylvain Roy received a call from the Premier's office to the effect that he and his staff were accepting a meeting with the railway stakeholders of the Gaspé Peninsula.

The two Parti Québécois Members of the National As-

sembly had requested such a meeting a few hours earlier.

“There are people who will go elsewhere in order to set up enterprises because we don't have access to rail services,” pointed out the Bonaventure riding Member of the National Assembly during that press conference. The call from the Premier's office came about four hours after that.

“I received confirmation that the premier will personally work on the file and do a follow up on our request,” summed up Mr. Roy after the call. There is no date set for the meeting, however, and Mr. Roy just hopes that it will be held before the end of June.

To support his viewpoint that the refurbishment can go faster, Daniel Côté uses the example of the REM, Montreal's *Réseau express métropolitain*, the huge commuting project currently underway which requires an investment of \$6.3 billion. It will be completed in three years. That image was also used by Sylvain Roy.

## Daniel Côté gets support

Many of the towns of the Gaspé Peninsula are already

supporting Daniel Côté's request to speed up the refurbishment of the railway. Bonaventure, Carleton, Chandler and New Richmond have adopted motions, as well as Lower Saint Lawrence's major towns like Rimouski and Mont-Joli.

The mayor of New Richmond and president of the Gaspésie Railway Society Éric Dubé points out that the quest initiated by Daniel Côté and the preliminary results obtained quickly are a testimony of the railway's importance in the region.

“We are sending a message that, yes, it is important. We must find solutions so that the refurbishment process must be carried out as soon as possible” says Mr. Dubé.

Daniel Côté initiated his quest for wide support on May 3. Minister of Transport François Bonnardel's staff then communicated with the mayor of Gaspé in order to understand what was going on, convinced that the April 25 announcement had satisfied Gaspésians.

“They explained to us that there are regulatory and legal processes to follow. What I will accept is a reasonable delay. For me, a reasonable delay is 2022,” says Mr. Côté.

## Premier Legault talks directly to Daniel Côté

Nelson **Sergerie**

GASPÉ – Premier François Legault talked directly to the mayor of Gaspé Daniel Côté on May 9, as both men were attending the annual convention of *Union des municipalités du Québec* in Quebec City. Both men were sitting at the same table, hours after the premier's office had contacted Sylvain Roy, Member of the National Assembly, to tell him that Mr. Legault is ready to meet Gaspé Peninsula stakeholders wanting to accelerate the line repairs.

François Legault acknowledges that the 2026 deadline is too far in the future.

“He understands people's dissatisfaction regarding the railway. His government (and) minister (of Transport, François) Bonnardel are working at cutting delays. Will it be through performance enhanced specifications or another way. It is not specified but there is a real will to change the delays,” explains Mr. Côté.

It remains to be seen, adds

the Gaspé mayor, if the administrative machine of the government will find solutions to reduce delays.

According to Mr. Côté, the media coverage and the Gaspé Peninsula and Lower Saint Lawrence municipal resolutions to accelerate the line refurbishment are paying off.

“There are many municipal council resolutions circulating currently. The (government) offices are receiving some every day. Despite that political commitment we received, as long as we won't have a (new) delay confirmation, we will keep putting pressure,” he adds.

Mr. Côté stays convinced that 2022 is always realistic for the return of train services to Gaspé. LM Wind Power, the biggest customer of the Gaspésie Railway Society, will be looking for new contracts and the railway will be a key in that regard. LM Wind Power has to send its blades by truck to New Richmond because the line is closed east of Caplan.

## The Amiral train is deteriorating

Nelson **Sergerie**

GASPÉ - The Gaspésie Railway Society will look into the fate of the Admiral tourist train cars at its next board of directors meeting.

The train has not been used since 2015 following the railway ban by Quebec. Parked at the Gaspé station, the cars are suffering the effects of weather and vandalism. One just needs to take a glance at the first car to see that the roof shows deterioration, not to mention the graffiti.

While Quebec has unveiled plans to renovate the railway to Gaspé by 2026, the Gaspésie Railway Society, president, Eric Dubé, wants to protect them by returning them to New Richmond. “Almost \$1 million has been invested in renovations. I would not want to have to reinvest another \$1 million the day we need it again,” he says.

In 2017, the transfer of the locomotive caused sparks in Gaspé. The mayor, Daniel Côté, finally joined the decision as it was used to pull the



Photo: N. Sergerie

The Amiral tourist train parked in Gaspé is showing the effects of weather and vandalism.

wind turbine blades from New Richmond to the connection with CN in Matapédia. The mayor is agreeing with the decision to move them, as long as the society keeps them. “If it's to store them, update them, that's fine. To sell them, I re-

ally would not agree. We will not fight to keep them in our yard,” says Mr. Côté. The immobilized cars are also causing misunderstandings among cruise passengers, especially those wishing to use the immobilized infrastructure.

# Police report

On May 10 at the New Carlisle Courthouse Jérémie Viktor Lagacé, 24, from Saint-André-de-Restigouche who is serving a 13-year penitentiary sentence for the murder of French tourist Fabrice Durand entered a plea of guilty on a number of theft, break and enters, as well as breach of probation charges. He admitted having stolen five firearms in a Miguasha house between August 8 and 18, 2017. The murder of Fabrice Durand occurred on August 22. "It was probably the firearm used for the murder that was stolen but it was not proven beyond a doubt," points out Crown Prosecutor Florence Frappier-Routhier. Lagacé also entered a plea of guilty on two charges of break and enter and theft at the Temrex sawmill in Nouvelle, where he stole tools and chainsaws between July 13 and 18 and the beginning of August 2017. "Four breach of probation charges were added because he was not permitted to have a weapon and he was to keep peace following previous crimes he had committed. He was sentenced to two years of prison but that sentence will be served concurrently because the murder sentence prevails in that kind of case. His prison term started on August 22 after his arrest," says Florence Frappier-Routhier.

Jérémy Bugeaud-Ferlatte, 26, from Bonaventure charged with conducting indignity to a corpse, break and enter at the Caplan cemetery vault and setting a casket on fire, entered a plea of guilty on May 7 at the New Carlisle Courthouse. He was sentenced to a four-month term to be served at his home. He will not be allowed to leave the house for the first two months and will have to respect a 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. curfew during the last two months. Suffering from a slight intellectual handicap and from problems related to an autistic condition, he cannot live alone and lives with his father. He served 23 days in jail following his May 2018 arrest. "Jérémy Bugeaud Ferlatte's place is not in prison, based on a neuro-psychologist report that evaluated his condition. He presents cognitive and intellectual shortcomings and is consequently vulnerable. We can even guess that he was intimidated and somehow forced into committing those acts. He was the only one turning his back when shots were given to the corpse and he hit on only one occasion," explains Crown Prosecutor Florence Frappier-Routhier. He will have to respect a two-year probation once the sentence is served. The three other culprits in that affair are already serving prison time or detention time in a youth centre.

A request made by Lawrence Stevens to the Court of Appeal has been rejected. Stevens, 77, formerly a teacher at Aux Quatre Vents School in Bonaventure, was appealing a 2016 verdict. It was rendered by Judge Martin Gagnon who concluded that the accused was guilty of rape and gross indecency against a female student for acts occurring between November 1979 and June 21, 1981. The three Court of Appeal judges agreed that Judge Gagnon had correctly assessed the victim's lack of consent and that his conclusions were reasonable. The Court of Appeal decision was rendered on May 6. Since the verdict was upheld, Stevens had three days following the decision to present himself at the New Carlisle prison. As a last resort, Lawrence Stevens can make an appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada.

New Carlisle Sûreté du Québec police officers arrested two men on May 9 shortly after they received a mail delivery of a parcel containing slightly more than 700 methamphetamine pills. Tyson Shawn Astles, 24, from Bonaventure, was kept in custody. On May 10 he appeared at the New Carlisle courthouse to face a charge of drug possession for the purpose of trafficking. He also faces two breach of condition charges regarding six files that were about to be brought to court, including some related to drugs. He was kept in prison and will return to court for his bail hearing on May 14. The other man is 22 years of age and lives in Port Daniel. He was released and will be summoned to appear in court at a later date. The investigators are trying to determine the origin of the parcel. The investigation was initiated following information received from the public.

Two cars were stopped on the morning of May 10 during a road operation conducted by the Sûreté du Québec officers enforcing safety measures. The drivers are suspected of driving under the influence of drugs. The two-and-a-half hour operation led to 17 infraction tickets. About 60 additional tickets or warnings were also given regarding mechanical problems. It was the third such operation to be conducted in Gaspé in as many years and it could happen again anywhere in the Gaspé Peninsula, according to SQ Sgt. Spokesperson Claude Doiron.

## UNIPÊCHE MDM CONTROVERSY: Emploi Québec screens job offers

Gilles Gagné

PASPEBIAC: – Quebec's Department of Labour Employment and Social Solidarity screens the job offers sent to Emploi-Québec but the presence of a Unipêche MDM post offering a higher salary to men can be explained by the fact that companies are initially allowed to post jobs to the job site.

This is how Caroline d'Astous, spokesperson for Jean Boulet, Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, explains the presence of a Unipêche MDM job offer in 2014 on Emploi-Québec's website. That job offer provided a salary of \$11.03 per hour to women and \$11.62 to men for the same labourer positions.

At the time the job offer was noticed by Simon Henry, a Gaspesian who was checking Bay of Chaleur area job posts. His efforts to get a valuable explanation about the presence of what he dubbed a "discriminatory and sexist job

offer," in vain.

A controversy arose on April 27 of this year when another Unipêche MDM offer posted on CIEU FM's job billboard triggered an angry reaction on social media because of the wage difference, \$12.69 per hour for women and \$13.28 for men, the same 59 cents difference as in 2014.

Regarding this year's controversy, Caroline d'Astous points out "on April 27, when the minister saw the job offer publication, he rapidly commented on Twitter to indicate that he was asking the CNESST (the public body in charge of equity, health and safety at work) to do the necessary follow-up, which was done. To this day, an investigation was initiated in wage equity matter and the employer is collaborating. The process is continuing."

Regarding Emploi-Québec's online employment site, Ms. d'Astous says that "one must know that it works in a self-serve mode. Emploi-Québec is therefore not di-

rectly responsible for the content posted on it, however, you must know that a constant watch is carried out to assure the conformity related to the conditions of the site's use. The MTESS (Department of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity) is deactivating systematically the potentially litigious job offers."

When asked to explain why the 2014 job offer was visible on Emploi-Québec's job billboard for a lengthy period of time, and that the situation was probably repeated on several occasions before and since, Caroline d'Astous answers that detection "measures are improved since 2014 and the MTESS stays vigilant regarding this type of post."

Gino Lebrasseur, director of Unipêche MDM, indicated on April 29 that the company was willing to improve its salary equity policy.

He also pointed out that the salary equity program of the company was approved in 2015 for five years by the CNESST.

## Inmate responsible for \$40,000 in vandalism at New Carlisle prison

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: - An inmate at the New Carlisle jail will eventually face a charge of mischief exceeding \$5,000 following major vandalism acts committed in the prison on April 30, at about 2:15 p.m.

The value of damage probably amounts to more than \$40,000. While waiting for a trial in another case, the man damaged and destroyed appliances including a washing machine and a dryer, telephones, sinks, one or several toilet bowls and plumbing components. He also damaged a wall, according to

Patrick Harvey, spokesperson for the Quebec Public Security Ministry.

"The damage forced the closure of 16 cells in the prison and eight inmates had to be moved to other prisons," says Mr. Harvey. He is not confirming any damage value though, pointing out that it remains under evaluation. He doesn't confirm that cameras were also destroyed. The inmate was controlled by prison guards at one point. Sûreté du Québec officers were called to assist in case the inmate would have been able to escape but their intervention was finally not necessary.

Water leaking from broken pipes or a toilet bowl caused considerable damage inside the prison, according to preliminary information communicated to SPEC. Moreover, mace had to be used to control the inmate. Staff members of the adjacent courthouse were affected by the mace vapours that circulated in the ventilation system common to the two buildings. The case is under investigation by Sûreté du Québec officers. The SQ refuses to comment until formal charges are laid by a crown prosecutor. The identity of the inmate will only be released at that time.

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### Commentary

Gilles Gagné

## Human beings first, administrative numbers second

The death of a seven-year-old girl from Granby shocked the province on April 30 and since, as the victim passed away after being tied and beaten in the home of her father and his girlfriend, who are both charged with unlawful confinement. The woman is also charged with aggravated assault. Additional charges will likely be laid later.

The case disturbed not only Quebecers but those outside Quebec as well because violence against children should never happen in our so-called civilized society. The fact that the Youth protection office of the Eastern Townships seems to have dropped the case adds to its gravity. The paternal grandmother of the victim had unsuccessfully tried to remove the girl from her father's home, an attempt that was apparently ignored by the Youth protection office.

In the days that followed the child's death, several Youth protection office staff members were insulted by passers-by, and social media heavily criticized them without discernment. The case also rocked politicians and prompted the Quebec government to order a public coroner's inquest. The goal is to come up with recommendations to avoid similar occurrences in the future.

In the meantime, Alain Trudel, director of the youth protection office in the Eastern Townships, has been suspended with pay pending an investigation into the complaints related to the victim's file.

Two weeks after the death of the girl, it is probably easier to reflect more calmly on the case and draw preliminary observations.

Insulting youth protection office employees will not open the door to any progress in the way children must be treated by their parents or foster parents. Over recent years, social workers dealing with children have gone through a lot of administrative changes, and those changes have immensely complicated the nature of their duties.

Since the thorough centralization undertaken by the former Minister of Health, Gaétan Barrette, youth protection centres are now very small components of a huge network. While youth protection social workers were part of autonomous teams in the past, they are now almost forgotten in an enormous set of health and social service entities.

Hospitals take most of the administrators' attention and those same administrators now have to include youth protection and an already oversized equation.

A recent study undertaken by *Université du Québec en Outaouais* shows that those administrators don't exactly know what to do with youth protection. They tend to ask social workers to deliver reports. They set quotas for them a certain number of cases that have to be resolved over a week.

However, youth protection cases do not fit well with administrative quotas and red tape. Social workers deal with human beings, broken human beings in most cases. If you are a 29 year-old social worker trying to explain to a single mother aged 32 that she is unfit to raise her daughter or son, that she has to deal with her drug addiction or alcoholism before standing a decent chance at having her child back and that it will take at least a year before the return can take place - you are in for a long conversation. You must stay composed, calm and convincing.

When social workers are under exaggerated pressure, they will not take the time to consult with more experienced colleagues, or simply ask for a second opinion. Just talking about a case can lead to a valuable solution sometimes. In the centralized system like ours, there is little room for such considerations.

The *Université du Québec en Outaouais* study also demonstrates that the level of stress youth protection social workers are dealing with is close to unbearable. The cases they are asked to deal with become an obsession, and they bring those cases home. They can hardly take a much-needed break from them.

An undetermined but high percentage of them give up after a few years because of that stress and exhaustion. A lack of recognition from the authorities is another factor in their decision to seek other types of work.

When they opt for another career, the society loses valuable competence and must therefore rely on unexperienced people that will be less likely to make good decisions when facing pressure.

The inquest launched by the National Assembly will undoubtedly touch on some of those topics. The recommendations will unlikely erase the laws currently applied to youth protection because those laws are reasonable. One predictable aspect of the report will pertain to the utmost importance of child protection, whether they stay with their family or are placed either temporarily or permanently in foster homes.

The inquest will most certainly put emphasis on the fact that we must put human beings before administrative numbers.

**QESBA appalled by the forcible closure of English public schools.** The Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) is appalled at the manner in which the Government of Québec is conducting itself regarding the forcible closure and transfer of English schools to relieve the overcrowding in french system.

The Minister has already transferred Riverdale High School in the Lester B. Pearson School Board (LBPSB) territory in favour of the French school board Marguerite-Bourgeoys (CSMB). Now, he is ordering the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) to surrender three schools to the Commission Scolaire Pointe de l'île (CSPI) without proper parent and community consultation as is prescribed in Québec's Education Act.

"This Minister needs to understand that there is a major student, teacher, parent and community impact when closing a school - especially within the English-speaking community in Québec. This is why there are necessary dispositions in the Education Act specifically for consultations. Our primary responsibility has and always will be to our students," said QESBA President Dan Lamoureux.

"QESBA and the nine member boards we represent have always worked very closely with successive governments to find positive, workable solutions that will benefit our students, parents and the communities we serve. This Minister refuses to meet with our leaders and discuss things in a productive manor that will benefit the communities they were also elected to serve. This is a pattern that does not augur well for the future of minority language education in Québec," concluded the President.

QESBA is the voice of English public education in Québec and represents 100,000 students in 340 elementary, high schools, and adult and vocational centres across Québec.

Kim Hamilton,  
Director of Communications  
and Special Projects

**Thank you very much for the article on the Matapedia flood.** I'd like to bring to your attention the comment (Restigouche River rose by 450% between 1962 and 2003) which is correct, but it lacked to mention that this happens during JULIAN DAY 94 to 115 (three weeks in April). Water discharge today is much lower during the summer than it was half a century ago. It all comes out during the spring snow-melt as water can't penetrate the frozen ground of clear-cuts, roads and the loss of evapostublimation from deforestation.

Peter Dubé,  
Matapedia, Quebec

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# Rotary Club hands out annual donations and recognizes the work of Louis Sexton

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND: – New Richmond's Rotary Club gave out its annual donations on May 7, supporting 27 initiatives. The donations total \$18,875 and the money came from the Rotary Club's annual calendar sales. Over the past 27 years, the sales of that calendar have brought in \$487,500 for the beneficiaries of the Rotary Club's volunteer work.

The club also took the occasion to highlight the work of treasurer Louis Sexton who has shown a lot of availability and dedication since joining the organization in 2002.

This year, the biggest amount, \$1,820, went to the salmon dinner organized annually by the Rotary Club, a meal for seniors and held on the first Sunday of August. The Bay of Chaleur Health Foundation and OGPAC (*Organisme gaspésien des personnes atteintes de cancer*), each received \$1,500.

Four organizations received \$1,000; *Maison de la famille* of the Bonaventure MRC, the New Richmond Student Foundation, the Knights of Columbus' Christmas food baskets and Rotary Club youth initiatives. The Rotary Club will also use \$555 to support community members in time-sensitive initiatives.

"Sometimes, we answer calls for situations requiring help in a short amount of time. That's why we have those amounts set aside," points out Jacques Veillette, president of the Rotary Club.

Twenty other organizations received \$500. The Relay for Life, the Linda Lemore-Brown Foundation, the Eagles Club of Cascapedia-St-Jules, the Cascapedia 50 Plus Club, the Mutual Aid Club, the L.I.F.E. Association and the Cadets are some of them.

The *Fonds Leblanc Lobo Turcotte*, the *Ressources d'aide aux personnes handicapées* of the Gaspé Peninsula, the Volunteer Action Centre (P'tit Bonheur), the Figure Skating Club, New Richmond's Youth House, the Saumoneaux Swimming Club, the TCC and ACV Association, the *Association des personnes handicapées Chaleurs*, the Alpine Ski Club, Maison Oasis, the Passerelle and New Richmond's Soccer Club complete the list.

Meanwhile, members of the Rotary Club were glad to give the Paul Harris Fellow award to Louis Sexton for 17 years of inspired involvement. "This includes the participation of other people with me. Thank you very much. It is a nice honour, much appreciated," said Mr. Sexton upon receiving the certificate and a medal.



Louis Sexton receiving the Paul Harris Fellow certificate. Thanks to the Rotary Club's past activities an amount of \$1,000 US will be made available for international causes supported by the worldwide Rotary Club.



Photos: G. Gagné

Most organizations receiving money from the Rotary Club were present at the annual presentation of the donation.

## Four work place deaths in 2018

Thierry Haroun

GASPÉ PENINSULA: - In 2018, four deaths in the workplace have been registered in the Gaspésie and Magdalen Islands region. This is four deaths too many since they could all have been prevented.

The four deadly accidents are the following: a fishermen's helper that fell overboard; a forklift that fell on its driver; a loader that rolled over on its driver and a lung occupational disease linked to a contaminant in the workplace. The disease itself is not mentioned in the CNESST documents, but it could be either silicosis, asbestosis or berylliosis. In past years those three diseases were the most deadly of workplace illnesses.

In comparison, there were also four workplace-related deaths registered in 2017, of which two were occupational

diseases; one in 2016 and two in 2015.

In the province, there were 226 deaths in the workplace, including 164 occupational diseases in 2018; 230 in 2017 including 168 occupational diseases; 217 in 2016 including 137 occupational diseases; 196 in 2015 including 127 occupational diseases; and in 2014 there were 164 deaths with 107 occupational diseases. It should be noted that an occupational disease can take 10, 20 or even 30 years to develop. This is the case with berylliosis. In 2004 and 2005, Spec published a thorough investigation about the cases of berylliosis in former workers in Murdochville.

In terms of injuries in the workplace, 1088 workers were injured in our region in 2018 and 91,711 across the province which represents one accident in the workplace every six minute.

### Prevention is the key

In an interview with Spec, the regional spokesperson for CNESST, Maxime Boucher, had an important message. "The responsibility of making sure that the workplace is safe goes to the employer. He must make sure that every department is safe and follows the rules of the CNESST.

Accidents can happen very quickly, but they can all be prevented when everyone in the workplace does what has to be done in terms of safety. Death in the workplace is not a fatality. Our investigations show that there's always an element that demonstrates that a deadly accident was preventable and to make sure that such accidents don't occur the risk identification should be a top priority," he added.



## PUBLIC NOTICES

### LEGAL SERVICES AND TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Notice to all interested persons who are entitled to sign an application to take part in a referendum (application must be received between May 15 to May 23, 2019, at 4:30 pm) :

By-Law 1156-11-39 amends the zoning by-law 1156-11 as follows :

- modifiant les usages autorisés dans la zone IC-269 afin de permettre comme usage spécifiquement permis dans cette zone, l'usage Gymnase et club athlétique (7425);
- modifiant les usages autorisés dans la zone RT-131 afin de permettre la classe d'usages Hébergement d'envergure (C-10).

The zone (IC-269) is situated in the Parc industriel des Augustines and the zone (RT-131) is situated on the boulevard Forillon, between 1587 and 1751, boulevard Forillon.

GIVEN at Gaspé, May 15, 2019.

Isabelle Vézina,  
Director of Legal Services and town clerk

In accordance with the by-law concerning the publication of public notices, the city of Gaspé informs you that you will find all of these notices on the website of the city of Gaspé at the following address: ville.gaspe.qc.ca in the section public notices.

# Chandler municipal council adopts salary increases

—Arianne Aubert Bonn

CHANDLER: – The members of Chandler’s municipal council voted for a salary increase at the May 6 public meeting. Having refused to do so when they came to power, thinking that they were not in a legitimate position to judge the work to be done and their responsibilities, Chandler’s councillors recently reconsidered their position.

For many of them, councillor income added to the pay of their regular job generating a much larger tax bill. This is one of the reasons that led them to adopt this increase. “Councillors’ salaries go from \$16,000 to \$22,500, and the mayor’s salary will increase from \$49,000 to \$60,000,” says deputy-mayor Bruno-Pierre Godbout.

He adds that “we put 20 to 30 hours a week for the task. So in addition to the tax impact, we only work for \$10 an hour.”

## Supporting Gaspé

Recently, the mayor of Gaspé, Daniel Côté asked for support from all municipalities in the railway file, considering it unacceptable to wait until 2026 for the line’s complete refurbishment, the option suggested on April 25 by Premier François Legault.

Mayor Côté claims that 2022 represents the end of LM Wind Power’s current export contract and that the line will have to be functional to ensure future contracts. In Chandler, the elected officials signed the mayor’s request for support. “We’re behind Daniel Côté. The train is very important for the economy. We hope that Mr. Côté can speed things up,” says deputy mayor Bruno-Pierre Godbout, who chaired the last monthly meeting.



Deputy mayor Bruno-Pierre Godbout led the last municipal meeting.

Photo: A. Bonn

## Zoning change for Gaspesia plant site

The zoning of the former Gaspesia plant site goes from industrial to recreational. This is a major shift in Chandler’s development potential, as industrial development will now be outside the downtown core.

However, a simple change in the projected use of the land is only a first step, says Bruno-Pierre Godbout: “There are several verifications to be done on the environmental side to find out what kind of project we can do.”

The contamination of certain portions of the land explains the relevance of these checks. Chandler expressed the wish, several years ago, to use this space to make it a crossroads of recreational and tourist activities for both the public and visitors. Several ideas are on the drawing board.

## The municipal garage will not be built soon

The elected officials of Chandler postponed the contract awarding for the construction of the municipal garage.

Divided right now, the council must agree on the location of the infrastructure. Some fear an increase in operating costs if the garage is located in the industrial park in Pabos and not in the central district of Chandler.

In addition to that, the cost of \$5 million to complete the project is such that the council wants to know the maintenance costs of it. “We do not yet have the approval of the provincial government to give the contract, but it could happen in June,” says Mr. Godbout. In the meantime, the council will have to decide on a location.

## New hockey rink

“After the closure of the Newport arena, it was promised that the neighborhood would have a sports infrastructure,” says Bruno-Pierre Godbout. A new outdoor skating rink will be built near the school to meet this need. In addition, a new playing area will be built and can be converted in summer to badminton, volleyball or tennis. A notice of motion for a loan was issued on May 6.

## Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



## I like you just the way you are

Fred McFeely Rogers, more popularly known as Mister Rogers, was an American television icon from 1968 to 2001. He was the creator, producer, and writer for the program Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood. His onscreen character was kind, soft spoken and gentle and his Golden Rule view of the world left its imprint on many children who faithfully watched his show. He would begin each show by saying, “You’ve made this day a special day, by just your being you. There’s no person in the whole world like you; and I like you just the way you are.”

He was the real deal. There are no scandals or accusations of improper behaviour. He met his wife in college and they married in 1952 and remained happily so until his passing in 2003. In the 1970s he became a vegetarian because as he said at the time, “I could never eat anything that had a mother.”

Though he is gone his gentle wisdom lives on, in particular in the book of quotations entitled *The World According to Mister Rogers*. This book is startling in its wisdom and is available through Chapters.indigo.ca for just over \$20.00. This book would make a wonderful, meaningful gift for a young person starting out, as a guide of how to live your best life. Buy one for you, because as we read his quotes, we find ourselves nodding in agreement. How wise. How sweet and kind. How absolutely true.

### A sampling of his wisdom:

“Love isn’t a state of perfect caring. It is an active noun like struggle. To love someone is to strive to accept that person exactly the way he or she is, right here and now.”  
“Solitude is different from loneliness, and it doesn’t have to be a lonely kind of thing.”

“Forgiveness is a strange thing. It can sometimes be easier to forgive our enemies than our friends. It can be hardest of all to forgive people we love. Like all of life’s important coping skills, the ability to forgive and the capacity to let go of resentments most likely take root very early in our lives.”

“Most of us, I believe, admire strength. It’s something we tend to respect in others, desire for ourselves, and wish for our children. Sometimes, though, I wonder if we confuse strength and other words - like aggression and even violence. Real strength is neither male nor female; but is, quite simply, one of the finest characteristics that any human being can possess.”

“As human beings, our job in life is to help people realize how rare and valuable each one of us really is, that each of us has something that no one else has - or ever will have - something inside that is unique to all time. It’s our job to encourage each other to discover that uniqueness and to provide ways of developing its expression.”

“It always helps to have people we love beside us when we have to do difficult things in life.”

Fred Rogers left a legacy of his wisdom and an insightful view of the world. Oh! *The Places You’ll Go* was for many years the book that parents and teachers gave to graduating students. The positive message in that book is very powerful, but it might be time to consider a new book. A book for you, a graduate, a friend, or family member, this may be a significant and consequential purchase. The irony is that the book at first glance seems to be for children, but it is way more than that. It is a deep and profound book and a guide for how to live our best life.

## Easter Quiz answers

1. Pysanka
2. Rebirth
3. Peeps
4. 76% eat the ears first
5. Halloween
6. The resurrection of Christ
7. Lent
8. Germany
9. The white lily
10. 70%

## Easter Word Jumble

- 10 letter word: Bonesetter  
8 letter words: Resonant, neonates, absentee, resonate and entreats  
7 letter words: Entrees, beaters, neatens, nearest, natters, restate, ensnare, rosette, notates, bonnets, boaters, battens, enrobes, senator, eastern, boaster, tenants, banners, betters, neatest, tanners, teeters, banters, entrant, berates, toaster, rotates, earnest, rebates and trea-

- son  
6 letter words: Ornate, street, tetras, neatens, estate, tester, retest, entrée, better, reason, tenets, batons, bonnet, sateen, seater, taster, treats, astern, settee, resent, breast, banner, teeter, berate, tensor, rotate, senate, toners, senora, notate, barons, beaten, rotten, tarots, tenors, teaser, sonnet, reseat, tenant, orates, berets, serene, stereo, setter, enrobe, boater, strobe, enters, rebate, aborts, otters, sorbet absent and tonnes  
5 letter words: Totes, baton, notes, betas, boast, stern, saber, sabre, trots, nears, atone, bones, tetra, enter, roast, beret, earns, sneer, barns, store, state, boars, tater, brats, treat, obese, tense, beats, beset, steno, snore, tarot, stone, eaten, start, otter, arson, toner, besot, borne, rants, rents, beers, abort, boats, senior, bears, beets,

- steer, tears, teens, terse, beast, snare, snort, erase, tease, stare, reset, taste, orate and aster  
4 letter words: Tear, rats, toes, teen, none, nets, torn, beta, robs, beat, bean, ears, seat, best, bran, tone, boas, boat, been, beer, beet, rest, rose, east, bore, nose, ores, tars, stat, stab, sent, sane, rate, trot, test, sore, tees, orbs, roan, bear, ones, bans, tern, nest, oats, seer, rent, snob, robe, earn, bars, bare, barn, tent, brat, oars, ants, ante, tots, arts, bees, boar, sort, near, tans, eras, nabs, neon, note, ease, rots, rote, tote, bone, abet, bats, eons, born, star and roes  
3 letter words: Rob, rot, tea, net, bot, bro, era, tat, tab, tao, bat, not, ore, ton, see, ant, sat, abs, bar, set, are, bet, sob, sot, eat, eon, roe, ten, tee, boa, ere, tar, tan, bra, ban, orb, ate, one, tot, rat, nee, art, sea, bee, ran, oar, son, ear, nab and oat

# Eginamasi Migmewei (I am learning Mi'gmaq)

## “It's up to us to use the language,” Elder says

Cynthia Dow

GESGAPEGIAG: - “We have a long history of being denied our culture, our way of life, our language, but now nothing is being forced and it is up to us to use the language. We should get really serious about that, because it's the root of who we are,” Pn'nal (Bernard) Jerome told SPEC.

The Gesgapegiag Elder and spiritual leader said that traditional ceremonies and songs keep the language vibrant in today's world. “Strengthening that connection to our ancestors is one way to keep it alive.”

Recent surveys taken by a language committee in the community reveal that most of those who speak their mother tongue are over 45 years of age. Surveys also show that fewer than 10% of the children can speak M'gmaq.

Pn'nal and his wife Ramona are well-known in Gesgapegiag as fluent speakers and writers of the ancient Mi'gmaq language. In fact, Ramona was recently honoured for her work initiating the Head Start program for children belonging to the Aroostook Band in Maine, located not far across the border from Perth-Andover, New Brunswick.

Pn'nal would hate to see the government forecast become a reality: that the Mi'gmaq language may disappear within the next 20 to 30 years. The language has been under incredible pressure since European invasion began 500 years ago. “Why is the language still here? Why is it so strong? It's our resilience. It's the stubbornness of who we are. We never gave up anything: our land, our rights, our language.”

In fact, Pn'nal believes that the Mi'gmaq were somewhat better prepared for the arrival of European settlers than many other Indigenous nations because even before Jacques Cartier's so-called “discovery” of the traditional Mi'gmaq territory the Basque, Portuguese, even the Vikings had landed on these shores. “We knew there would be more and more. We were in a sense ready.”

Many attempts were made to assimilate the Mi'gmaq people: “The government has been trying to get rid of the Mi'gmaq but every time it happened it made us strong,



Photo: C. Dow

Pn'nal Jerome in his office at Gesgapegiag Social Services.

beyond human understanding.” He explained that the language itself is part of that strength: “When we speak, we have a very direct way of being honest with ourselves. Also, the belief system is a very strong system, because it is based on a willingness to share and live with others.” He noted that when Europeans first started to settle the area the Mi'gmaq shared food, medicines and shelter with them. “We exceeded what their Bible expected.”

Pn'nal also sees Mi'gmaq as a very interpretive language. Even the words for the cardi-

nal directions have different meanings. The word for east, for example, ugjipen also means illuminating and beginning. It is closely related to the word for spirit, ugjijaqamij.

Pn'nal participated in a Mi'gmawei Mawiomi project to record Mi'gmaq place-names throughout the region. The names are highly descriptive and offer a lot of information about how the territory was used by his people.

The Elder is hopeful that, having taken increasing control over their education system, Mi'gmaq people will teach and use their language

more. “We need to understand that using our language is equal to being proud of who we are. When we lose it, we start to lose our identity.” He does understand, however, parents who are keen to have their children excel in English. “When I was going to school, I was told that there was nothing ahead in life in speaking Mi'gmaq, that the language had nothing to offer. A lot of people accepted that, but our colour and our speech has not disappeared and neither did we.”

“Every language you know opens up your understanding of the world. The initiatives the Band is taking are helpful, but we need to make a personal commitment. Learning a language is not like taking a pill and, while school is an important place to learn, we need to hear a lot more communicating in Mi'gmaq on the radio and other places. We need to open up the language to others who may want to learn.”

### Mi'gmaq 101: Some facts and stats

*Gmêtginu*, is a series of history books prepared for the First Nations Regional Adult Education Centre by Jodie Barnaby, Fred Isaac, Jessica Metallic and Sabrina Wysote. Book 1 of the history indicates that the Mi'gmaq are part of the Algonquian family of peoples that also includes the Abenaki and Maliseet to the east, and extends far to the

west including the Ojibwa, Odawa, Nipissing and Algonquin.

There are more than 60 Indigenous languages in Canada grouped into nine different language groups, and Mi'gmaq is part of the Algic language family with links to the Blackfoot, Cheyenne, Shawnee, Arapaho, and Cree-Montagnais languages.

According to Statistics Canada's 2016 figures, about 7,140 are Mi'gmaq mother tongue, and for 4,225 the Mi'gmaq language is the language used most often at home. Another 3,225 speak it regularly at home.

A recent regional survey by the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission indicates that the number of speakers of Indigenous languages is larger than the number who claim an Indigenous language as their mother tongue, so some people are learning the languages after childhood. This bodes well for the future.



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Photo: N. Sergerie

A striped bass sports fisherman at the Malbaie barachois.

## Percé will adapt facilities for striped bass

*Nelson Sergerie*

PERCÉ: - Percé will resume the process of adapting the Barachois and Cap d'Espoir facilities for striped bass fishermen. The project which consists of setting up tables to clean fish, sinks, shelters and easier access to the shores to allow sports fishermen to take full advantage of this fishery was not achieved in 2018.

"Nonetheless we still advanced, but with the fall that we had, considering that we had no more general direction and that an employee assigned directly to the project left, the snow that arrived very early, we could not do the work," says Mayor Cathy Poirier.

The project received \$50,000 from the Quebec government. As the project remained mostly on paper, Percé must resume the process. "The plans are done. We know exactly what we have to do. A new application was made to qualify for the same government program for striped bass fishing."

## Cannabis: The SQDC is eying Cross-Point

*Nelson Sergerie*

CROSS POINT: - The Quebec Cannabis Society is showing interest in moving to Cross Point. The municipality received a request for the establishment of a store in 2020. "I think it can have a positive financial impact for the municipality. Officials realize that the Cross Point liquor store in Quebec is doing well, possibly one of the most successful on the Gaspé Peninsula. It is possible that is what they are using as the basis to implement an SQDC in Cross Point," says the mayor, Pascal Bujold. Even though a cannabis store is located in Campbellton, New Brunswick, the mayor does not believe it can have any influence, noting that, NB Alcohol has a point of sale for wines and spirits. The municipal council will have to rule on this request on May 13.

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# Announcements...



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### ANNETT: Emily (nee Tuzo) and Francis

In loving memory of a dear mother, grandmother, and mother-in-law, who died May 2, 1998, and a dear father, grandfather and father-in-law, who died May 14, 1998.

*Those special memories of you  
Will forever bring a smile.  
If only we could have you back  
For just a little while,  
Then we could sit and talk again,  
Just like we used to do.  
You always meant so very much to us,  
And you always will too.  
The fact that you're no longer here  
Will forever cause us pain,  
But you're forever in our hearts  
Until we meet again.*

Sadly missed and always remembered by daughter Bonita, son-in-law Daniel and grandchildren, Janna and John.

### Thank you

We would like to thank everyone who donated food and their time for the recent fundraiser held in our honour. Thank you also for the money donations. We appreciate everyone's generosity from the bottom of our hearts.

Thank you to the two wonderful ladies who organized the fundraiser: Jennifer Bujold and Tammy Chatterton. All your hard work is very much appreciated.

*Judy Starnes and Alfred Buttle*



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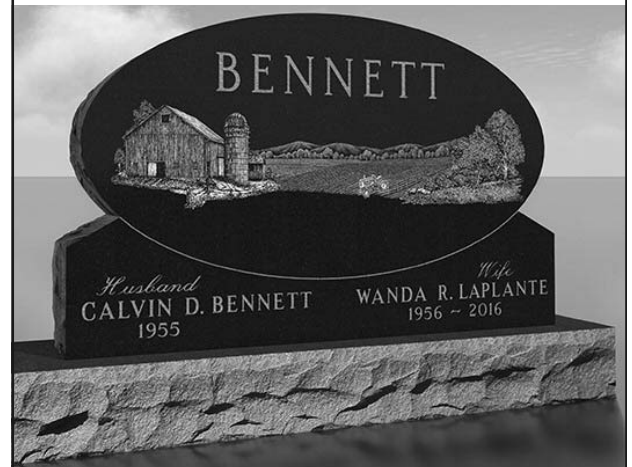
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## COAST ROUND-UP

### POINTE-NAVARRÉ: Sanctuary of Pointe Navarre

**May 26:** The Annual General Meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the church. You are invited to this meeting to receive information on the administration of the sanctuary. Everyone welcome.

### WAKEHAM: Advance Notice

Wakeham ACW will be holding its annual summer sale on **Saturday, July 6**, at the York River Community Hall. There will be a bake sale, handicraft table, white elephant table and mystery parcels. Afternoon tea will be served. \$5. Doors open at 2 p.m.

### YORK: York ACW

**July 29:** The York ACW will be holding its annual Summer Sale and Afternoon Tea beginning at 2 p.m. at the York River Community Hall. There will be baked goods, handicrafts, and a white elephant table. Hope to see you there.

### DOUGLASTOWN: Community Centre

**Tuesdays:** Zumba from 7-8 p.m. \$10/class.  
**Wednesday:** Yoga for women. There are two groups: 5:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. \$17/class (drop in). Requires minimal experience in yoga. Bring your mat.

### MALBAY: Malbay ACW

**July 27:** All Saints by the Sea Tea, Crafts and Bake Sale at the Malbay Hall from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

### BARACHOIS: Legion Branch 261

**Every Monday:** The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 261, will be having a money bingo at 7 p.m. at the Legion. 18+

only.  
**Every Thursday:** Cards and Games from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Free. For more information, contact Lloyd Roussel at 418-645-3700 or 418-645-2786.

**May 18:** Music and Dance with Blondsy and Patrick Dufresne beginning at 9 p.m. Cost \$5.

### BARACHOIS: Recreation Centre

**May 21:** Food Handlers Course, MAPAQ from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost \$51.73 (taxes included). It Includes the course, guide for Food Handlers, notebook and a recognition of participation. Mandatory for all food handlers working in community groups to have this course. Limited space. Contact Patricia at 418-360-3989 or 418-645-3779 to reserve your space.

**May 24:** The Barachois Recreation Centre will be holding an 18+ money bingo at 7 p.m. Bilingual. Over \$600 in cash prizes.

### PORT DANIEL: Three Star Golden Age Club

**Every Wednesday:** Pétanque from 7 to 9 p.m. Cost \$3. Come and join the fun and learn a new game!  
**May 25:** Military Whist.  
**June 1:** 500 card game.  
**June 8:** Father's Day BBQ

### PORT DANIEL: St. James Anglican Church

**July 27:** Annual Bazaar at the Three Star Golden Age Club. More details to come.

### HOPE TOWN: Community Centre

**June 8:** Military Whist beginning at 8 p.m.

### HOPE TOWN: Hope Baptist Church

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.

**June 1:** Annual Bake Sale from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the New Carlisle Town Hall. All proceeds go to youth ministries and to send kids to Fair Haven Bible Camp. Come and enjoy our freshly baked goods.

### NEW CARLISLE: The Gilker Residence AGM

**May 21:** The AGM of the Corporation des Seniors secteur New Carlisle (The Gilker Residence) will be held at 2 p.m. at the Gilker Residence, 46 Notre-Dame, New Carlisle. Everyone is welcome.

### NEW CARLISLE: Heritage New Carlisle

**May 25:** Wood carving, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with Marcel Beaulieu. \$15.

### NEW CARLISLE: Royal Canadian Legion

**Saturdays:** Legion opens at 1 p.m.  
**July 1:** Mini prince and princess. If you would like to register your child/children, call Laura at 418-752-6799. Age groups: 0-4, 5-9 and 10-13. More info to follow.

### NEW CARLISLE: Bible Chapel Services

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

### NEW RICHMOND: Flea Market

New clothing has arrived, \$1 each. Hot meal at noon. Free. Donations accepted. To do-

nate or obtain furniture, please call 418-392-5161. Open on **Fridays** and **Saturdays** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 248 Perron Blvd, New Richmond.

### CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: Book Room

Book room closes as of May 8 until September. Call Kathleen at 392-4896 if you wish to go.

### 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.

### CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: Fifty Plus Club Events

**May 24:** There will be jam sessions open to all musicians and spectators at the club. Doors open at 7 p.m. and entertainment begins at 7:30.

**May 25:** Annual Spring Bingo beginning at 1 p.m. Doors open at 12 p.m. The entrance fee is \$10 for 3 cards; additional cards are \$1 each. Canteen will be serving hot dogs, sandwiches, drinks, potato chips and chocolate bars.

**Advance notice:** We will also be having a Father's Day brunch and barbecues in July and August.

**Every Tuesday:** Bingo at 7 p.m.

**Every Thursday:** Dame de Piques at 1 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Thank you for your support.

### GESGAPEGIAG: Important Meeting

This is to inform the community members of Gesgapegiag and the surrounding area that Gesgapegiag healing lodge (NNADAP) hosts AA meetings

and is open to everyone. If you are interested in a lifestyle free of alcohol and substance abuse and have the desire to change, you are invited to attend meetings every **Monday** at 7 p.m.

### GESGAPEGIAG: N.A. Meetings

N.A. Meetings held every **Tuesday** at 7 p.m. at the Mawimi Treatment Centre located at 85 School Street in Gesgapegiag. Everyone welcome! For more information, call 418-759-3522.

### ROTARY CLUB WINNERS

**The winners for the week of May 5 are:** Lina Babin, Conrad Legouffe, Gertrude Leblanc, Sylvie Robinson, Joseph Leblanc, Raoul Boudreau and Christian Audet.

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**Sunday, May 19**  
2 p.m. Hope Town

### ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

**Sunday, May 19**  
**New Carlisle**  
9 a.m. Holy Baptism  
**Hope Town**  
10 a.m. Morning Prayer  
**Port Daniel**  
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

### PARISH OF GASPÉ

**Sunday, May 19**  
**St. Andrews - York**  
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**DEADLINE FOR THIS PAGE: THURSDAY AT 4 P.M.**

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# On the lighter side...



## SUDOKU

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

### 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!

Level: Intermediate

### 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!

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

ANSWER:

## SCHOOL DAYS

We urge all teachers on the Coast to please send or email their old class pictures to share with our readers.



Shigawake Port Daniel School  
Grade 3 - December 1986

Front: Cindy Mann.

Middle Row: Todd Sweetman, Pamela McRae, Carla Sullivan and Lori Hottot.

Third Row: Dean Day, Jennifer Benwell, Linda Chapados, Patrick Sullivan, Shane Leblanc, Rachel MacWhirter and Anne Major at back. Thank you to Enid Bechervaise for submitting this photo.

## Spanish Chorizo Omelette

Get cracking on food waste with a Spanish-inspired omelette

Prep time: 10 minutes • Cook time: 20 minutes • Makes: 4 servings

### Ingredients:

- 4 eggs
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) Hellmann's Real Mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) parsley, chopped
- 1/8 tsp (0.5 mL) ground black pepper
- 1/4 cup (60 mL) chopped chorizo
- 1 lb (450 g) potatoes, cooked and sliced
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped

### Directions:

1. Beat eggs, mayonnaise, parsley and black pepper in small bowl with wire whisk. Set aside.
2. Over medium heat, stirring occasionally, lightly brown chorizo in large nonstick skillet sprayed with no-stick cooking spray. Add potatoes and onion and cook, stirring gently, until onions are almost tender; about 5 minutes.
3. Add egg mixture. Cook over low heat, lifting set edges of omelette with spatula and tilting pan to allow uncooked mixture to flow to the bottom. Cover and cook until omelette is set, about 5 minutes. Garnish, if desired, with additional chopped parsley.



## Beach treasures...

On the Gaspé we have an abundance of beach glass. Check out some of the beautiful treasures that can be made from these wonderful finds on our beaches.



## HOROSCOPES

### ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

The more you take on, the more support you need, Aries. You can benefit from a mentor or consultant who has the expertise to help you get where you need to go.

### TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Others understand that you're the go-to when things need fixing, Taurus. You have the ability to help in any situation. Embrace this talent and help others as much as you can.

### GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Listen to your gut, Gemini. If you do so,

others will follow your lead. It is time to step up and take charge. Don't worry, you will not need to justify all the decisions you make.

### CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

You must be very honest in your relationships this week, Cancer. Don't confuse opinions with the truth. Maintain an open dialogue with others around you.

### LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

Guessing will only get you so far, Leo. Instead, you must base decisions off fact and forethought; otherwise, you may end up having to do everything all over.

### VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Take a break from alone time and make reservations for dinner for two

or more, Virgo. Socializing is invaluable and can have a positive, long-lasting effect on your relationships.

### LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

It's alright to cede a little control this week, Libra. Delegating and sharing responsibilities can open your eyes to the talented people around you. Don't feel guilty about taking on less work.

### SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

You are a creative force who inspires others to take up their own projects or follow their hearts, Scorpio. Expect others to recognize your influence and express their appreciation.

### SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, take a step back and slow down the pace if you find you have been spreading yourself too thin. This

is not giving up, but taking a break.

### CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Some pretty big ideas may inspire you to do some impressive things, Capricorn. You just need to find an investor and put some firm plans on paper.

### AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

It can be challenging to be productive if your house isn't in order, Aquarius. Give your personal life some attention and tend to affairs that may have been on the back burner for awhile.

### PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, take charge of a mission by encouraging others to stay focused on the task at hand. You need to be the ringleader and set an example for others to follow.

### FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

MAY 12

Rami Malek, Actor (38)

MAY 13

Debby Ryan, Actress (26)

MAY 14

Olly Murs, Singer (35)

MAY 15

Andy Murray, Athlete (32)

MAY 16

Megan Fox, Actress (33)

MAY 17

Derek Hough, Dancer (34)

MAY 18

Tina Fey, Actress (49)

# Exhibit in Nouvelle draws close to 500 people and features artists from various horizons

Gilles Gagné

NOUVELLE: – Up to 483 people attended the art exhibit held between May 9 and May 12 at the former Nouvelle West School, which is now the Golden Age Club. The exhibit was part of Nouvelle's 150th anniversary program.

The initial idea came from hooking artist Mary James from Miguasha, Bonaventure's Normand Desjardins, Miguasha's Rhéal McIntyre, and Edward Fitzpatrick who lives in Charlo, New Brunswick, and owns a property in Miguasha, where his family roots are.

"Mary was the catalyst behind the idea," said Normand Desjardins on the vernissage night. "I was thinking we would be the four of us, Rhéal, Normand, Eddie and I but look, the place is packed," added Mary James.

She points out that the organizing committee of Nou-

velle's 150th anniversary was very supportive after the idea of the exhibit was launched. Eleven artists presented their works.

"The exhibit was greatly appreciated by the artists and the community. It is a nice success," pointed out Johanne Poulin, hired by the Municipality of Nouvelle to organize the 150th anniversary of the village.

The public appreciated the exhibit. "I am amazed by the talent and the fine work that I see here. It is something that I was not expecting. There are so many beautiful artworks," said Saint-Omer citizen Donald Falardeau, while looking specifically at the pieces of Miguasha artist, Irene Grant.

With their displays side by side, it was evident to a lot of people that Mary James and Normand Desjardins are inspired by nature and environmental issues. "If we can't protect the nature around us, I



Photo: G. Gagné

*Normand Desjardins' and Mary James' exhibit spaces were adjacent. Nature and the environment are front and centre in their respective genres of artwork.*

will lose my source of inspiration," she says. "Art is the lifeline of every society," he adds.

When asked if her art

pieces are selling well, Mary James says she is far from being preoccupied with sales.

"I am doing something from

my heart. I never think of selling a piece. If it reaches people's heart, I have reached my goal."

## Write On Gaspé sparks interest in prose, poetry and songwriting

Cynthia Dow

NEW CARLISLE: - CASA's latest project has Gaspésians writing, singing and reciting poetry up and down the Coast! With financial support from Canadian Heritage, Jennifer Lianne Willett has coordinated 16 writing workshops from Matapedia to Gaspé.

The project also included six monthly writing contests. Winners will have their creations printed in an anthology of poems, songs and prose that will be published this summer. The book will also include writings from the workshops and is now accepting submissions from all aspiring Gaspésian writers.

"We wanted to create a common bond amongst Gaspésians who share a love of writing," Jennifer told SPEC, "and we wanted to offer something that, as far as we know, has never been offered before in this region."

The events held under the project reached Gaspésians from elementary school to seniors. "We are also encouraging seniors to write their life stories," Jennifer noted.

With help from the Quebec Writer's Federation, CASA was able to identify



*Larissa Andrusyshyn (center), working with Denise Larocque (left), Émilie Poirier (right) at the workshop held at Camp Bellefeuille.*

professional writers to lead the workshops and share their knowledge and experience with the participants. Larissa Andrusyshyn, who teaches creative writing at Dawson College, was in the region from May 2 to 5 to lead workshops in Chandler and Pointe-à-la-Garde.

"This is an incredible initiative, I'm really impressed with what this organization does, and the scope is amazing," Larissa said.

The young writer, poet and dramatist spends a lot of her time working with non-profit organizations that serve

youth at risk. "Creative expression is a tool for healing. It provides opportunities to develop and grow, and sharing with others allows you to create fellowships in your communities," she told SPEC. "Stories are important. Writing can be a vehicle out of trauma. This project is helping make sure there's a hopeful creative outlet for people in the region."

The anthology to be published this summer will be available in September. If you would like to submit your work for consideration, please contact Jennifer at CASA.

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