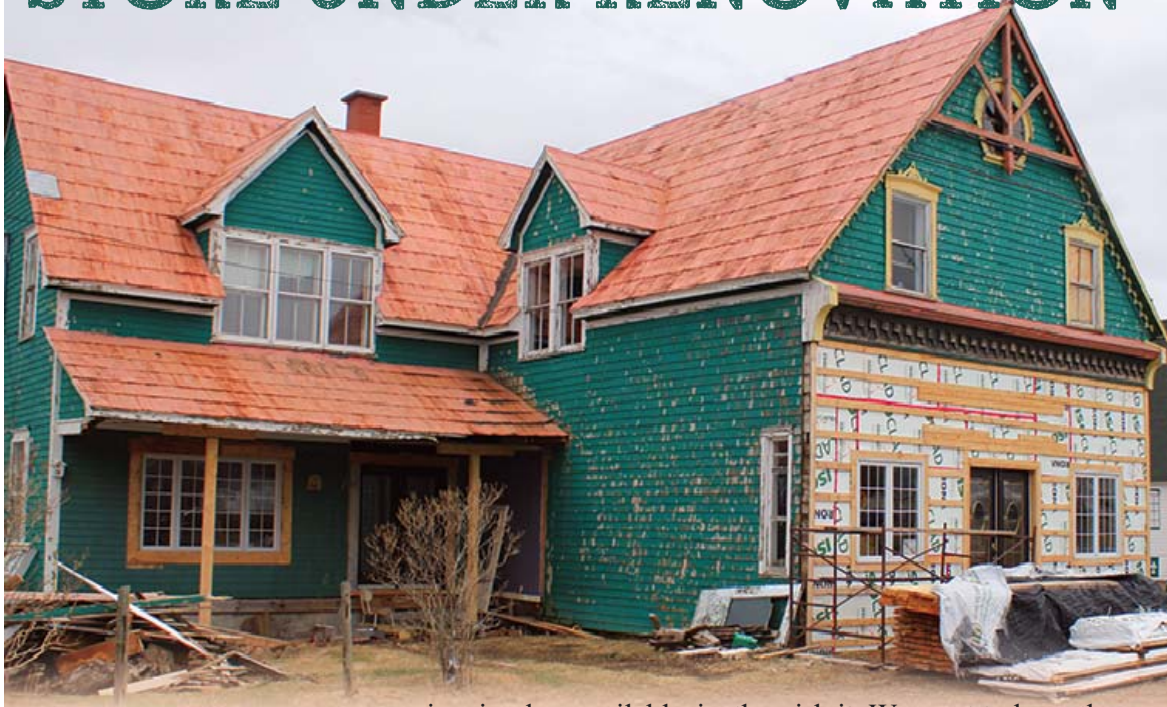


FORMER GASCONS GENERAL STORE UNDER RENOVATION



Gilles **Gagné**

GASCONS – The former Robin’s general store in Gascons is currently under renovation. New owners Janick Aubut and Steve Arseneault will make private use of that space, once the work is done. They bought it last year from the previous owner, Réal Chapados. The house part was inhabited for years but the former store section has been vacant since the Clair de lune bar closed. A large storage

wing is also available in the back of the main building. “I have always dreamed of owning that building. It is not my first old house. When I called Steve last year to show him that project, his first reply was: ‘Knowing you, it must be an old thing.’ When he saw the inside part though, he wanted to be part of the project. The beams of the frame are still very sturdy. It’s impressive. It is a venture for the fall and winter seasons. It might take a couple of years before we fin-

ish it. We want to keep the cachet of the shingles. We want to protect the building’s style,” says Ms. Aubut.

The building was constructed in 1916. “It is not classified but it is considered by the municipality as a building with heritage interest,” she adds.

The former general store is located next to St. Philip’s Anglican Church, another heritage building. The church belongs to the town of Port Daniel-Gascons and can be visited in the summer.

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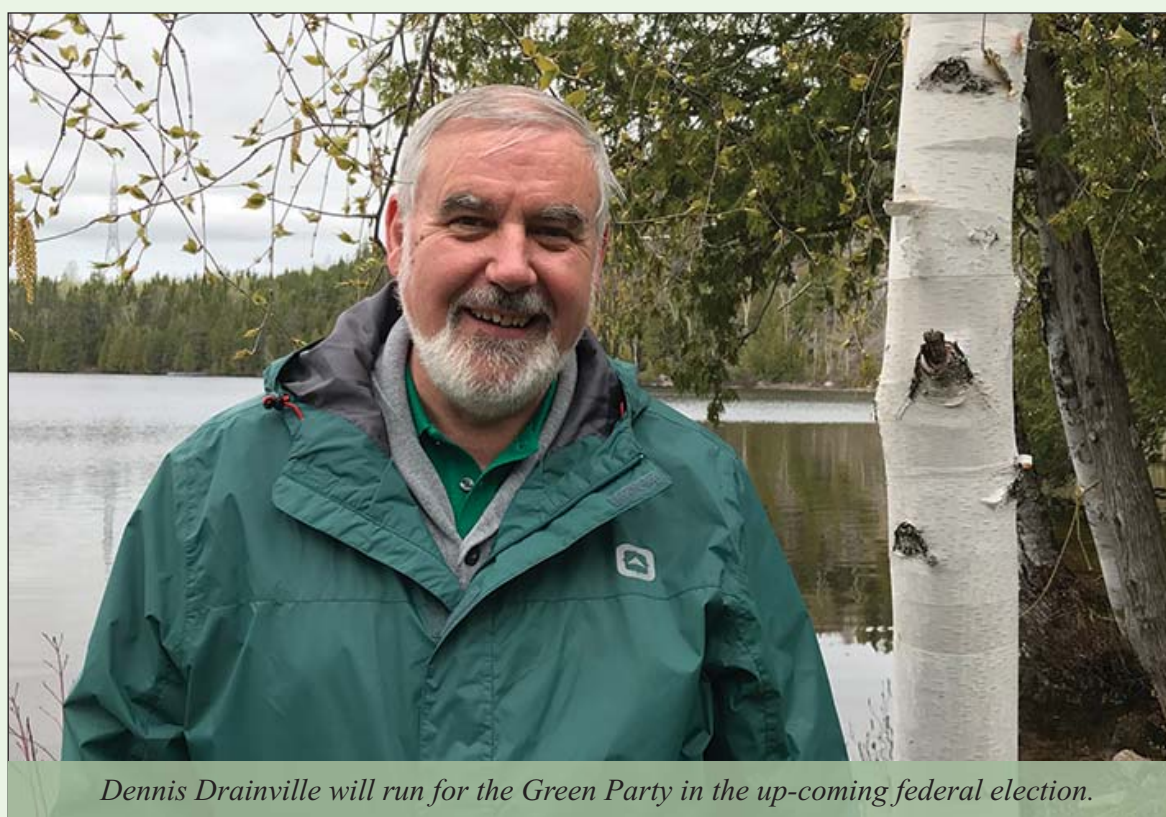
Drainville to run for the Green party

Cynthia **Dow**

GASPÉ: - Dennis Drainville is running for election, but this time it is not for the NDP. He’s throwing his hat into the ring at the fall federal election for the Green Party of Canada. “We are starting from zero here, but big challenges have never scared me,” he told SPEC.

Mr Drainville actually started his political life as a Liberal, running in 1977 in the Ontario provincial election. Then from 1989 to 2015, he was a staunch supporter of the NDP, running successfully under Bob Rae in Ontario. Having lived on the Coast for some 25 years now, he was a candidate for the NDP here in 1997, garnering just under 700 votes.

Disenchantment with lack



Dennis Drainville will run for the Green Party in the up-coming federal election.

of room for dissent within the NDP and the compelling reality of the climate crisis have

brought him into the Green fold. “Climate change is the over-arching reality within

which every other political issue now has to be considered,” he told SPEC. “No one

else at the federal level is taking it seriously. Even the NDP does not have significant targets (to reduce greenhouse gases) in mind, probably because of their links with unions in the auto, petroleum and other industries.”

The former Anglican Bishop for the Diocese of Quebec has known Elizabeth May, the Green Party leader, for some years. She occasionally visited him and his wife, the Rev. Cynthia Patterson, at their home in Quebec City. They share many values in common, including the importance of civil debate in the House of Commons: “Parliament is a place for opinions to be put forward and debated seriously. It should be polite and civil. Elizabeth May never

News briefs



Photo: N. Sergerie

Steve Horth

Commerce: More flexibility required in Gaspé

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ: - Business people from Gaspé are asking the municipal administration for more flexibility in the application of commerce regulations.

Approximately 30 merchants exchanged business development ideas at a meeting in the York sector of Gaspé on April 24.

The initiator of the evening, Steve Horth, owner of the Locksmithing Clef d'Or, did not want to focus on the initiatives made in the past by the municipal authorities, but wanted to look at the future in a positive way.

The businessman launched his plan in January and met with some 140 merchants from the municipality. It culminated in this meeting where only the business owners and the Gaspé Chamber of Commerce and Tourism were invited. "I felt there was a need," says Steve Horth.

Adapting to the needs

The proponent uses the example of Premier François Legault, who argues that programs must adapt to entrepreneurs. "We have needs that are not always the same. Could we read between the lines sometimes and say, 'ok, it makes sense what you want to do.' I really want an overview of the business people of Gaspé," says Mr. Horth. A second exchange evening is organized for the Rivière-au-Renard sector. The full report of these meetings will be unveiled later.

VIA Rail wants to return to the Coast

Nelson Sergerie

The GASPÉ - VIA Rail reiterates once again its intention to return to the Gaspé Peninsula once the railway is repaired.

At its annual general meeting on May 28 in Montreal, the public corporation reassured the stakeholders who questioned the carrier about its future intentions on the Matapédia-Gaspé route. Moreover, the first question from the public, directed at the administrators of the passenger rail service was "when will the VIA Rail train return to Gaspé?"

VIA Rail's transport and security chief, Marc Beaulieu, recalled that the service has been interrupted since 2013 due to the condition of the line, which is described as unsafe for passenger trains, however, he added that Quebec intends to renovate the rail network.

"We fully intend to return to servicing the region as long as the tracks are safe and the route will go to Gaspé," added Mr. Beaulieu in his response.

The President of the Gaspésie Railway Company, Éric Dubé, has always indicated his hope of the return of VIA Rail trains once the line has been rehabilitated.

Pieridae abandons Gaspésia project

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ: - After having announced receiving permits to make seismic surveys on the Gaspésia property south of the *Réserve faunique de Matane and Parc de la Gaspésie*, Pieridae does a turnabout and abandons the project.

In a letter to the *Comités de suivi des travaux en Gaspésie* on May 7, 2019, the company wrote that it held "33 licences in the Gaspé Peninsula and Lower-Saint-Laurence regions, however, following a decision by the board of directors, Pieridae sent the ministry a request to abandon some of its licences."

In addition to the Gaspésia project, the Le Ber, Corte Real, Gastonguay and Edgar projects are being abandoned in addition to those in the Lower-Saint-Laurence.

Pieridae will keep only the Bourque projects near Murdochville, Gaspé with Haldimand and Tar Point as well as Matapédia in the Causapsal region.

"The reality of new legislation and regulatory obligations, coupled with the climate of political uncertainty, does not allow the company to believe that it is possible to pursue concurrently with all of its licences for the activities then projected in the near future. We will focus our efforts on the retained licences," adds the company in its letter to the members of the monitoring committees.

The company will soon hold the first meeting of the three monitoring committees and will announce its projects in Gaspé Peninsula.

A licence "virtually forgotten"

Pieridae received permission from the Quebec government to conduct seismic surveys of its Gaspésia project



Haldimand 4 site.

Photo: N. Sergerie

in March. The vice-president, Martin Bélanger, emphasized before announcing the abandonment of the licences that they only received them after more than a year of waiting.

"Honestly, we were surprised. We almost forgot we made this request," he says.

In the fall of 2017, the proposal to conduct surveys raised a public outcry from elected officials, hunters and environmentalists.

Bourque

The company has no plan to carry out work on its Bourque site near Murdochville this year. "We are patient. We're looking at what's happening with Cuda. They started the next steps in Galt. Galt and Bourque are very similar," says Bélanger.

The next step in Bourque would be a production lease, "but we're waiting to see what kind of results Cuda will have with their wells."

Haldimand

By choosing to comply with the regulations on hydro-

carbons, the company believes that it would be very difficult to operate the Haldimand site in Gaspé.

"It's our interpretation. We had to take a write-down in the financial statements at the end of the year because our auditors indicated that with their interpretation of the regulations, we would not be able to operate the reservoir in Haldimand, says Mr. Bélanger. We are in discussions with the government to find out what the next step is in Haldimand, but at this point it will be very difficult to move the project forward."

The regulations on hydrocarbons ensure that oil drilling is prohibited in urban perimeters and in a zone of one kilometre around it. It is forbidden to drill within 300 metres of a house.

The former Liberal Minister, Pierre Moreau, always maintained that since the project was only at the exploration stage, the company could not hope for a form of compensation, unlike Anticosti, which was in the process of exploitation.

Percé: a wharf of resistance

Nelson Sergerie

PERCÉ: - The wharf in Percé survived the winter and the infrastructure will require only minor work in order to be accessible this summer.

Since 2013, the big question each year is: will the wharf be solid enough to open in the summer? To ensure safe circulation every year, work is required on the infrastructure that is at the end of its life.

In 2018, significant work had to be done to ensure it was safe for the summer season, but the wharf was spared this past winter.

"Last year, at the entrance to the wharf, there was a vacuum that required filling with granular material. There is a small portion of this material that is gone. It will not be difficult to replace," says Bernard Beaudoin, Director of Small Craft Harbours at Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Minor electrical work will also have to be done. The upgrade will be completed soon and will require only a few thousand dollars at the most.

Only the first 100 metres will be available again this year and mooring will only be allowed on one landing stage.

Tenders for the new wharf are expected in the early summer for delivery for the 2020 tourist season.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES RAILWAY BRIDGES: Quebec-based company is lowest bidder for construction

Gilles Gagné

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: – A Quebec City based firm, Hamel Construction, was the lowest bidder for the construction of two new railway bridges in Cascapedia-St-Jules. Its \$22.4 million bid was the only one to reach the brackets suggested by Transports Québec, the owner of the Matapédia to Gaspé line.

Entreprises PEC, from Bonaventure, submitted the second lowest bid, at \$26.5 million. Two other companies submitted bids for that contract. Their bids were considered to comply by the Quebec Department of Transport despite being higher than the \$25 million suggested in the call for tenders. The minimum suggested cost was \$20 million.

“The contract is not signed yet. I am happy because based on what comes from Transports Québec, the work will start during the summer,” says Éric Dubé, president of the Gaspésie Railway Society, the operator of freight trains on the Matapédia-Caplan portion of the line.

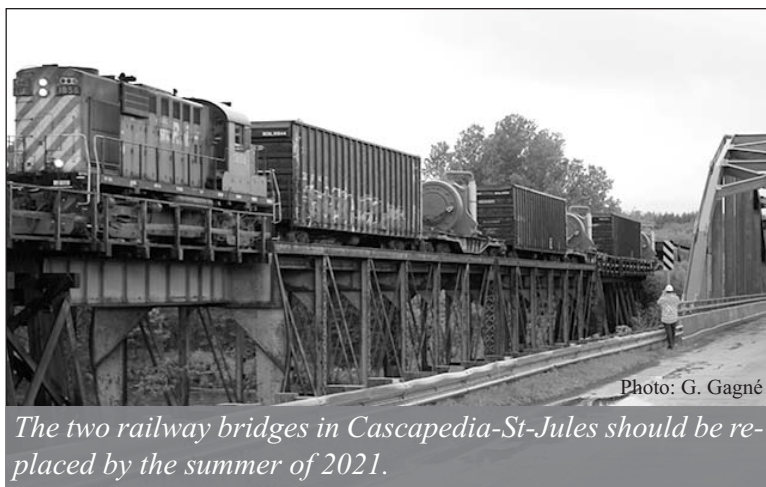
The contract calls for a 30-month construction period. Éric Dubé points out that the two new bridges will likely open before the end of 2021.

“The contract includes tearing down the two old bridges. It will come at the end because trains will pass over them until the new bridges are put in place. Tearing down the old bridges will take some time so if we are lucky, we will roll on the new bridges during the summer of 2021,” he explains.

The two new bridges will be south of the old structures which dates back to the 1890s. Some bush cutting has been carried out over the stretch leading to the new route approved for the new bridges.

Transports Québec also issued in May a call for tenders in order to get plans and specifications for the repairs of eight bridges located between Caplan and Port Daniel.

“It is a pre-project. Engineering firms are asked to draw the plans and specifications of the eight bridges in order to determine the time frame for the realization of the work and the projected cost. Once that step is completed, the ministry will



The two railway bridges in Cascapedia-St-Jules should be replaced by the summer of 2021.

launch a call for tenders for the work itself. The plans and specifications will be provided over the fall and the call for tenders will be published over the winter, for a construction start in the spring,” explains Éric Dubé.

“It will come to what we were expecting, that once the Cascapedia-St-Jules bridges are rebuilt, the other bridges will be fixed between Caplan and Port Daniel. We will then be able to serve McInnis Cement at the plant,” he adds.

Beginning July 2017, cement is trucked to New Richmond in order to be transferred to rail cars. Since July 2018, some cement is trucked to a second terminal in Nouvelle to top off the loads initiated in New Richmond because the needs of McInnis Cement are growing and the Cascapedia-St-Jules bridges were limiting the number of fully loaded cars to 10 weekly. That norm was dictated by the owner, Transports Québec.

The main bridges requiring work east of New Richmond are located in Caplan, Port Daniel, Shigawake and Bonaventure.

“It is clearly not comparable to building new bridges,” points out Éric Dubé, who

doesn’t think that the pre-project pertaining to the eight bridges was accelerated because Gaspesian stakeholders complained about the time frame referred to by Quebec premier François Legault during his visit to New Richmond on April 25.

Mr. Legault said that it would take seven years to repair the line between Caplan and Gaspé, the part closed by the former government of Philippe Couillard in 2015.

That seven-year span was judged too long by everyone involved in the railway file, especially in light of the billions of dollars spent in Montreal on new projects carried out in three or four years, like the new Champlain Bridge and the REM train.

About \$85 million is left from the \$100 million envelope announced in May 2017 by former premier Couillard.

The former and the new government have committed to adding money to that envelope if it is needed but regional leaders argue that the sooner the work will be carried out, the better it will be for current and potential users, while saving money at the same time because refurbishment costs increase as years pass.

GASPÉ: \$73,000 washrooms

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ: - Some citizens are questioning the cost of \$73,000 to renovate a break room and washrooms at the Gaspé Town Hall.

Social media ignited following an online poll on May 25 that attracted more than 60 comments. Some people think that these renovations are unreasonable and costly and that this money could be better used, while others point out that it is commercial work involving larger costs.

In a public message, the Town explains that the work aims to make the first floor washrooms accessible to people with disabilities and involves the demolition of walls and the reconfiguration of the employee break room.

The work consists of revamping the water pipes, which requires breaking the concrete slab.

In addition, the contract was given to a local private contractor after a bidding process. This section of the building hasn’t been renovated in the past 40 years.

Police report

The bail hearing for Tyson Shawn Astles, 24, from Bonaventure is postponed until June 17. The accused was arrested on May 9 with a parcel containing 700 methamphetamine pills. In addition to a charge of drug possession for the purpose of trafficking, he must now face an additional charge of counterfeit money possession. He is also waiting for the court procedure related to six additional drug-related charges.

The other man arrested with Tyson Shawn Astles on May 9 was released after being questioned and will be summoned to appear in court at a later date. He is 22 and is known to the police.

The place where they picked up the parcel was not released by the Sûreté du Québec, whose officers had been checking that location for a while as part of their investigation.

Pierre-André Langlois, 56, from Maria who was arrested on the morning of April 30 at his home located on Francis-Cyr Road, will appear in court on August 12 for a follow-up on the initial charges laid against him including negligent storage of a firearm and failure to register a firearm. Other charges are likely to also be laid since a certain quantity of cannabis, hashish and cocaine, as well as equipment generally used in drug trafficking, were found and seized during the drug bust on April 30. Pierre-André Langlois was released from custody on May 3 and last appeared in court on May 27.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada officers in collaboration with the Sûreté du Québec executed a series of search warrants on May 24 in the Gaspé Peninsula and Lower Saint Lawrence in the Quebec region, concerning illegal landings of snow crab.

A group of 19 fishery officers participated in searches targeting several locations, and seized snow crab believed to be undersized. The investigation is ongoing and could lead to the laying of charges. More details will be released when the investigation is completed. If harvesters see unauthorized activity, are told about it or have suspicions about unauthorized activity, they need to report it as soon as possible so that fishery officers can respond, suggests Fisheries and Oceans Canada.



PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL SERVICES AND CITY CLERK’S OFFICE

Register

By-law 1394-19: « décrétant des dépenses en immobilisations (construction de bâtiments) et un emprunt de 800 000 \$ »

The register will be held on June 10 and 11, 2019, at the town hall and is intended for all the qualified voters. The number of applications needed in order that a referendum poll be held for this By-Law is 1211 and failing this number, the concerned By-law will be deemed approved by the qualified voters.

Enactment of by-law :

By-law 1391-19: « décrétant un emprunt et une dépense d’une somme de 5 764 828\$ pour la construction et l’aménagement d’un garage municipal. »

GIVEN at Gaspé, June 5, 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 of public notices.



Commentary

Gilles Gagné

What is the value of serving for the government or public corporations?

Quebec's Auditor General Guylaine Leclerc sounded quite annoyed at the end of May when she released a report clearly showing that some administrators of public corporations with a commercial calling are receiving hidden bonuses when they are hired or when they leave.

Those administrators receive signing bonuses varying between \$25,000 and \$50,000 and they can earn as much as \$450,000 yearly, and even \$1 million. Ms. Leclerc's main source of frustration stems from the fact that some of that money is completely hidden from the books of those public corporations.

The corporations are Loto-Québec, the Société des alcools and Investissement Québec. They are mandated to bring money in the government's consolidated fund.

Their role, especially in the cases of Loto-Québec and the Société des alcools (SAQ), is already questioned sometimes because of the nature of what they sell. Is it really important to push and sell lottery tickets in a society experiencing gambling problems, considering that some people spend too much money in those random games?

That reality could also apply to alcohol sales. Is it really vital for a public corporation to maximize the sales of products that cause numerous addiction problems? A number of social workers would gladly reduce the importance of Loto-Québec and the SAQ in the Quebec government budget. They are quick to argue that the social cost of gambling and alcohol addiction far surpasses the money those public corporations bring in, however, that is not the point raised by Quebec's Auditor General.

She first and foremost criticizes the lack of transparency tied to the practice of hidden bonuses. In the case of the SAQ, hidden remuneration handed out to five administrators totalled \$2

million.

In a chapter of her recent report, she also points out that the determination of the salary for those public corporations is based on a lame comparison system using private companies registered on the stock market as a reference. Some of those companies are McDonald's Canada and Unilever Canada.

It is lame because Ms. Leclerc found in her research that only one out of 13 high-ranked administrators of Loto-Québec, the SAQ and Investissement Québec was recruited by the private sector in recent years.

She also found that the gap between the salary of those public corporation's administrators and the remuneration of high-ranked civil servants like deputy-ministers is increasing, to the advantage of the SAQ, Loto-Québec and Investissement Québec managers.

Ms. Leclerc points out that the level of competence required to run a government department like Finance or Health is at least as high as that of a Loto-Québec administrator, however, the president of Société des alcools earns twice the salary of the department of finance's deputy minister.

Knowing that the determination of salaries in the private sector is highly questionable, how in the world can the salary of our public corporations' administrators be compared to McDonald's or Unilever managers? In 1998, the average salary of an administrator of a large Canadian enterprise was 62 times the remuneration of a standard employee. In 2016, it was 140 times.

Is it really the system we want for our public corporations, considering all the financial abuse occurring in the private system? Of course, we don't want that.

Guylaine Leclerc also found that the bonus system does not really work, because the targets set by the administrators are almost always reached. They are collective targets for organizations but bonuses are handed out to very few people whose performances are not assessed individually.

The Auditor General's recommendations about the release of basic information is refused by Investissement Québec and the SAQ, which is an utmost sign of arrogance.

The reaction of Quebec's president of the Treasury Board, Christian Dubé, a former Caisse de dépôt et de placement du Québec administrator who was earning \$1 million at the time, and Economy minister Pierre Fitzgibbon, is disappointing. They don't see why comparisons with the private sector couldn't be drawn during the determination process of administrator's salaries at public corpo-

rations.

For them, maintaining equity between administrators of ministries and administrators of public corporations is not an issue and there is consequently no will to change the current system. That too looks like arrogance and it is deplorable.

Letters to the Editor

Now that spring has returned so have about a dozen deer to my backyard near the Bay of Chaleur. Unfortunately this means more vehicle/deer incidents but can they be reduced?

In the last 10 years there have been on average six collisions per year near my driveway in New Carlisle West. I have written and had meetings with the local Ministry of Transport office requesting they put up warning signs and extend the 50km speed limit 500 metres to the west as a way to mitigate this issue.

Hopefully these changes will soon occur but for now please give a heads up to others and add your voice to our local government so that 50km zone will get extended and possibly save lives.

Deer are prevalent all over the Coast but there are areas where they cross the roadway more frequently so please be especially vigilant when passing the area just west of Billingsley Street in New Carlisle's West and if you see one, there are more likely others to follow. Be careful out there and thanks for your attention.

Mark Legresley,
New Carlisle, Quebec

What are the advantages of Jody Wilson-Raybould and Jane Philpott representing their ridings as independents?

Imagine this: the Liberal Party of Canada is defeated, the young liberals protest, Trudeau's position as leader is put to the vote.

Who would begin to negotiate as an independent?

Cynical thoughts: I just can't believe there aren't ulterior motives.

If not, why not retire, or join Bernier? Or, allow her spouse to run as a lobbyist?

Vivian Anne(tt) Beebe
Montreal, Quebec

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Guy Bernatchez says he is ready to represent Gaspésians

Arianne Aubert Bonn

GASPÉ: - Guy Bernatchez will represent the Bloc Québécois for the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine riding in the federal election this fall.

The convention, which took place in Gaspé on May 18, allowed Guy Bernatchez to be nominated by acclamation. Mayor of Mont-Louis and a forestry worker by trade, Mr. Bernatchez was accompanied by party leader Yves-François Blanchette.

At the provincial level, the main leaders of the Parti Québécois gave their official support to the Bloc Québécois candidates at the federal level. The teams intend to campaign hand in hand. "It will be natural for us to be present. It takes us a strong Bloc in the Gaspésie to support us too," said the Member



Guy Bernatchez

of the National Assembly for the Gaspé riding, Méganne Perry-Mélançon. Matane's Pascal Bérubé, Bonaventure's Sylvain Roy and Magdalen Islands' Joël Arsénault also gave their support to the candidate for the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine.

For Guy Bernatchez, the issue of the party line makes all the difference in the possibility of adequately represent-

ing the voters. Without a party line, the Bloc believes it will be in a better position to make well-informed decisions.

"We do not have to please members from Alberta or Saskatchewan. We only have to speak for Quebecers," says Mr. Bernatchez. To illustrate his point, he cites the example of Liberal support for a \$4.5 billion pipeline project that does not serve Quebec's interests.

"Ms. Lebouthillier (Diane, the current Member of Parliament for the riding) had no choice but to give her support to it because of her party line, but if we only had a part of that amount in Quebec, we would have found a use for it. It's good to get tens of thousands of dollars to renovate buildings or buy snow groomers, but we need more than that," says Mr. Bernatchez.

The candidate adds that his party still has its "*raison d'être*", that it will still be relevant to talk about the Bloc and the interests of Quebecers in Ottawa, as long as Quebec is not a country.

It is with no moderation that the Bloc is attacking the Liberal Party record. Leader Yves-François Blanchette criticizes Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of National Revenue, for not having defended the unique tax declaration.

He emphasizes that the federal government refused to address the issue to avoid job losses, but that it would have been possible to get away without having to cut jobs in Quebec. "It is not her who defended the case, because when you are not able to explain the truth, you have a hard time explaining a lie," he says.

He also criticizes her for

not having settled the issue of black hole, the period without revenue between the end of employment insurance benefits and the resumption of work. There was also the mention of the situation regarding lighthouses.

Mr. Blanchet also criticized her for having provided Quebec with the Fisheries development fund two years after the Maritimes.

For his part, Mr. Bernatchez says that the Gaspé Peninsula was left out in the spruce budworm fight, while the fight is federally funded in New Brunswick.

A few days later in a press conference, Diane Lebouthillier claimed to have sharp teeth and looks forward to the election campaign.

Côte-de-Gaspé: \$300,000 to combat devitalization

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ: - The Côte-de-Gaspé MRC is putting \$300,000 on the table to encourage the development of devitalized municipalities in its territory.

Grande-Vallée, Petite-Vallée, Cloridorme and Murdochville will each receive a non-recurring amount of \$75,000 to promote their development.

"Municipalities will target their priority. But, yes job creation. Yes, economic development. This is the change that must be given. It can be support for existing companies or it can be something new. It can be infrastructure. What is important is that it gives an electric shock," says the prefect Daniel Côté.

The prefect hopes that the sum which will be available until October 2021 will generate significant investments in each of the municipalities.

The amount is drawn from the accumulated surplus of the MRC which totals \$1 million. It will be reduced to \$600,000, which is enough, according to Mr. Côté.

New arena: Gaspé changes its plans

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ: - The Town of Gaspé wants to build its new arena behind École C.-E. Pouliot.

The initial plan included the construction of a new indoor soccer field amphitheater to be located at the Ministry of Transportation's garage site, but uncertainty over the time frame is holding back this possibility as time is running out.

"In 2022, we will have to get rid of the freon system in the current arena. We didn't have any time left to wait for the grounds of the Ministry of Transport to be released," says Mayor Daniel Côté.

Studies will validate the new location since renovating the current arena would cost as much as a new one.

With the property vacated by the current arena and the Ministry of Transport garage, reflection is needed. The mayor also said, "We will want to involve socio-economic organizations and citizens in a collective reflection to revitalize the city centre and revive the commercial fabric." Citizens will be consulted by the end of the year.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Quebec prepares program for new services

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ: - Québec would support the operation of new regional air services to the detriment of existing lines.

According to information received by Spec, the Ministry of Transport is preparing the Regional Air Services Assistance Program, which should not create competition on existing lines but rather support new routes.

Technically, the Gaspé Air Canada services or the Bonaventure Pascan services to major centres would hardly qualify, which would create discontent among elected officials in the regions who are fighting for air fares at reasonable prices.

"Gaspé has a service to the (Magdalen) Islands and to Quebec. If we are innovative and if we can develop a new service, we could have access to a program that would go in that direction. I am eager to know the details," explains the Mayor of Gaspé and President of the Air Transport Committee of the Union of Quebec Municipalities, Daniel Côté.

Innovative Services

As an example the Mayor of Gaspé mentions the cre-



Photo: N. Sergerie

A new program for regional air transport will be created.

ation of a Gaspé-Mont-Joli-Québec service that could qualify depending on what the criteria is. He wants the program to be useful in the Gaspé Peninsula. "One of the goals we had at the Air committee was to create competition on air services because it's through competition that the price of the ticket will really go down."

In April, Premier François Legault announced that Air Canada will have to offer reasonable rates on regional routes, citing the possibility of a price cap. Former President and chief executive officer of Air Transat, the Premier said he would have serious discussions with the national carrier to get reasonable prices for citizens.





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Customer Service grads ready for tourism industry jobs

Cynthia Dow

GESGAPEGIAG: - On Wednesday, May 29, Galgoasiet Hall in Gesgapegiag was all decked out to celebrate the success of six graduates of the customer service course which started last November. Krystal Gedeon, Marina Gedeon, Jackie Hones, Darlene Jerome, Melanie Jerome, and Lisa Marie Martin were joined by family, friends, teachers, and program coordinators who paid tribute to their hard work over the past seven months.

This new offering is a pilot project produced through the collaborative efforts of a coalition of interested parties: the CEDEC, ESSB's the Anchor, Gesgapegiag Tourism, GHRDC, and the First Nations Regional Adult Education Centre, Gesgapegiag campus. Some of the funding came from the Office of Literacy and Essential Skills federal program. Kelly Boutillier from CEDEC explained to SPEC that the project "centred around employability, matching jobs with available people. We're really excited to help build capacity for the tourism sector here in Gesgapegiag. There is so much potential."

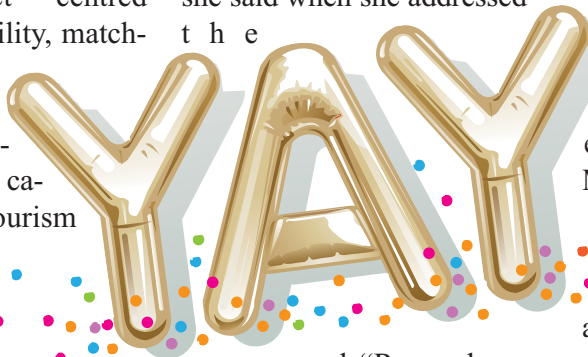
Christine Grenier, Coordinator of the Anchor, told SPEC that at a regional tourism conference held a few years ago, it was noted how difficult it was to find bilingual people to work in the industry. "And with this course we can now bring trilingual people to the industry, bringing in the Mi'gmaq part."

In fact, Mi'gmaq history and language were part of the curriculum, taught by Gesgapegiag elder Pn'nal Jerome. He applauded the graduates for making many sacrifices to follow the course. "As adults you have many commitments, but you have shown the courage and vision and willingness to change things in your lives...we need your contribution for the future."



Graduates from the Customer Service program: Jackie Hones, Darlene Jerome, Marina Gedeon, Melanie Jerome, Lisa Marie Martin, and Krystal Gedeon. Their lovely breastplates were made by Marina.

Mental wellness was another component of the program offered by Brenda Ross-Jerome. "It's important to feel well in our workplaces," she said when she addressed the



crowd. "Remember we all need help at times, and

don't forget the importance of self-care," she reminded her students.

Several of the graduates spoke, including Melanie Jerome: "We laughed together and shared memories. We cried together and shared challenges. We thank our ever so patient teachers." Lisa Marie Martin added that it was a great journey, "One thing we learned is that the customer is always right!"

Walter Jerome, Tourism

Coordinator for Gesgapegiag, and Samuel McInnis, Tourism Manager, also addressed the students and their supporters. "First Nations tourism is booming, and this course has come just at the right time," Walter said. "It's so nice to see community members jumping into the industry."

Gesgapegiag has an ambitious five-year tourism plan which includes operating the chalets at L'Anse Ste-Hélène, just west of the community and Le Relais La Cache on Route 299. A new tourism office has been built near the bay,

just east of the chalets. Samuel explained that the Pow-wow grounds are being restored so more people can be welcomed there, and the interpretation centre beside the church is being revamped.

A lovely meal was served at the graduation ceremony, and entertainment included songs from two of the graduates: Darlene Jerome, accompanied by Aline Gedeon, and Krystal Gedeon. Community dancers in their brilliant regalia also performed for the crowd.

Karen Rehel receives CN People Award of Excellence

Karen Rehel, originally from Gaspé, was recently presented the CN People Award of Excellence for her volunteer work and long-standing commitment to Auberge Transition, which provides shelter and support for women experiencing intimate partner violence.

Karen who is a human resource advisor at CN gives more than 180 hours of her time each year to Auberge Transition.

She has been volunteering for the organization for 15 years, collecting Christmas gifts, volunteering on site and providing fundraising and policy support as a board member for the last 12 years.

Karen has also helped raise \$10,000 for the Auberge through the CN Railroaders in the Community grant program over the past 10 years allowing the Auberge to continue supporting their clientele.

Upon receiving the award Karen passed on a valuable message: "Volunteering your time is the ultimate gift you can give a person in need."

Karen is the daughter of Ruby and Nellis Rehel.



Last Call: Bar Don-Lynn is closing

Diane Skinner

PASPEBIAC: - The excitement, the lineups, the dancing, meeting up with groups of friends – it's coming to the end of an era. So many memories! Bar Don-Lynn, in Paspébiac, is closing its doors permanently at the end of June. When you mention Bar Don-Lynn, Gaspésians of all ages will smile and share a story about evenings spent there. Generations of customers have visited there over the years. Bar Don-Lynn has seen many musicians, patrons and servers and if those walls could talk there would be many tales to tell.

This venue has been in business since 1978, just over 40 years, and was started by Émile Horth and Gisèle Aubut. Their son Donald Horth has been the owner/manager of the bar for the last 23 years but has worked there for over 40 years. He said that he has seen big changes in how young people spend their evenings. He feels that new driving laws, new smoking laws and social media have caused this change.

When you drive by, you can see that it looks much as it did all those years ago. The sign out front still boasts that the bar is also a discotheque. This is a sign from the past, because discos were most popular decades ago. In fact, disco was wildly popular when it emerged in 1970 and by the early 1980s had more or less fizzled out, however, dancing was always a big draw for partiers at Bar Don-Lynn, especially for girls and women. A big group would jump up on the floor and dance while posing a little and laughing a lot.

Changing Times

Times have changed a great deal since 1978. Bars are not nearly as popular as they were. Drinking laws have made a huge impact on the popularity of bars. People are more responsible when it comes to drinking and driving. Changed too are the smoking laws. In the 70s, 80s, 90s and 2000s the air at Don-Lynn's was thick with smoke. Quebec banned smoking in public places, including restaurants, bars, offices and hospitals in 2006. Since 2016, smoking was banned within



Bar Don-Lynn was a popular hangout for many young people over the years.

a 30-foot radius of a restaurant or bar. This new law had a big impact on the business and profitability of bars and clubs.

Styles have changed too. In the early years bar patrons were wearing platform or chunky heeled shoes and bell bottoms or flares. Tube tops, glittery tops and wide-lapelled jackets were seen. Then in the 80s fashion took a bold turn to shoulder pads and permed hair, for both men and women, as well as the mullet hair style. You remember that style? It was business in the front and party in the back, (think Billy Ray Cyrus). Neon colours, high waisted jeans and leg warmers were part of the fashion scene.

The 90s was the grunge era – darker colours, plaid, flannel shirts and stone-washed jeans.

The 2000s can be summed up as casual – hoodies, crop tops, low-rise jeans and Daisy Duke shorts.

The 2010s have been pretty mixed in terms of fashion. Hipster style, athletic wear and skater-influenced fashion can be seen, but it seems everyone is doing their thing, but most people wear blue jeans.

Not only the styles have changed. Today's teens and young adults are more attracted to pub style outings, where you can have a drink and a meal. Many young people prefer to socialize at home. It's less expensive and no worries about how to get home. It is easier in big cities to go out for drinks and dancing because public transit, taxis and Uber are readily available. Not so on the Gaspé. Many younger people

say it's just irresponsible and not worth losing their licence, so the number of people who go out and drink alcohol has been significantly reduced.

Memories

Let's remember all the great and exciting evenings that many people have enjoyed over the years at Bar Don-Lynn.

Tracy Major who worked there from July 2018 until April 2019 says, "Don-Lynn's was so exciting and a place for young people to gather. Girls love to dance, and we danced! The excitement we used to feel about going out seems to be gone. Don-Lynn's was THE place to go."

Jennifer Flowers reflects, "LOL! I re-met my husband there and we haven't been apart since that night almost 14 years ago. It was the place you went to in the summer to see anyone who may be on vacation or back home."

Vincent McRae recalls, "I met my wife there 23 years ago. Yes, we had lots of good times at that bar."

Rodney Flowers remembers, "My fondest memories of Don-Lynn's were the summer nights when the large patio on the front and the small one on the side were open. They were always packed with people drinking, smoking and laughing. The music was so loud that by the time we got home our ears were ringing and our throats sore."

A woman replied to a request for a memory of Bar Don-Lynn with this, "I have loads of stories about Don-Lynn's but none that I should share. I was a lot younger then."

Last Call

Donald Horth has tried many things to increase business at the bar. He has offered door prizes and gift certificates. He advertises through facebook to attract younger people. He has also explored other options, such as a pub style bar, however, he discovered that to convert from a bar to a dining place is a huge expense and with no guarantee of success. It would be a risky venture.

The changing world has certainly contributed to declining numbers at Bar Don-Lynn. So, Donald Horth placed the bar for sale about 18 months ago. Since the bar has not sold, the tough decision has been made to close the doors. Even if the bar is not full, expenses still have to be met. These include salaries, taxes, permits, insurance, heating and building and parking lot maintenance.

You still have an opportu-

nity to visit the bar before it closes at the end of this month! Special evenings are being planned for June and a big evening will be organized called "Last Call Night." This big evening will feature the musical group Route 66. Plans are still being finalized, and more musicians who entertained at the bar many years ago may perform. Plan a visit for old times sake. Check out the facebook site Bar Don-Lynn 1978 for updates about special evenings being offered throughout June. Post a memory there.

Donald Horth would like to share this final thought with the countless patrons who went to Don-Lynn's over the years. "I'd like to thank everybody who came to the bar and had a good time. I am grateful that they had fun. Some people even met their husbands or wives here!"

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Matapedia resident finds English health care documentation scarce

Gilles Gagné

MATAPEDIA: – Matapedia resident, Faye MacNaughton, thinks that the documentation in English about the health care available in her area is clearly lacking. She uses the recent retirement of Dr. Paul Leblanc as an example of a missed opportunity to inform the anglophone minority.

“We don’t get anything in English here, except two or three flyers at the CLSC. When our doctor retired, we received some information, but only in French,” says the Matapedia resident.

Faye MacNaughton is 82 years of age. She still drives her car, is autonomous and regularly goes out and meets people.

She speaks and understands French quite well, but reading it is more difficult, and health-related matters can be quite technical, a factor making comprehension more difficult.

“Dr. Leblanc has been here for 52 years and the service was great, for francophones and anglophones. We should have been informed about the way they (health authorities) replaced him. It is important to know how they will serve us. It would be so nice to get something we understand,” she



Faye MacNaughton thinks that information should have been provided in English when Dr. Paul Leblanc retired.

Photo: G. Gagné

adds.

Faye MacNaughton is not criticizing the Matapedia CLSC staff though. “They are very good. They are polite and they take good care of us. The problem is not there.”

Catherine Blouin, spokesperson for the Gaspé Peninsula Integrated Health and Social Services Centre, points out that there is a committee working on access to health services for anglophones. An access plan was put in place for the 2011-2014 period. The plan was up-

dated in 2016.

“I don’t know anything about the committee. I have not heard about it,” criticizes Ms. MacNaughton, who thinks there is a problem if that committee has not reached the population it is supposed to serve.

Catherine Blouin admits that in the case described by Faye MacNaughton, “something was forgotten and we will make sure to fill the racks with flyers because, yes, we make documentation available in French and English.”



Unifor unionized workers have been picketing since the beginning of last week.

Photo: A. Bonn

Unifor union leaders want to be heard in Quebec

Arianne Aubert Bonn

GRAND RIVER: - Since May 7, a group of Unifor union leaders has been holding a picket line in Grand River, in front of the *Crustacés de Gaspé* plant. Union representatives have several claims for the plant’s workers. The *Crustacés de Gaspé* plant was closed by the owner, Unipêche MDM, in March.

The national director of the union, Renaud Gagné says that the reason for the seafood processing plant closure is only to challenge the labour code and avoid unionization of employees.

“What we know from our lawyers is that they do not want to sell or operate, which makes no sense. We know that the resource is abundant. We are in record years for the lob-

ster fishery,” said Mr. Gagné. He even says that to avoid wasting catches, shipments of locally caught lobster have been sent to the North Shore for processing.

Given that fact, Mr. Gagné truly believes that the only reason for the closure of *Crustacés de Gaspé* is to avoid having to negotiate with a

Cont'd on page 12

Reflections

by

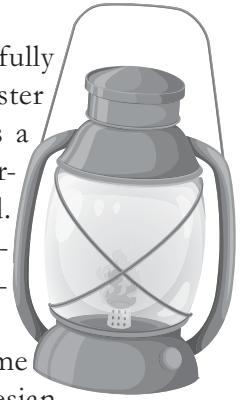
Diane Skinner Flowers



Memories

“Memories,
Like the corners of my mind.
Misty, water-coloured memories
Of the way we were.”

Do you recognize these beautifully poignant lyrics from a blockbuster movie from 1973? Hint: It was a doomed love story that starred Barbra Streisand and Robert Redford. The name of the movie will be revealed at the end of this week’s column.



Before that, I want to invoke some “misty water-coloured” Gaspesian memories for you. If you can remember all, or most, of these, I can probably figure out how old you are. Oh, yes, these are, for the most part, things that I do remember, so you can figure out my age. Hint: I am younger than politician Hazel McCallion but slightly older than Premier François Legault and younger than singer Ginette Reno but older than politician Diane LeBouthillier.

Pumping your water

Homemade bread rising on the wood stove

Sound of the screen door banging

Making toast over the fire in the wood stove

Fortunes told by loose tea leaves

Riding on top of the hay wagon

Jumping in the haymow

Buying candy by the pound

Visiting the dump to watch the bears

Sticky things that hang from the ceiling to catch flies

Sliding on snow hills on a piece of cardboard

A new hat for church on Easter Sunday

Bonfires on the beach

The fish man going door to door

Milk cans

Washboards

Wringer washers

Sandwich spread on white bread

Kerosene lamps

Laying out the dead at home

Standing in the back of a pickup truck holding on for “dear life”

Homemade quilts

Outhouses

Party lines, phones with finger dials

Square dancing

Kitchen parties

Playing outside until dark

Skipping, hopscotch and double Dutch

Drinking water out of a dipper

Bonnet hair dryers

A brick warmed in the oven to keep your feet warm in bed

Pantries full of homemade gingersnaps and cakes

Dipping your toast in molasses

Riding in a horse drawn wagon

Lump of coal in the toe of your Christmas stocking

Well, I hope this brought back some memories for you. Those were simpler times and many reflect that they were happier times. Progress is not always a good thing. Oh, yes, the name of that 46-year-old movie is *The Way We Were*.

Announcements...



Obituary



GALLAN: Beatrice (Flowers)

April 28, 1926 - May 17, 2019

Mrs. Beatrice Gallan of New Carlisle passed away at Maria hospital on May 17, 2019.

She leaves to mourn: her children Katherine, Orville (Diane), Daryl (Linda), June, Graham (Jeanine), Lisa, Olive (Ken), Lloyd (Eileen) and Loren (Cathy); step-son George; her brothers Ivan and Albert "Bud"; her sisters Florence and Doris; her brother-in-law Kenneth as well as many grandchildren; great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

The service was held at the New Carlisle Bible Chapel on May 23, 2019.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to Pastor Paul Bedford for giving a beautiful service that truly honoured our mother's memory. Special thank you to Vern Huntington for singing and Anne MacWhirther for playing the piano. The eulogy was given by her daughter Lisa Flowers. Thanks to Ethel Flowers Ward for desserts and Bessy Craig for the chili. We want to say thank you for the donations that were given to the New Carlisle Bible Chapel and the Fair Haven Bible Camp in honour of Beatrice Gallan. We know that mother is absent from the body and present with the Lord. Again, thank you, everyone.



In Memory

CHATTERTON: Beulah

In loving memory of our mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, and great-grandmother Beulah, who passed away May 26, 2006.

*The World may change from year to year,
And friends from day to day,
But never will the one we love,
From memory pass away.*

Always remembered and loved, daughter Gloria, (Lee) Marvin (Esther), Clayton (Julie), Joel (Alison), Madison, Ethan, Kyle, Aaron, Caleb, Isaac and Keaton.

Card Of Thanks

On behalf of the Flowers family, we wish to say thank you to the CLSC, Maria Hospital, and to the doctors, nurses and staff for taking such good care of our mother, Beatrice Gallan. We commend each and everyone of you for the long and hard hours that each of you gave. With much appreciation and gratitude. Thank you.

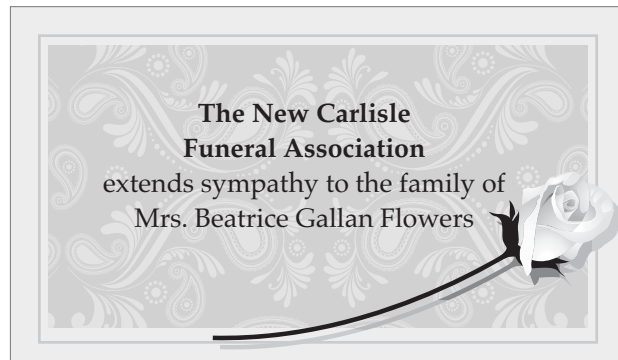
The Flowers and Gallan Family

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, you who makes me see everything and who shows me the way to reach my ideals. You who gives me the divine gift to forgive and forget from all that is done to me and you who are in all instincts of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank you for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from you. No matter how great the material desires may be, I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory.

A person may pray this prayer three consecutive days without asking for their wish. After the third day their wish will be granted, no matter how difficult it may be and promise to publish this dialogue as soon as your favour has been granted.

C.D





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COAST ROUND-UP

GASPE:

St. Paul's Anglican Church

June 8: A bake sale and rummage sale will be held at St. Paul's Anglican Church (the yellow church) in Gaspé beginning at 9 a.m. There will be something for everyone. All proceeds from the sale will go to the Ecumenical Chaplaincy Foundation of Gaspé.

GASPE:

Gaspé 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.

DOUGLASTOWN:

Community Centre

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

Wednesdays: 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 at the Malbay Hall from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

MALBAY:

Malbay Festival

June 8: Chinese and Canadian Buffet at the Barchois Royal Canadian Legion starting at 5 p.m. Takeouts at 4:30 p.m. Adults \$14. Children 6-12 \$10. Under 6 free.

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:

50 Plus/Minus Baby Boomer Reunion

The 2019 organizing committee will be hosting a dinner and dance party at the Fort Prevel Golf Course on **Saturday, July 27**.

Cocktail hour: 5 p.m. (cash bar)

Dinner: There will be a two-choice, five course menu served at 6 p.m. Beef Bourguignon (\$25.95) or Salmon (\$28.95) + taxes and service

Live music: Performed by Jolanie Cauvier, from 5 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

The attendees from the 2018 Dinner Reunion voted to modify the criteria for 2019. Students from Barchois and Belle Anse schools born between 1945 and 1950 and teachers who taught students within these age groups at those schools are also invited to attend.

To be eligible to attend the dinner and dance party you must have been **born between 1945 and 1950** and have attended school in **Barchois or Belle Anse**. If you fit the above criteria and would like to attend, you can be accompanied by your spouse or a friend. Please confirm your attendance with Dianna Francis diannafrancis36@icloud.com, 418-385-2427; Stanley Ste Croix stan@csolve.net, 705-726-6132 or 705-818-6005; Lawrence McNally lwmcnally@hotmail.com, 418-645-2300; or Gerald Girard gerrygirard@bell.net, 450-619-9655 or 514-913-1350. Email is preferred, with your names, tele-

phone numbers and your choices for the main course.

BARACHOIS:

Recreation Centre

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

PORT DANIEL:

QWI Marciel 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:

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 7: Father's Day BBQ.
June 22: Military Whist.

PORT DANIEL:

St. James Anglican Church

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

SHIGAWAKE:

Community Centre

June 8: Lobster Supper from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. \$20 per person, 1/2 BBQ Chicken also available. Everyone welcome.

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

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

NEW CARLISLE:

Heritage New Carlisle

June 8, 15 & 22: Nature's Bounty: 3 sessions with well-known artist Elaine Almond. Gather treasures at the beach and make art. Take home the products. Starts at 10 a.m. \$25 for three sessions. To register call 418-752-1334, herita-

genc@globetrotter.net or facebook.

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:

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:

La Boutique

June 8: Garage Sale from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Any donated objects are gratefully accepted. For more information or if you need pick up service, please call 418-392-4508.

June 14 & 15: Artisans are invited to bring in their hand crafted items to be inventoried in preparation for season opening. Doors are open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

June 17 to September 6: La Boutique is open from Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 210 Boul Perron Ouest, New Richmond.

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:

Fifty Plus

June 14 & 28: There will be a jam session 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.

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 392-4896, she can set up a time to go in.

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.

UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, June 9

10:30 a.m. Hope Town

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, June 9

New Carlisle

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Hope Town

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Shigawake

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

PARISH OF GASPÉ

Sunday, June 9


St. James - Wakeham

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

DEADLINE FOR THIS PAGE:

THURSDAY AT 4 P.M.

Please send your ad to: joan.spec@globetrotter.net




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On the lighter side...



Hazel McCallion: The Hurricane That Does It All

An essay By Alex Journeaux,
Grade 11 student, Carp, Ontario

Hazel McCallion (born Journeaux) also known as Hurricane Hazel is the youngest of the five children in her family and was born on February 14, 1921, in Port-Daniel. She is an extremely diligent and resilient individual who amassed massive popularity among the citizens of Mississauga during her time as mayor. Hazel is most famous for her time as mayor from 1978 until retiring from politics at the ripe old age of 93 in 2014.

From a young age Hazel was a hard worker, always happy to help. For example, at the age of ten Hazel happily began helping her father at his general store. Most people don't even begin to think about having a job let alone actually getting one until they are sixteen or seventeen years old, a ten year old working at store is unheard of.

This demonstrates Hazel's unmatched work ethic even as a young girl. Hazel wanted to attend university but her parents couldn't afford it so she attended secretarial school in Montreal. While living in Montreal she played professional hockey, making 5 dollars per game.

At the age of 20 she was hired as an office manager for Canadian Kellogg, an engineering firm in Montreal, and later in Toronto when the company headquarters was moved.

After moving to Toronto, she met Sam McCallion. The two would later get married and have three children.

In the 1960s Hazel began making moves to enter the realm of politics. In 1978 she won the Mississauga mayoral election, beginning the next chapter of her life. Over Hazel's 36 years as the mayor of Mississauga she gained unrivaled popularity in the city. This could be seen numerous times over the years as she ran for re-election and didn't even bother running a campaign. Without spending time or money on campaigns she would win again and again due to her massive popularity among her constituents.

During her time as mayor, Mississauga was transformed from a rural farm area with a few towns into the sixth largest city in Canada. Mississauga had its ups and downs as did Hazel's life. For example, she was hit by a truck at the age of 81. She joked about the condition of the truck after the collision saying that she came out fine but the truck had to go in for repairs.

Her positive attitude, even during tough times, demonstrates her ability to carry on and not let life get her down.

Over Hazel McCallion's long and illustrious life she has demonstrated her outstanding work ethic, unmatched popularity, and unwavering resilience. At the age of 97 she still finds herself hard at work as the chancellor of Sheridan College, sitting on the board of three companies, and advising Kathleen Wynne on urban issues. Hazel also visits her office at the Ontario Women's Hockey Association a few times each week. Yet she still manages to find time in her busy schedule to enjoy herself whether it be playing sports or spending time with her family.

Alex is the great-great-nephew of Hazel McCallion.

SCHOOL DAYS

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



New Carlisle High School
Kindergarten - 2000-01

Top row: Teacher Enid Bechervaise, Amanda Thompson, Kara-Lynn Buttle, Courtney Dow, Rebecca Renouf, Andrew Hottot and Teacher Margaret Cooke.

Middle Row: Shayne LeBuff, Elizabeth Dupuis, Jolene Starnes, Krissie Renouf, Bianca Gallan, Cassandra Harrison and Jennifer Gallon.

Front Row: A.J. Blais, John Huntington, Kelley Briand, Kelsey Briand, Amy Huntington and Tyson Astles.

FAR AND AWAY WORD SEARCH

L G U G N E R U T N E V D A D Y R U O T
 F E R U S I E L R E G N E S S A P C R A
 A E T A I L I F F A A F N O I T A C A V
 T D U H R O N M M E R C H A N T T V S I
 N C D C A E G R E I C N O C S A M L P N
 E U U O E C I O V N I O D C B G A B A S
 M S R S N M C H X H C P N B E E A I O F
 H I S A T C E E S T H G I S D N D M O E
 S G E X R O N C R U I S E E A T L V D C
 I T A C C O M M O D A T I O N M E C E H
 L F N C R H G E O D P E O R D R V T S A
 B E A O C O O N R E X I C I B Y E R T R
 A N T R I U T I I C T L R O R R V B I T
 T I H S E S R A U K C I O T E T E L N E
 S A G G O E S R G H O K U S A S N A A R
 E G K C B H S I E E I O G S K U T C T I
 F R K E D I U G M N R N B H F D S K I G
 P A M F O B N V G M C G V V A N U O O E
 D B C N I O M D U A O Y G X S I S U N P
 I R P D R A C Y E K L C A A T K D T H T

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

WORDS

ACCOMMODATION
 ADD-ON
 ADVENTURE
 AFFILIATE
 AGENT
 AGGREGATOR
 BARGAIN
 BED AND BREAKFAST
 BLACKOUT
 BOOKING
 CHARTER
 COMMISSION
 CONCIERGE
 CRUISE
 CURRENCY
 CUSTOMER
 DEALS
 DESTINATION
 ESTABLISHMENT
 EVENTS
 EXCURSION
 FARE
 GUIDE
 HOSTEL
 INDUSTRY
 INVOICE
 KEYCARD
 LEISURE
 MERCHANT
 OVERBOOKING
 PASSENGER
 SIGHTSEE
 SUITE
 TOUR
 TRIP
 VACATION

HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you may want to cut back on physical activity for a little while, especially if you have been nursing an injury. Don't worry. You'll get back in the saddle again soon.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, someone you thought was a friend may be looking for something more. If you are in a relationship, you'll have to set this person straight.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Focus your attention on something

creative instead of analytical this week, Gemini. You can probably use a break from spreadsheets and bar graphs.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, too many projects and people vying for your attention make it tough for you to see anything through to completion. There will be time to get it done in the future.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

There is a lesson to be learned this week, Leo, but you will not know what it is until you're in the thick of things. Don't fret, you will come out ahead either way.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you have the future on your

mind, specifically where you will be in a few months or years. If you are not content, start mapping out a plan to follow.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

This is a week to bring order and organization to your home. Doing so will allow you to focus your attention on important matters, Libra.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, attention naturally comes your way, and you won't do anything out of the ordinary to direct more of it to you. In fact, spend some time out of the limelight if you can.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Give yourself a few days to lounge around and enjoy some rest and relaxation, Sagittarius. You can proba-

bly use it right now if the pace has been hectic.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Avoid making any binding promises this week, Capricorn. Your mind just isn't fully into things, and you need extreme focus to follow through.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, focus on bringing some more romance to your relationship this week. Send cute texts or leave love notes around the house. These little actions will add up.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Your charm is off the charts lately, Pisces. You can get just about anything you want. Just make sure your powers are put to good use.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JUNE 2

Wayne Brady, Actor (47)

JUNE 3

Rafael Nadal, Athlete (33)

JUNE 4

Angelina Jolie, Actress (44)

JUNE 5

Mark Wahlberg, Actor (48)

JUNE 6

Jason Isaacs, Actor (56)

JUNE 7

Iggy Azalea, Rapper (29)

JUNE 8

Maria Menounos, TV Host

(40)

Jonathan Chassé returns from Canadian Geographic Challenge with dreams of 2020 event

Gilles Gagné

MARIA: – Despite not qualifying for the top five Canadian Geographic Challenge, Jonathan Chasse returned home after participating in the challenge in Ottawa. He represented Quebec in the contest. He was one of the 20 top intermediate and high school students in Canada to qualify for the challenge, despite being only 11 years of age.

His mind is set on the 2020 challenge. Being in sixth grade, he could possibly participate for the next five years. “I really liked it. It took place in three steps. Firstly, we went to the Fletcher Botanical Gardens and were asked to answer

questions during that field trip. Secondly, there was the written test and thirdly, we made a general visit of Ottawa,” Jonathan says.

“I will register for next year,” he adds. Home-schooled, he is the age of a grade 6 student but he’s clearly more advanced academically. He has also travelled quite a bit with his parents, Julie Girard and Guillaume Chassé.

Although it is too early to ask, Jonathan has a certain idea of what he would like as a career. “I would like to be an archivist, in a library or in a university,” he says.

The five finalists of the Canadian Geographic Challenge were all from Ontario. Initially, 22,500 participants

from all over the country registered for the first qualification round of the contest.

Canadian Geographic Education is a branch of the Canadian Geographic, a publication.

Canadian Geographic Education organizes the challenge with the target of helping to foster the geographic skills necessary to maintain Canada’s reputation as a geography powerhouse.



Jonathan Chassé (left) was one of 20 top intermediate and high school students in Canada to qualify for the Canadian Geographic Challenge that took place in Ottawa.

Photo: Tanya Kimishni/Canadian Geographic

DRAINVILLE:

Cont'd from cover

makes personal attacks, unlike the juvenile behaviour of so many Liberal and Conservative MPs.”

Mr Drainville has been an activist all his life, focussing in the past on poverty, hunger, and refugees. As a clergyman he was instrumental in having the Anglican Church change its policy to bless same-sex marriages and ordain homosexuals. It was when he was arrested for demonstrating with

UNIFOR:

Cont'd from page 8

union. According to him, this was the local point of view: “We were told, even by the mayor of the municipality, that we had only to put the union out to open the plant.”

A complaint was filed by Unifor stating that the labour code was not respected. The hearings should begin in September.

At the same time, the union is demanding that the plant’s operating licence be withdrawn, since it does not operate, however, the law allows a five-year period before the withdrawal of permits can be required.

“But the minister has the discretion to withdraw it after 10 months,” says Gagné. He challenges the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, André Lamontagne. “We have not yet met him formally, but something will have to happen,” says Mr. Gagné, who is keen to change the law.

a Temagami Indigenous band to protect an old-growth forest that he became an environmentalist. Most recently he participated in the march organized by the students of Gaspé Polyvalent to urge governmental action on climate change: “I am hopeful because I see young people who care deeply about the future of the planet.”

Asked if he agrees with Ms May’s “Mission Possible” climate change strategy, which states that Canada has to adopt a “war mentality” -- bringing

leaders from the different parties together to improve Canada’s reaction to climate change -- the answer is an emphatic “Yes! We can prevail over climate change but only if people are willing to work together, beyond political divisions and self-interest.” He believes it is the role of the government to create the policies, shift the employment sector, and build the infrastructure necessary to turn Canada toward a zero-carbon economy.

The candidate was preparing to launch his campaign on

“If we have to go to Quebec City, to the National Assembly, we will go,” he adds.

On the other hand, the negotiation of the first collective agreement will begin shortly. “The Minister of Labour has closed the door to the de-unionization of the factory by allowing arbitration. The process begins in June,” says Gagné.

Employees Penalized

Twenty workers of *Crustacés of Gaspé* still have not found work. Yet neighbouring

factories are struggling to find labour. Mr. Gagné says that those who are still unemployed are those who were active in the process of unionization. “Because they wanted to improve the working conditions of their colleagues, they are penalized,” said Mr. Gagné.

This is the case of Lucien Gionest. “When I call the other factories, they say, ‘Thank you very much Mr. Gionest, but not this year. (...)’ I cannot get a job because they say I’m the instigator of the union,” he says.

June 5 when SPEC interviewed him. He said he has “some real keeners” helping with the campaign and the fundraising and hopes to secure 25 to 35% of the vote. He said the most important thing

that Gaspésians can do to help the environment and the economy in the region is to lobby for the return of the freight train east of Caplan, and the resumption of VIA Rail service between Matapédia and Gaspé.

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