

Relay for Life raises over \$315,000

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND: – Fifty-five teams participated in the Bay of Chaleur Relay for Life on June 8 at New Richmond's Taylor Point Park. They raised \$162,210. In Gaspé, 35 teams also participated in the Relay by walking for 12 hours and raised \$152,825.34.

The money raised during the two events is given to the Canadian Cancer Society and is earmarked for research. The new formula of walking from noon to midnight was well received by Relay for Life participants because it allows for the involvement of more children and seniors. Former relays were held overnight.

A group of students from Shigawake-Port Daniel School formed a team in support of grade 5/6 teacher, Stephanie Gallan, who is presently fighting cancer. Under the leadership of another teacher, Carl Garrett, the grade five and six students were granted permission to register for the relay despite their young age and they raised \$3,008.50.

Their team, the Pirates of the Cure-Abean received support from many parents and from school bus drivers Bernie Hottot and Lefty Anez, who volunteered to drive them at the beginning and the end of the

event.

Their Relay for Life neighbours at Taylor Point were also inspiring. The Mighty Majors, a team of nine women, participated for the third year and raised \$1,805.

"This year, we had 133 hope carriers, people who have fought cancer successfully. There were 200 with the people who accompanied them for that 11th Relay for Life. We must underline the contribution of Pierre Poirier of Caplan, who keeps raising money through collecting bottles and cans. He contributed \$27,000 this year alone, for a total of \$80,000 over the years," pointed out Relay for Life event host, Nathalie Vertefeuille.

In Gaspé, Relay for Life president, Diane Bérubé, thanked the community for its support and underlined the contribution of hope carriers.

"Whether it was through donations given to the walkers, the participation in various fundraising events, through buying luminaries, being involved in the organizing committee, volunteering during the event, forming a team, becoming a sponsor or being a partner, we see that the Relay for Life belongs to us," she said.



SPDS Principal Lori-Ann Hayes, Eathan Merrick, Nathan Harrison, Bethany Paetkau, Molly Buttle, teacher Carl Garrett, Shaelyn Smith, Rebecca Sullivan, Kim Grenier, Zoé Almond, Lacey Benwell-Hottot, Arianna Major and Patsy MacDonald (absent from photo).



The Mighty Majors team consists of Billie-Jo Major, Sherry Major, Amie Major, Donna Major, Hailey McLellan, Peggy Major, Kayla Major, Catherine Major and Diana Wylie (absent from photo).

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SPEC reduces its deficit but still loses \$17,515

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: – Sea-Coast Publications Inc., the publisher of The Gaspé SPEC, declared a loss of \$17,515 for the 2018-2019 year that ended on March 31. It is significantly less than the \$36,000 deficit of the previous year but it remains a cause of concern for the newspaper’s board of directors.

Revenues increased from \$294,690 in 2017-2018 to \$316,173 but it is essentially attributable to an employment grant increase, from \$9,742 to \$34,297. Subscription revenues also increased slightly, from \$59,860 to \$61,837. The periodical grant from the fed-

eral government also increased from \$40,064 to \$46,156. Revenues linked to the publication of the tourist guide increased slightly.

However, the most important revenue item, advertising decreased from \$99,703 a year ago to \$90,785 in 2018-2019. Counter sales also decreased from \$17,693 to \$15,482.

Total expenses rose very slightly, from \$330,690 to \$333,688, which is less than 1%. Salaries and benefits appear to have increased from \$133,903 to \$146,607, which is attributable to an increase in employment grants, as the hours of several employees have actually been reduced in order to cut expenses. There

was a significant savings in printing costs going from \$65,619 last year to \$54,124.

“The difference comes from a reduced number of pages printed. We are often printing 12 pages instead of 16 but we are running the same number of articles but less advertising,” explained publisher Penny MacWhirter at the June 6 annual general meeting of Sea-Coast Publications Inc.

She explained that the funding pledged by both the federal and provincial governments “is not trickling down to Spec. That money, unfortunately, is going towards studies and to the newspaper associations. By the time the

results of those studies are completed, it will be too late for any funding to be of value. We need that funding to use in our operating budget now.”

The other expense items remained almost the same between 2017-2018 and 2018-2019. There was a reduction in the paper delivery and travel cost, from \$15,947 to \$13,333 and a slight increase in the office supplies item, from \$5,274 to \$7,356.

The total assets of the SPEC stands at \$91,308, which is \$19,140 less than a year ago. The paper still has \$68,000 in its bank account and in term deposits.

Louis Sexton, who prepared the financial statements

of Sea-Coast Publications Inc. pointed out that the paper “can still go two or three more years at this rate.”

Board secretary Ray Venables explained that “without those grants, the SPEC would not be as healthy. (...) We finished the year with half the deficit of last year, which is good but not for the long-term future.”

Board president Roger Wise was encouraged since “subscriptions are up by \$2,000” and is “looking forward for an increase in overall revenues,” but he is still concerned by the decrease in advertising, traditionally the biggest source of revenue for the newspaper.

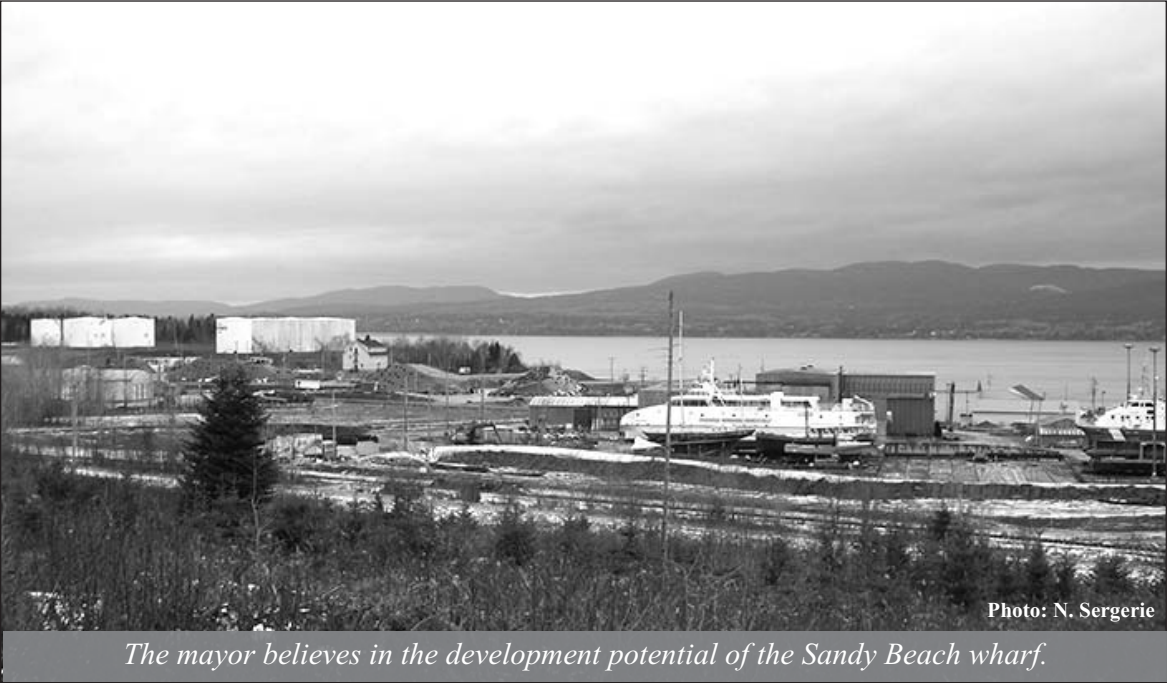


Photo: N. Sergerie

The mayor believes in the development potential of the Sandy Beach wharf.

Sandy Beach Wharf: Gaspé has ambitious plans

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ: - The Town of Gaspé has an ambitious plan for the port of Sandy Beach.

The infrastructure, still under the authority of the federal government, will be transferred to the Quebec government following an agreement in principle announced in August 2018 between the two levels of government. Ottawa has pledged \$163 million for renovations and maintenance of the facilities.

Once complete, Gaspé wants to take charge. Following the example of Sept-Îles, the mayor wants to create a local port authority to manage the infrastructure to ensure its development. In Sept-Îles, development agents are trying to attract customers.

“When you're close, it's easier to work together. It's easier to develop. This proximity is for me the cornerstone of future

port development,” says Daniel Côté.

He is not blaming the current Gaspé harbour master, who only fills administrative duties.

Possible areas of development

Intermodal transport involving container ships could be set up at the Port of Gaspé considering the proximity of the rail network and the difficulty larger ships face navigating the St. Lawrence River, where the water level is decreasing in some areas.

“Gaspé in a natural way can receive very large ships. The infrastructure is not suited to that. If you go into development mode, it takes a long-term vision. I think we are able to do it. I project myself into a vision of 20 to 30 years,” says Mr. Côté.

Moreover, the Union of Municipalities has launched a study to analyze the economic

and social costs of the various modes of transport, in a context where a shortage of truckers is expected within a 10-year horizon.

“There is not a big jump in this industry. We have to think of new ways of transporting our goods and passengers. We have the St. Lawrence River and it does not wear, unlike Highway 132. The seaway and the railway are options to consider.”

Mr. Côté says that in 1860, Gaspé was an important seaport on the Atlantic and he believes that Sandy Beach has great potential for the future.

“We may be able to position ourselves to avoid the digging of the St. Lawrence Seaway as planned; billions of dollars worth of work with relatively large ecological impacts. Gaspé has this virtually infinite potential. We have a huge natural harbour to serve this maritime clientele. It's a guarantee of the future,” concludes Mr. Côté.

News briefs

ESSB director general Natascha Joncas on “family leave”

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE – Natascha Joncas, director general of the Eastern Shores School Board, has been absent on “family leave” since the beginning of June. She was appointed during the summer of 2018 to replace Howard Miller, who was retiring. SPEC tried to reach Ms. Joncas in order to know the reasons behind her absence but she had not yet replied when the paper reached its June 10 deadline.

The president of the Eastern Shores School Board, Wade Gifford, simply said that “she is out on family leave right now.” He added that the Wednesday, June 19 board meeting will supply more information about the “decision.” He refused to specify what kind of decision he was referring to, a board decision or Natascha Joncas’ decision. “We will be doing our best to inform the public about that subject,” added Mr. Gifford.

Several teachers, other Eastern Shores School Board staff members and the SPEC tried to reach Ms. Joncas during the first week of June, but to no avail.

Another award for the Percé boardwalk

Nelson Sergerie

PERCÉ - The Percé boardwalk rehabilitation project receives a 6th provincial award. The town of Percé received the visionary award on May 27 in Montreal for the 17th edition of the Grands Prix du Génie-conseil québécois.

The Tetra Tech firm submitted the project to the jury and architects Vachon and Roy contributed to its design. Together, they saw their efforts highlighted.

“It's always interesting to highlight the project we did in Percé on the provincial scene. It is a great pride to see that this project fits well in engineering and urban design,” said the acting director of the Town of Percé, Ghislain Pitre, who attended the event. The project received one of the 13 awards of the evening.



Police report

Gilles Chiasson, 50, from Escuminac, was arrested on December 19, 2018, following a Sûreté du Québec drug bust. He was freed on May 31 by Quebec Court Judge Janick Poirier and he will have to return to court on September 13. He faces charges of drug possession for the purpose of trafficking, and drug trafficking.

“I did not object to his bail because he had no record in similar matters,” points out Crown Prosecutor Florence Frappier-Routhier. The arrest of Gilles Chiasson led to the seizure of large quantities of methamphetamine and cocaine. Five other men and a woman were arrested during the December 19 drug bust but Ms. Frappier-Routhier points out that the cases were not necessarily related to one another. The other five houses that were raided by the Sûreté du Québec that day were located in Maria, Caplan and Bonaventure.

One of the men arrested on December 19, Patrick Walters of New Carlisle, entered a plea of guilty on charges of drug trafficking on April 23 at the New Carlisle courthouse. He will receive his sentence on June 20. A pre-sentence report will be prepared before that date. When he was arrested on December 19, a quantity of 135.71 grams of cannabis was found and seized. He had sold drugs to undercover agents a month earlier, on November 20.

The overall drug bust conducted in six houses led to the seizure of 22,000 methamphetamine pills, slightly more than one kilo of cocaine, 1.7 kilo of hashish and 10 kilos of cannabis.



The man who caused extensive damage to the New Carlisle prison on April 30 still has not been charged by the Department of Justice, as the police investigation is not concluded yet. The Sûreté du Québec is not commenting on the case because the investigation is still ongoing. The assessment of damage is complicated, according to those interviewed, but who prefer to remain anonymous for now.

The suspect allegedly broke pipes, pieces of furniture, appliances, and telephones. He was arrested following an intervention by prison guards who had to use mace to control him. Nobody was injured during the operation. The man was already waiting for a procedure regarding other cases he was charged with. Water caused some damage as well as the mace fumes, which led to the closure of the adjacent courthouse because it had entered the ventilation system. Sixteen cells were closed temporarily because of the damage and eight inmates had to be moved.





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Clean Technology Cluster projects well-received by Ecotech

Arianne Aubert Bonn

CHANDLER - The *Pôle des technologies propres de la Gaspésie*, (Clean Technology Cluster of the Gaspé Peninsula), recently met with its partner, Ecotech, and left its president Denis Leclerc impressed, given the possibilities of action to create a “green” synergy around McInnis Cement.

Denis Leclerc, who is also director at Ecotech, was in the region on May 30 and 31 to meet people from the Clean Technology Cluster and see if it is possible to create a collaboration between McInnis Cement and other companies in an attempt to recover some of the carbon dioxide emitted by the Port Daniel plant. Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse effect gas.

Maryse Tremblay, director of communications at McInnis Cement, specifies that the company produces about 600,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide annually strictly because the cement plant uses petroleum coke as a fuel in its kilns. That counts for about one-third of the company’s greenhouse gas emissions.

Integrating forestry biomass to replace part of the petroleum coke supply would result in a 30% reduction of that fossil fuel use.

Another way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions would be to recuperate a portion of the carbon dioxide that comes out of the plant stack. It does not only possess a potential for capture; it can also be



Denis Leclerc, CEO at Ecotech; Maryse Tremblay, director of communications at Ciment McInnis; and Guy Pardiach, director of the Clean Technology Cluster of the Gaspé Peninsula.

revalued.

Clean Technology Cluster of Gaspé Peninsula director Guy Pardiach notes that the interest is there. “There are so many companies interested in becoming involved in the project that the challenge will be to find the best ones,” he says.

A year ago, the Carbon Challenge meeting brought together a number of stakeholders to demonstrate the range of possibilities offered by carbon dioxide recuperation.

Current projects

Currently, a study is underway to replace 30% of the petroleum coke used to heat the McInnis Cement kiln with 100,000 tonnes of forest biomass. This study should be completed within the next year and thereafter the cement plant will be able to assess whether a regular supply is possible and whether the fuel is worth the purchase. This practice could reduce carbon dioxide emis-

sions by 152,000 tonnes per year and could start in 2022 or 2023 if the study justifies it.

“The production of biofuels on-site by an external company for the needs of the cement plant is also on the table,” says Maryse Tremblay; “Which precise technology? It remains to be seen in the coming months but we can already imagine a circular economy by using it in our vehicles here on the site.”

Ecotech impressed by potential

Given the range of possibilities, Denis Leclerc of Ecotech indicates that the potential is enormous. “It’s rare for us to have access to a locomotive like McInnis Cement and set up so many projects,” he says. In addition, it emphasizes that the Clean Technology Cluster initiative, created specifically for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emission, is the only one he sees around a cement plant in Quebec.

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Commentary

Gilles Gagné

The word genocide applies

Does the word genocide apply to the phenomenon that has plagued the Indigenous women and girls of Canada over the last decades or the last couple of centuries? The conclusion of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls affirms that it applies and the commissioners of that probe are right.

Since May 31, when some conclusions pertaining to the National Inquiry report leaked, a debate about the use of the word genocide has taken place. Some people find the word too strong, however, it is difficult to contradict Chief commissioner Marion Buller, who affirms that “there is an ongoing “deliberate, race, identity and gender-based genocide.”

The word genocide has generally been applied to mass murders such as the Holocaust against Jews during World War II, when approximately six million people of Jewish descent died in concentration or labour camps, or the massacre that occurred in Rwanda in April 1994 which took the lives of 800,000 human beings.

Polish lawyer Raphael Lemkin spent some time defining the word genocide following World War II and he pointed out that genocide does not exclusively signify the “immediate destruction of a nation.” It also means “a coordinated plan of different actions aiming at the destruction of essential foundations of the life of national groups, with the aim of annihilating the groups themselves.”

In 2000, Canada’s Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act offered a broader definition, mentioning that “genocide can encompass not only acts of commission, but omission as well.” In other words, neglecting a situation that is known publicly and that has led to the death of a significant number of people can be called a genocide.

A 2011 Statistics Canada report estimated that

since 1997, the rate of homicide for Aboriginal females was almost seven times higher than other females. Compared to non-Indigenous females, they were also “disproportionately affected by all forms of violence.” They are also significantly over-represented among female Canadian homicide victims and are far more likely than other women to go missing.

While homicides for non-Indigenous women declined between 1980 and 2015, the number of Indigenous women who were victims of homicide increased from 9% of all female homicide victims in 1980, to 24% in 2015.

The situation for Indigenous women was and is so bad that it is almost impossible to come up with an accurate number of murder victims or missing persons for any well-defined period. We are left with approximate figures, such as 1,200 homicides since 1980 but that number is undoubtedly underrated. It would be unthinkable to be so imprecise for about any other cross section of the Canadian population.

How much more do people need before calling it a genocide? Those numbers convinced the federal government of Justin Trudeau to put up the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in September 2016.

Where do we go from there? How many years can we collectively go in Canada before setting goals that will bring a comparable situation between Indigenous women and girls, and other Canadians regarding stakes that include homicides and violent

acts? Ideally, can we eradicate murders and violence in the long term?

Dozens of recommendations are issued by the National Inquiry. While those recommendations are all important, respecting current Canadian laws could first and foremost prove necessary, notably the Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act.

The nomination of an ombudsman, or more accurately of an ombudswoman, working strictly on the Aboriginal women file would sure be a step in the right direction. That office must be endowed with real means to do its work though. Otherwise it will strictly be another symbolic move with little impact on the resolution of problems.

The whole Canadian population must also react to the unacceptable situation of Indigenous women and girls. The necessity to adopt a new attitude towards that cause must become a priority. It starts with learning more about the issue.

Native men have some work to do. Violence against Aboriginal women and girls does not only take place outside Native communities.

Overall, the Canadian society must prioritize Native stakes. Too many issues have been delayed, forgotten, neglected or sabotaged over the last decades. Catching up on territorial claims, natural resources sharing, housing, social services and health care must take place rapidly. Everybody will come up winning if a better balance can be found in those stakes. Everybody will lose if we can’t reach fairness and justice.

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Tourisme Gaspésie launches its 2019 season in Percé

Arianne Aubert Bonn

PERCÉ: - Tourisme Gaspésie launched its 2019 season with Gaspésie Gourmande on May 30 in Percé.

Several new features are on the agenda of the regional tourism association to promote the Gaspé Peninsula as a destination. For the 90 years of the Tour of Gaspésie, the slogan “Be in the loop!” can be seen everywhere as part of a vast advertising campaign in Quebec.

The president of the organization, David Dubreuil, says, “We have a good start. We are in a situation where Quebecers travel a lot in Quebec.”

A seek and find adventure game was launched on a Gaspesian theme in order to create interest for the destination. The game is almost sold out and a new series could be ordered. Flyers made according to the same principle allow tourists to discover a multitude of attractions in the region.

Honours for industry leaders

Several people in the



Paul Lemieux receives the Tourism Excellence Award.

tourism industry were honoured at the launch of this year’s tourist season.

The Tourism Excellence Award was presented to a retiree of the Miguasha National Park, Paul Lemieux, for his contribution to the tourism development of the region.

The Succession Manager Award was presented to Jean-François Tapp of Camp de base Coin-du-Banc, for the development of his commu-

nity. He bought the Coin-du-Banc Inn in Corner of the Beach two years ago.

The Gaspésie Gourmande Excellence Award was presented to producer Sylvain Tapp of the Douglastown part of Gaspé for having made the Gaspé Peninsula shine for decades through his products of sauerkraut and kimchi.

The Paul Hachey Award was presented to Daniel and Anna-Nathalie Gasse of La



Jean-François Tapp receives the Succession Manager Award.

Photos: A. Bonn

Broue dans l’Toupet of Sainte-Anne-des-Monts for the visibility they offer to regional products in their restaurant.

Gourmet Tour

Gaspésie Gourmande launched its 2019 magazine guide, and also unveiled a new “sea” section. “We wanted to enhance the value of seafood in Gaspésie Gourmande,” ex-

plains president Sylvain Tapp. Le Caprivore of Bonaventure, a goat meat producer, appears on the cover of the 2019 magazine. The inside pages highlight the work of various local food producers.

There are also many recipes, corporate portraits and a guide for the gourmet tour of the Gaspé included in the magazine.

The magazine does include some English material.

Gaspésie Railway Society to weigh options regarding the Amiral train

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND: – The Gaspésie Railway Society will weigh the options regarding the relevance or not to move the Amiral tourist train to New Richmond. The passenger cars and the power generating cars have been stranded in Gaspé since the summer of 2014 and they are deteriorating without proper maintenance.

Part of that deterioration is also due to vandalism. The train was operated mainly for the cruise ship clientele until September 2014 and left there because Gaspé was its main operational base.

“We will assess two scenarios, the cost of leaving the train in Gaspé while providing proper maintenance to the cars and the cost of moving those cars to New Richmond. We will opt for the most feasible scenario guaranteeing their good state. Luc Lévesque, Gaspésie Railway Society’s director general, will calculate both costs this summer and we will make a



The Amiral was used between July 2013 and September 2014, first in the Bay of Chaleur area (photo) but mostly between Gaspé and Percé.

decision based on those calculations,” explains Éric Dubé, president of the Gaspésie Railway Society.

Other factors contributed to leaving the Amiral train in Gaspé. The Gaspésie Railway Society ran into financial difficulty over the fall of 2014. Upon the acquisition of the line by Transports Québec between March and May 2015, that ministry decided to shut down the line between Caplan and Percé until enough traffic

would justify its maintenance. The Percé to Gaspé stretch was added in September of the same year.

A fault in the Douglastown area was one of the reasons given by then Transport Minister Robert Poëti, who also invoked the lack of profitability of the Amiral train. At the time, both reasons were contested by the mayor of Gaspé, Daniel Côté. A washout that occurred along the line just east of Port Daniel in 2014

also contributed to the decision of leaving the train in Gaspé in 2015, as the effects of the washout had worsened the state of the rail bed.

Abandoning the line between Caplan and Gaspé proved a bad decision made by Robert Poëti and his successors because substantial freight traffic materialized along that stretch, which remains shut down until repairs are carried out. Years of track works were wasted between

2014 and 2018 inclusively.

Former Montreal commuter cars were used to make the Amiral. They were upgraded in 2013 at a cost of close to \$2 million, a cost comprising some expenses linked to the organization of the service. Initially, the Gaspésie Railway Society had acquired 10 passenger cars from the City of Montreal for a cost of \$1. Five cars were sold when it became evident that they would not be used in the Gaspé Peninsula. New Richmond’s Rail GD received the contract to upgrade the Amiral cars in 2013.

The Amiral locomotive was also stranded in Gaspé between 2014 and 2017. In November 2017, the bogies, the motor and the envelope of the motor, including the cab, were transported from Gaspé to New Richmond on three separate flat trailers. The locomotive was needed by the Gaspésie Railway Society in order to fill the needs of the growing freight traffic between New Richmond and Matapédia.

Necropsy carried out on right whale first located 50 miles off the coast of Percé

Gilles Gagné

CANADA: - A team of experts from four provinces prepared and carried out a June 7 necropsy on Miscou Island, New Brunswick, in order to clarify the cause of death of a right whale first observed on June 4, approximately 50 nautical miles off the coast of Percé.

The scientists included Fisheries and Oceans Canada biologists, technicians, marine mammal specialists, and marine mammal experts from the Marine Animal Response Society from Nova Scotia. Those two groups planned and conducted the necropsy. They were accompanied in the necropsy operation by veterinary pathologists from the Atlantic Veterinary College at the University of Prince Edward Island and the Université de Montréal. Both universities belong to the Canadian

Wildlife Health Cooperative.

It could take several months before all findings are compiled and the cause of death will be available.

The dead whale had initially been sighted on June 4 during an aerial surveillance flight conducted by the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), an organization with whom Fisheries and Oceans Canada works closely.

The whale was observed in grid GW42, which has been closed to non-tended fixed gear fishing since May 17, 2019. Grid GW42 is one of the 100 plus grids in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. When one or several right whales are sighted in one of those grids, it is closed for at least 14 days. One grid measures nine by six nautical miles.

The exact date and location of the whale's death are not known. According to experts

from the New England Aquarium, the dead whale was Wolverine, a nine-year old young male born in Florida. He had been seen alive in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence on May 17.

He was recognizable because of the marks left a few years ago by the propeller of a ship. Wolverine had also survived three entanglements in fishing gear over the last years.

The body of Wolverine was seen a second time on June 5 by the crew of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration aircraft. It was, at the time, close to the previous observation point but slightly closer to Miscou Island.

A Canadian Coast Guard patrol ship, the A. Leblanc, which was deployed in the area of Wolverine's last sighting, located the right whale.

The ship towed Wolverine slowly towards Miscou Island during the night of June 5 and the following day.

Four main reasons could explain the death of Wolverine. A collision with a large boat or a ship, an entanglement in fishing gear, poisoning or a natural death. The latter is not likely, considering his young age.

"We really hope that it is a normal case (natural death). We don't want to experience again what happened in 2017. We wonder if 2017 was a unique situation. Most right whales die of anthropic causes (causes linked to human actions). It is more frequent than natural causes," explains Robert Michaud, a sea mammal expert working for the GREMM (*Groupe de recherche et d'éducation sur les mammifères marins*).

"We must remember that


they are called "right whales" because they were the easiest ones to hunt. They are slow," states Mr. Michaud.

Wolverine is the first right whale to die in Canadian waters since 2017. That year, 12 right whales died in Canadian waters, a shock that prompted Transport Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada to adopt a set of measures to protect them from collisions and entanglement.

A speed limit of 10 knots for boats and ships measuring more than 20 metres in length was imposed in specific areas of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. Commercial fishermen have to comply with protection areas as well. Grids are closed either in static or dynamic ways, depending on their location. Fishermen were also asked to reduce the length of some ropes used for snow crab traps.

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Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



Root of the Barbarians

“Rhubarb when raw is so tough
And its leaves contain poisonous stuff
But when cleaned and desoiled
Dipped in sugar and boiled
Then the stalks are quite tasty enough.”

Rhubarb is an amazing plant. First, it’s hard to believe that anyone eats it because at first bite the flavour is so sour that it puckers your mouth. It is classified as a vegetable, though many people use it as you would a fruit for desserts and jams. Most often rhubarb is baked into pies, muffins, crumbles and, as mentioned, jams. When combined with strawberries it is a delicious blend. One pound of raw rhubarb gives about ¾ cup when cooked. It is not necessary to completely peel rhubarb. Just trim the ends and discard the leaves. A stick of rhubarb dipped in sugar can be eaten as a treat. People tend to respond to rhubarb in one of two ways. “Yum, I love it!” or “Yuck, no thank you!” Which group do you fall into?

If you do appreciate the flavour of the lovely pink, red or green stalks there are always friends and neighbours willing to give you some. That makes the experience all the sweeter, especially when you add sugar, which you must. The redder the stalk, the sweeter the taste is not always true, however, eat only the stalks, because the leaves contain oxalic acid which can upset your stomach. A human would have to consume 5 kg of the extremely sour leaves to be toxic.

Let’s gain an understanding and appreciation for this fine vegetable.

More About Rhubarb: The word rhubarb comes from the Latin word rhababarum which means root of the barbarians. Rhubarb has been eaten for thousands of years. Rhubarb is a healthy choice because it contains fibre and can increase good cholesterol. Rhubarb also has plenty of Vitamin K which promotes a healthy brain. Also rich in antioxidants it can make your skin appear healthier. Add to that list of benefits bone health, tissue repair, and reducing inflammation. Some scientists also say rhubarb appears to have cancer fighting properties. It tastes delicious too! If you want to enjoy genuine made on the Gaspé rhubarb wine, visit Ferme Bourdages in St. Simeon. This wine is semi-dry and golden-coloured.

Planting Rhubarb: Plant in full sun. Plants can grow more than 3 feet tall with a spread of four to five feet. So, do consider this when choosing where you will plant. Dig a hole 1 to 2 feet deep. Fill with a mixture of soil and compost. Insert your plants. Cover with one inch of good soil. Keep well watered. Remove flower stalks when they appear. Beware: Do not pick stalks the first year which allows the roots to strengthen.

Scrumptious Rhubarb Cake

Ingredients:

- 1 cup brown sugar
- ½ cup white sugar
- ½ cup butter
- 1 egg
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 cup applesauce
- 1 tsp soda
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 cups flour
- 1 ½ cups of raw rhubarb, cut fine
- Cinnamon (to sprinkle on top)
- ¼ cup white sugar (to sprinkle on top)

Instructions: In large mixing bowl, cream sugars and butter. Add egg and salt. Stir in applesauce, soda, vanilla and flour. Add rhubarb. Pour into prepared 9 by 13 by 2-inch baking pan and sprinkle with ¼ cup white sugar and 1 tsp cinnamon. Bake at 375 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes. Touch the top and when it springs back it is done. The cake is moist and should need no icing, but it may require a scoop of vanilla ice cream while still warm!

Father’s Day is a special day for fathers in New Carlisle, throughout the Gaspé Peninsula and elsewhere. Time and time again, fathers do their best without looking for praise and they seldom boast about their daily accomplishments. Each day fathers go on quietly working for those they love the most, their families. There are never enough words to describe how important and beneficial a father’s influence is on any given day. A father is an anchor in all what he does. That guiding light he carries with him daily, giving him wisdom, strength and energy to show his children what hard work is. How often we are proud and very grateful to call our dad - Dad. In my daily thoughts, in my heart and in every part of my life, “DAD” you’ll always be. Happy Father’s Day.

Ken Ross, New Carlisle, Quebec



19 MICRA s MT



\$39
WEEKLY

60 MOS.
LEASE
\$0 down

STARTING MSRP OF
\$10,488

19 SENTRA s MT



\$47
WEEKLY

60 MOS.
LEASE
\$0 down

\$3,000
NCF STD RATE CASH



19 ALTIMA s AWD

\$83
WEEKLY

60 MOS.
LEASE
\$0 down

STARTING MSRP OF
\$27,998

19 KICKS s



\$59
WEEKLY

60 MOS.
LEASE
\$0 down

STARTING MSRP OF
\$18,298



19 QASHQAI s FWD CVT

\$67
WEEKLY

60 MOS.
LEASE
\$0 down

0% | 36 MOS.
FINANCE



19 ROGUE SE FWD

\$75
WEEKLY

60 MOS.
LEASE
\$0 down

UP TO
\$5,000
NCF STD RATE CASH

19 MURANO SV AWD



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MONTHLY

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\$2,995 down

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NCF STD RATE CASH

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S.T.A.F.F members join local community for the Global School Strike

Global school strike – Gaspé

Jeanie **LeLacheur**

GASPÉ: - Members of the Gaspé Polyvalent Environmental S.T.A.F.F. (Students Taking Action For Future) took to the streets on Friday, May 27, to join thousands across Canada and around the world in the second Global School Strike against climate change insisting on tougher actions against global warming.

Close to 70 people showed up at the Birthplace of Canada site to support the young environmentalists who were joined by individuals and groups from the area including students from the French section of the Gaspé Poly, community and family members, Lise Chartrand from *Ensemble pour l'avenir durable du Grand Gaspé*, Contact Environment, Vert Plus, La Planète S'invite au Parlement, the Reverend Cynthia A. Patterson

and Dennis Drainville.

Teacher and mentor Karl Reinders, who is both concerned and well-versed in the current issues surrounding the environment regionally and globally, is ecstatic about the students' response to this troubling climate emergency.

Aline Perry, Councillor for the Ville de Gaspé, joined the group on behalf of the town and encouraged the future stewards to come to the municipal meetings and take a more active role in local happenings.

It is also interesting to note that while about 50 local businesses have joined the towns composting program, the bigger corporate restaurants including McDonalds, Tim Hortons and Subway have not yet offered to take part. The walk ended at the Town Hall where participants had an opportunity to voice an opinion or share a message. Lise Char-

trand of the *Ensemble pour l'avenir durable du Grand Gaspé* thanked the young advocates, congratulating them on their initiative for positive change. "We are with you, we hear you, together we will change this world and I believe in you."

Vert Plus issued an invitation to a 48-hour training camp concerning water and climate protection. A Contact Environment spokesperson who works closely with species at risk reminded the group of the important role they now play as stewards in the future of the region and planet, congratulating them on their enthusiasm in standing for what they believe in.

The next move for S.T.A.F.F. includes attending a municipal council meeting and becoming more actively involved in local and regional related issues.

Standing together

Jeanie **LeLacheur**

GASPÉ: - Dennis Drainville joined the Environmental S.T.A.F.F. in the recent Future Walk and shared a personal experience of standing for what you believe in.

"In 1989 the Liberal Government of Ontario decided to move ahead and began issuing licences to forestry companies to clear cut land in the region of Temagami," stated Mr. Drainville.

There were three main concerns. Was it crown or indigenous land? (It is still before the courts after 60 years). Did the licences include the area that possessed the last and largest stand of old-growth forest in the province? Would the local indigenous population, the Teme Augami-Anishinabai, who lived in that area for over

five thousand years be pushed off their ancestral land?

Dennis and his friend, the Rev. George Leach S J, were invited by Chief Gary Potts to help blockade the land by helping to stop the building of Red Squirrel Road. In December 1989 they peacefully protested the Person Government's decision by forming a human blockade and stopping the work. Both were arrested and charged. Dennis was found guilty at the trial and sentenced to a \$750 fine and a week in North Bay jail. It's interesting to note that by the time Dennis did actually go to jail he had already been elected to the legislative assembly of Ontario.

At the end of the day and on a personal note we all make decisions as to who we are and what we believe in. Not everybody is willing to take the same

risks but it can be as simple as asking the retailer where you buy your spring flowers and plants to ensure that they have not been treated with a pesticide (bees that feed from flowers that have been sprayed die) or allowing the natural spring flowers to stay a little longer to help the local pollinators (even if your neighbour hates dandelions) or designating a small area of your lawn bee friendly by leaving it un-mowed or planting some wildflowers. Buy locally when you can and be aware of how your daily actions impact the environment. It takes courage to stand up for what we believe in but courage does not always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, "I will try again tomorrow." - Mary Anne Radmacher

Bones found in Forillon National Park identified

Carricks shipwreck hypothesis confirmed

Press release

GASPÉ: - The Parks Canada Agency has confirmed that the bones found in Forillon National Park in 2011 and 2016 are indeed from the Carricks shipwreck. The ship carrying 180 passengers had departed from Sligo, Ireland, and was headed to the port of Quebec when it sank off the coast of Cap-des-Rosiers in 1847. This conclusion has been reached given the location of the human remains and the context of their burial, along with analyzes carried out by the bioarcheology laboratory at the Université de Montréal.

The bones of three individuals between the ages of 7 and 12 washed up on the beach at Cap-des-Rosiers in 2011 following a violent storm that damaged the shoreline. It was hypothesized that these remains were from the Carricks shipwreck. According to historical accounts, the bodies of the shipwrecked were buried on the beach. In 2016, Parks Canada carried out a preventative archeological dig before undertaking restoration work on the coastal ecosystem at Cap-des-Rosiers. During these digs, the remains of a further 18 individuals were discovered, bringing the total number up to 21. Most were the remains of women and children.

Analyzes have confirmed the hypothesis that the remains were from the Carricks shipwreck by making it possible to determine that these individuals followed a diet typical of that of a rural population dependent on agriculture, and based mainly on potato cultivation. This diet was typical of the population of Ireland in the first half of the 19th century. Analyzes also revealed that the shipwrecked people suffered from pathologies, most probably caused by malnutrition, itself caused by the famine then raging in Ireland.

After consulting with the citizens of Cap-des-Rosiers and members of the Irish community, it was decided that the human remains will be buried near the Irish Memorial on Cap-des-Rosiers Beach at a ceremony to be held in the summer of 2019.

The Parks Canada Agency is recognized as a world leader for heritage conservation. The agency is responsible for protecting Canada's natural and cultural heritage and showcasing outstanding examples from across the country. Science and history go hand in hand when it comes to interpreting the remains of our past.

"During the Great Famine of Ireland in 1847, Canada became the home of many Irish immigrants. The tragic events of the Carricks shipwreck are a startling reminder of just how difficult the journey was for the travellers and that not everybody was lucky enough to reach their new home. Today's announcement is very significant for Irish families whose ancestors were Carricks passengers. This shipwreck reflects an important part of Canadian history," says The Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of National Revenue and Member of Parliament for Gaspésie — Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine

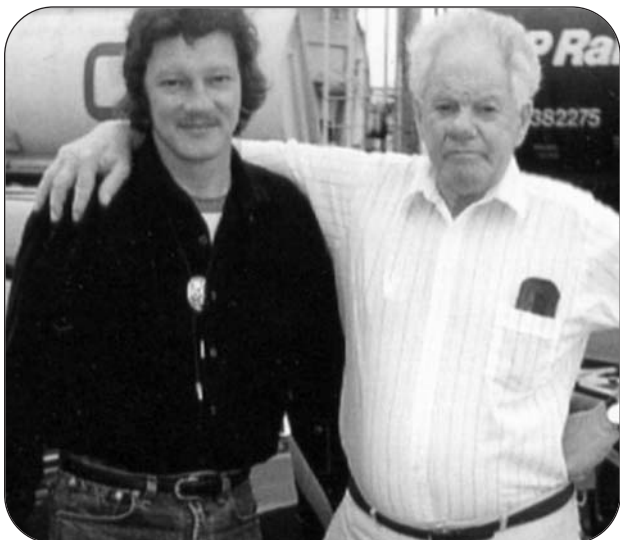
Quick Facts

- According to historical sources, it is estimated that between 120 and 150 people died when the Carricks sank. Of these, 87 bodies were found and only 48 people survived this tragic event.
- Following a public consultation in the spring of 2017, Parks Canada announced that the Irish Memorial, which was threatened by erosion, would be relocated to the top of the beach at Cap-des-Rosiers.
- This monument was erected in 1900 by St. Patrick's Parish in Montreal in memory of the shipwrecks passengers. The ship's bell—which was found on September 24, 1968, on the beach at Blanc-Sablon on Quebec's North Shore—is located next to the monument.
- In consultation with the Saint-Alban parish council, the human remains discovered will be buried near the Irish Memorial this summer, and an additional memorial will be erected to honour their memory.
- From 1832 to 1937, all ships had to make a mandatory stop at Grosse Île, which was then used as a quarantine station for the port of Quebec. Without this catastrophic accident, the Carricks would also have followed this route.

Announcements...



Obituaries



GALLANT: Gordon

In loving memory of our dear son Gordon who passed away April 24, 2018, at age 57 years.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his three sons Richard, Adam and Jacob; also his loving parents Stephen and Ida Gallant; two sisters Kim and Cathy; and brother Adam.

Gordon was a kind and loving son, brother, father and grandfather to his four grandchildren Mercedes, Natalia, Maxmillan and Kashton.

His partner Linda passed away August 6, 2018.

Gordon was a skilled mechanic and loved automobiles of all kinds.

He was loved by all who knew him.



McCOLM: June Elizabeth

1924-2019

June Elizabeth McColm passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at the age of 94 years. She was born June 14, 1924, in Cullen's Brook, Quebec. June lived for many years in Black Cape, Quebec, before moving to Lloydminster, Alberta.

June is survived by her sister, Orian Barrett; daughter, Rhea (Robert) Noda; sons Robert McColm and JJ McColm; her daughter-in-law Maria McColm; grandchildren: Jeremy (Lindsay) McColm, Nicole (Dwayne) Lessner, Jeff (Becky) McColm, Matt McColm, and Evan McColm; and six great-grandchildren: Reese, Presley, Heston, Ryan, Blake, and Annalee.

She is predeceased by her husband Restie McColm; her parents Frank and Annie Tozer; her son Paige McColm; and her daughter-in-law Allison McColm.

The Memorial Service for June was conducted from McCaw Funeral Chapel in Lloydminster, Alberta, on Friday, May 17, 2019, with Archdeacon Michael Stonhouse officiating.

June is fondly remembered as a devoted and loving mother and grandmother with a great sense of humour and a great sense of fun.



In Memory



FLOWERS, Elmer Clyde

March 5, 1929 – September 5, 2018

*The first Father's Day with you not here my dear,
My grief still flows without you near.*

Many memories return throughout the day.

They keep us company along the way.

Your light shone brightly for us all,

Until the good Lord came to call.

Happy Father's Day in Heaven, Dad. You will always be in our hearts. Daughter Carol and son-in-law Richard.

MORRISON: Lena

In loving memory of a dear mother who passed away June 9, 1992.

*It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you did not go alone.*

*A part of us went with you,
The day God took you home.*

*If tears could build a stairway
And heartaches make a lane,*

*We'd walk our way to heaven,
And bring you back again.*

In life we loved you dearly,

In death we love you still,

In our hearts we hold a place

No one could ever fill.

Always loved, never forgotten, forever missed. Husband Blake, son Blake, daughter Lee Anne and son-in-law Terry.



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COAST ROUND-UP

GASPE:

Gaspe County WI Annual County Fair

The Gaspé County WI Annual County Fair is open to public exhibitors. If you like to cook, garden, knit, sew, take photographs, do crafts, etc., then the 2019 County Fair program has something for you. If you are interested in being an exhibitor in this year's fair, please contact Rhonda Stewart at rhondals@hotmail.com. Registration fee is \$15. The fair will be **Saturday, September 7**, at the York River Community Hall

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 20: 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.

YORK:

York River Seniors' Club

June 30: The York River Seniors' Club will be hosting its annual brunch at Biard's Restaurant, Percé, at 9:30 a.m. Tickets are \$10 for members of the York River Seniors' Club and \$20 for non members. Price includes meal, taxes and tip. Tickets are available at Photo Cassidy (please phone first) 418-368-2610, Elaine Coull 418-368-3935, Debbie Sams 418-368-2977 or Tony Patterson 418-

368-3276. Tickets must be purchased by June 26. There will be no bus service.

DOUGLASTOWN:

Community Centre

Tuesdays: Zumba from 7-8 p.m. \$10/class.

Wednesday: Yoga for women. 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 will be held 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.

BARACHOIS:

Mountain View Golden Age

June 18: All seniors, 50 years and older, are welcome to a Gardening Information Workshop at 2 p.m. at Mountain View Golden Age building, 857 Route 132 East. Learn about the plans for more summer workshops and share your gardening experiences with others. For more information contact 418-355-4899.

September 29: Harvest Supper at the Mountain View Golden Age building, 5 p.m.

BARACHOIS:

Recreation Centre

June 21: The Barachois Recreation Centre will be holding an 18+ money bingo at 7 p.m. Biligual. Over \$600 in cash prizes.

PORT DANIEL:

QWI Marcil Branch

Advance Notice

July 20: Strawberry Social from noon to 2 p.m. at the Three Star Golden Age Club building in Port

Daniel West. For more information, please call 418-752-8152.

PORT DANIEL:

St. James Anglican Church

July 27: Annual Bazaar at the Three Star Golden Age Club. Everyone welcome.

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!

June 22: Military Whist.

July 1: Canada Day - hotdogs and ice cream.

July 5: Bingo.

July 6: 500 card game.

SHIGAWAKE:

St. Paul's Anglican Church Women Advance Notice

July 11: Tea, Bake and Craft Sale from noon to 2 p.m. at the Shigawake Community Centre (across from the Anglican Church). Adults \$7, children 6 and under free. Door prizes and other prizes available.

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.

HOPE TOWN:

Community Centre

July 13: Military Whist beginning at 8 p.m.

NEW CARLISLE:

Royal Canadian Legion

Saturdays: Legion opens at 1 p.m.

June 15: Spring triathlon, shuffleboard/washers/crib. \$10 per person. Registration at 12:30 p.m. Games start at 1 p.m. Prizes to be won. All welcome.

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.

NEW CARLISLE:

Heritage New Carlisle

June 15 & 22: Nature's Bounty: Sessions two and three with well-known artist Elaine Almond. Gather treasures and make products. Starts at 10 a.m. \$25 for three sessions. To register call 418-752-1334, heritagenc@globetrotter.net or facebook.

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 donate 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:

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:

Book Room

The book room is now closed, but if you call Kathleen at 418-392-4896, she can set up a time to go in.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

Fifty Plus

June 14 & 28: 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.

June 16: Father's Day Brunch from 9 a.m. to noon. Sausage, bacon, home fries, beans, pancakes, eggs, toast, tea and coffee will be served, \$12 per adult. Children 12 years old and under \$10. Welcome to all.

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 Mawiomni 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 26 are: Hervé Cyr, Feddy Audet, Huguette Lemay, Josée Bordeleau, Serge Barriault, John Homorowski and Robert Lemieux.

The winners for the week of June 2 are: Margot Audet, Benoit Cyr, Marlène Miville, Mireille Cyr, Alain Pitre, Martin Poirier and Bernard Doiron.

UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, June 16
2 p.m. Hope Town

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, June 16
New Carlisle

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Hope Town
9 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Port Daniel
2 p.m. Worship with
United in Hope Town

PARISH OF GASPÉ

Sunday, June 16
St. Matthew's - Peninsula
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

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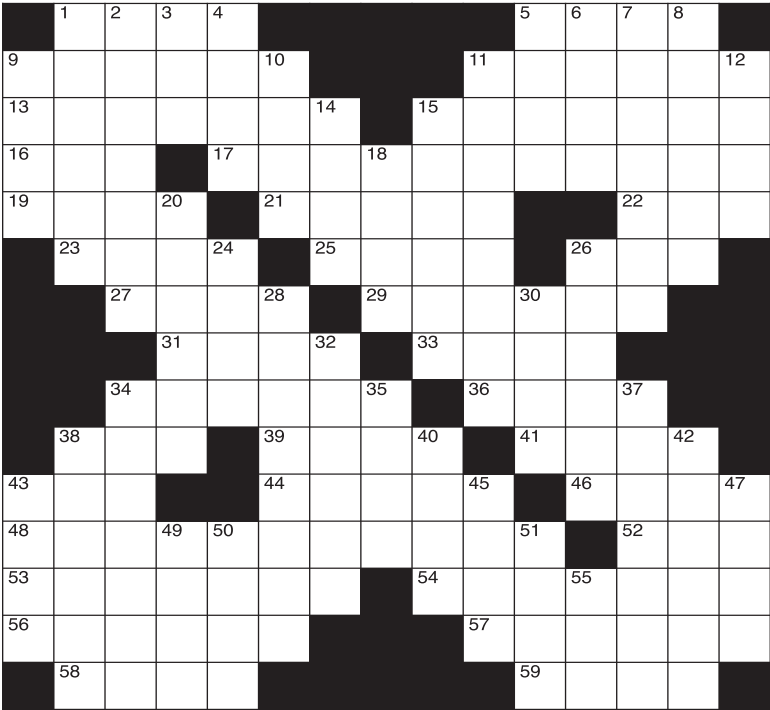
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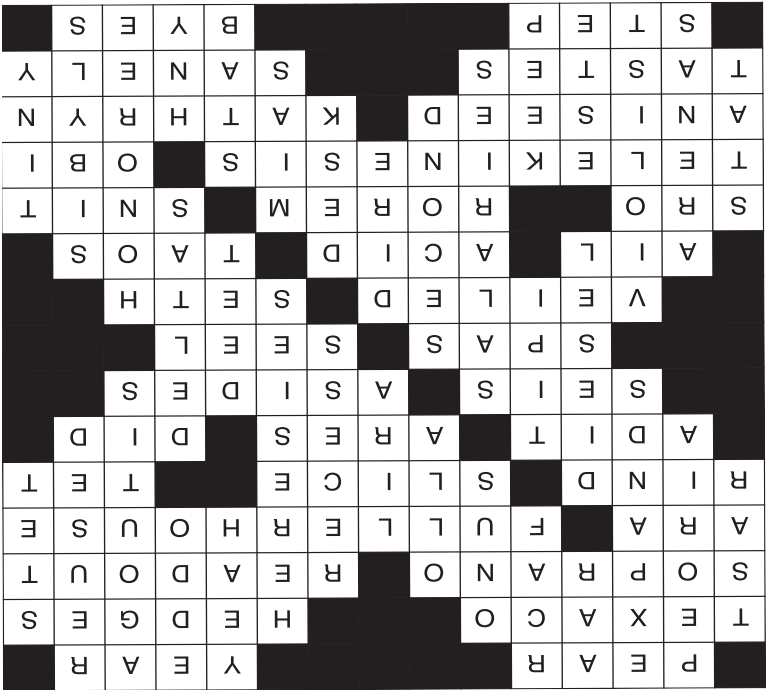


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Type of fruit
- 5. Unit of time
- 9. Oil company
- 11. Benson's "partner"
- 13. Fictional mob boss Tony
- 15. Visual record
- 16. Small constellation
- 17. Popular family TV series
- 19. Tough outer layer
- 21. Cut
- 22. Vietnamese offensive
- 23. Horizontal mine passage
- 25. Greek war god
- 26. Have already done
- 27. Six (Spanish)
- 29. Remarks for the audience
- 31. Relaxing spots
- 33. Prevent from seeing
- 34. Disguised
- 36. Comedian Rogen
- 38. Afflict in mind or body
- 39. Sour
- 41. People native to N. Mexico
- 43. No seats available
- 44. Ned __, composer
- 46. A fit of irritation
- 48. Ability to move objects mentally
- 52. Luke's mentor __-Wan
- 53. Herbal medicine ingredient
- 54. Oscar-winning director Bigelow
- 56. Likes
- 57. In a sound way
- 58. Part of a staircase
- 59. Exemptions from play

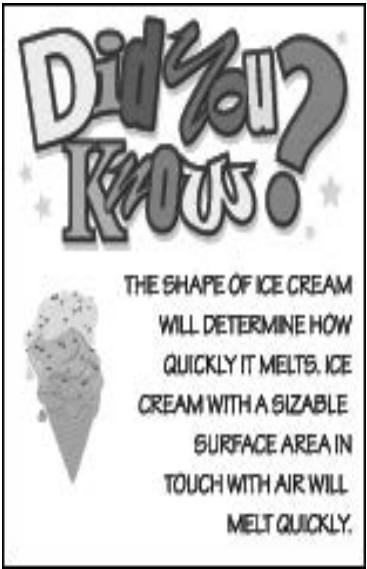
CLUES DOWN

- 1. How will it play in __?
- 2. Grows
- 3. Swiss river
- 4. Canadian flyers
- 5. Affirmative! (slang)
- 6. Root of taro plant
- 7. Large, long-legged rodents
- 8. Recycled
- 9. Pre-1917 emperor of Russia
- 10. Sometimes it's on you
- 11. Contrary beliefs
- 12. Remain as is
- 14. Spicy stew __ podrida
- 15. Play time
- 18. Italian monetary unit
- 20. Type of fuel
- 24. Portable conical tent
- 26. Yazoo and Mississippi are two
- 28. What people earn
- 30. Insect repellent
- 32. After first
- 34. Plays the viola
- 35. Not good
- 37. Esteemed guest
- 38. Where rockers ply their trade
- 40. Office furniture
- 42. Ancient Greek oracles
- 43. Quantitative fact
- 45. Missing soldiers
- 47. Minute
- 49. This (Spanish)
- 50. Maintain possession of
- 51. Knife
- 55. What to say on New Year's Day (abbr.)



RECYCLE
REPURPOSE
REUSE

LOOK
WHAT
YOU CAN
CREATE
WITH
USED
WOOD
PALLETS.



WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to slow cookers.

ROHSU



Answer: Hours

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Start sorting through things, Aries. You have many irons in the fire and not much time to get things done. You might have to call in a backup team to help out.
TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Relationships take work, Taurus. You have to put in the effort if you want to see yours blossom to its full potential. Schedule some time to spend with your sweetheart.
GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, everyone at work needs to pitch in to get a job done. If you feel like you are putting in more of the effort than others, you may need to speak up .
CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Put a strong face on if upsetting news comes your way, Cancer. You're tough enough to get through it, and you may need to take a leadership role.
LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, don't throw in the towel when things do not go your way. Simply find another work-around or tactic that may prove a path to success. Keep trying.
VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
A few things are coming up that



will be completely out of your control, Virgo. Letting go of the reins can be good for you once in a while. And you may learn a thing or two.
LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
You are doling out tons of advice lately, and it suits you, Libra. Others want to know your opinion on many different things, and you are ready and willing to offer it to them.
SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
"When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." Why not turn it into lemon meringue pie instead, Scorpio? Really put a positive spin on the situation, and you'll feel better.
SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Investigate some travel options that can get you away for a little bit, Sagittarius. A change of scenery can do you good, and you will feel reinvigorated after your trip.
CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
After a bumpy start, the week will smooth out quite nicely and can prove very enjoyable for you, Capri-

corn. Invite some friends over or go out for happy hour.
AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
It is time to put yourself first, Aquarius, even though that's not always your style. Find some interests and let work slide for a little while so you can recharge.
PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Be sure to periodically check your on your finances, Pisces. If much has been flowing out, you may have to curb spending for a little bit.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- JUNE 9
Michael J. Fox, Actor (58)
- JUNE 10
Kate Upton, Model (27)
- JUNE 11
Joe Montana, Athlete (63)
- JUNE 12
Dave Franco, Actor (34)
- JUNE 13
Chris Evans, Actor (38)
- JUNE 14
Donald Trump, US President (73)
- JUNE 15
Neil Patrick Harris, Actor (46)

Intercommunity Harmony holds 11th tree-planting session along Restigouche River

Gilles **Gagné**

MATAPEDIA: — For the eleventh year in a row, Intercommunity Harmony and the Restigouche River Watershed Management Council held their tree-planting activity along the shores of the Restigouche River in Matapedia, 10 kilometres upstream from the village. About 50 children from the Listuguj, Matapedia and Saint-François d'Assise schools planted 1,000 trees on May 30.

Since the beginning of that activity, 11,000 trees have been planted to protect the shores of the Restigouche River. The students are informed of the benefits of enhancing the role of trees for the river's habitat.

"It is my first time for that

activity but, at home, I do plant trees sometimes. People cut trees down and don't replant them. Oxygen is key for the river and for life," points out Austin Morrison of the Alaqsite'w Gitpu School of Listuguj, who already knows the vital role played by trees in the purification of air. Austin was planting trees with Gitpu Molley on May 30.

David Leblanc, coordinator of the Restigouche River Watershed Management Council, always explains to the students why it is important to plant trees along the river.

"Trees act as a filter for the pollutants coming from farming sometimes, although here, this is less present. Trees make some shade for the water, allowing it to stay cool, which is

better for the salmon. Trees also provide habitat for insects, which in turn feed the salmon and, finally, trees stabilize the shores of the river and prevent sedimentation, which affects the fish," says Mr. Leblanc.

Like other volunteers accompanying the group of students, he must also remind them to plant the trees not too close to the river, since spring water debacles cause sudden rises of the water level and can destroy much along the way.

In an effort to eliminate prejudice between the two groups, Intercommunity Harmony has been involved in the organization of common activities for Natives and Non-Natives for 18 years.

The initiator of Intercom-

munity Harmony, Pierre Vicaire, sees that once along the river, most students tend to stay with friends from the same school but he also knows that it is not because of prejudice.

"Those youth meet several times yearly. Before you would never have seen something like that, group activities putting together Natives and Non-Natives of that age. The ice cannot melt in one shot. Without those activities, they wouldn't be in contact at all. Year after year, they improve their knowledge of the other culture and they create links. There are not here to kiss and hug each other right away. They are here to meet the other groups and learn about respect," says Pierre Vicaire.

"Some of them are probably told that Natives don't pay taxes and they sell cigarettes. Once they come to Listuguj, they see that Natives have a school too. They have teachers and a gym. They might do things differently at times but, overall, things are quite alike. It is a learning process. The Non-Natives are part of the change that must be applied if we are to modify the relation between the communities," he adds.

In an attempt to improve the relation between Natives and Non-Natives, the Intercommunity Harmony project is currently being assessed by a few organizations in order to verify if that model could be applied elsewhere in Quebec.



Listuguj group taking a break



Pierre Vicaire



Approximately 50 students from the Listuguj, Matapedia and Saint-François d'Assise schools planted 1,000 trees on May 30.

Photos: G. Gagné

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