

The Gaspé **Spec**

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Musée de la Gaspésie exhibits photos taken by famous New York photographer in 1954

Gilles Gagné

GASPÉ: – The Musée de la Gaspésie is presenting until October 4, 2020, an exhibition entitled *Raymond Jacobs – Gaspésie, 1954*, consisting of 39 photographs presented exclusively in Gaspé and never before shown in Canada.

Seen through the eye of seminal New York photographer Raymond Jacobs, these landscapes, portraits, and scenes of life take the attendees to the heart of the Gaspé Peninsula in the mid-1950s. The photos “possess both significant historical value and an unparalleled photographic aesthetic,” according to Musée de la Gaspésie spokesperson Marie-Josée Lemaire-Caplette.

Renowned for creating illuminating documentary photographs, Mr. Jacobs immortalizes both the hard work of Gaspé Peninsula families and the area’s grandiose maritime landscape. From

L’Anse-à-Valleau to Percé, the larger-than-life characters seemingly come alive through his photographs.

“These photos are true historical chronicles, a striking reminder of what life was for most Gaspésians of yesteryear. They are also very touching. Despite the harshness of the time, we feel great freedom,” explains Vicky Boulay, in charge of the exhibition at the Musée de la Gaspésie.

Traveling in their convertible car, Raymond and his wife Eleanor embarked on an adventure from New York City to the Gaspé Peninsula in 1954. Still today, Mrs. Jacobs remembers the beauty of the coast, the difficult economic situation of the people, and the friendship and curiosity that they showed them. “It’s an honour to have Raymond’s work exhibited at the Musée de la Gaspésie. This was one of our most memorable trips together and one of Ray-

mond’s favorite photographic experiences, which I believe truly comes through in these photographs.” says Eleanor Jacobs. “To be able to come back to the Gaspé Peninsula at my age and, for the first time since 1954, to attend the opening of this exhibition with our two daughters is absolutely amazing!”

Born in 1923, Raymond Jacobs is most well known for his 1950s and 1960s reportage photographs of New York City street scenes and for his portraits of notable subjects including Louis Armstrong, Gloria Swanson, Douglas Fairbanks Jr., Salvador Dali, Eartha Kitt, Robert F. Kennedy, Sammy Davis Jr., and Billie Holiday.

Mr. Jacobs’ photographs have been exhibited extensively and are in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art, often called MoMA and located in New York.

Raymond Jacobs also had

a successful career as a commercial photographer, creating advertising campaigns for IBM, Pan Am, Campbell and many others. His work has been published in numerous magazines including *Esquire*, *Harper’s Bazaar* and *Fortune*. With his wife Eleanor, he also popularized *Earth Shoes*, a counter-culture symbol of the 1970s.

He took a rather sinuous road before becoming a photographer. At the age of 12, Raymond Jacobs began working as a mink-cutter at his father’s fur business in Manhattan’s Garment District. He attended DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx where he photographed with a Brownie box camera the 1939 World’s Fair held in Queens, New York, for the student newspaper.

After graduating, Mr. Jacobs enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in the Signal Corps in Europe during World War II. In 1947, he began studying

painting and drawing at the Art Students League in New York.

He applied to Lisette Model’s photography class at The New School in 1950. When Ms. Model reviewed his black-and-white portfolio, she asked his profession. He replied, “I am a furrier.” She said, “You are not. You are a photographer. You must become a photographer”.

This began Jacobs’ remarkable career as a fine art and commercial photographer. Over the next few decades, Raymond Jacobs created numerous significant bodies of work, including photographing jazz musicians in New York City, circus performers, female impersonators, migrant workers in North Carolina, and portraits in Cuba following the Cuban Revolution.

Raymond Jacobs died in 1993.

(See page 2 for more on the topic.)



Raymond Jacobs made his most inspired stop in L’Anse-à-Valleau where the residents cooperated with him while continuing with their daily routine. Jacobs was fluent in French because he had served in France during World War II and this helped him create contacts with the locals.

Eastern Shores School Board announces a new Director General

Press release - ESSB

New Carlisle — November 4, 2019 — Eastern Shores School Board (ESSB) is pleased to announce the nomination of Mr. Hugh Wood as Director General effective November 1, 2019. The Council of Commissioners voted on the recommendation of the selection committee.

Mr. Wood will succeed Ms. Nancy Doddridge, interim Director General since July 1, 2019. He brings with him 31 years experience in education, all of which was served at Eastern Shores School Board. Mr. Wood is known for his team

approach to problem resolution while always maintaining the student's interest at the core of all decisions. Since 2004 he occupied the position of Principal of Grosse Isle School. In 2017 he also assumed the role as Coordinator of Adult Education of the same school. Additionally, Mr. Wood has experience as a Math, Science and Physical Education teacher as well as Interim Director of Human Resources in 2018.

Mr. Wood received his Bachelor of Science and Physical Education in 1987, his Masters of Education in 2017 and admits to being a life-long



Hugh Wood.

learner as he has received many other trainings during his career. His pedagogical experi-

ence and knowledge will certainly prove to be a great asset to the Eastern Shores School Board, as well as his team spirit and leadership skills.

When asked to share his vision for Eastern Shores he quoted Helen Keller and said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Mr. Wood is confident in the team

that is in place and is looking forward to working with them. He is confident that the team in place will work hard together to rise to the upcoming changes.

The Council of Commissioners and the staff at ESSB would like to extend their congratulations to Mr. Hugh Wood and wish him the best of luck in his new mandate.

ESSB's 2019 milestones regarding the DG

Gilles Gagné

June 1: Then director general Natascha Joncas is put on family leave by the Eastern Shores School Board (ESSB) for "family reasons." Appointed during the summer of 2018 to replace Howard Miller, who was retiring, Natascha Joncas preferred not commenting the situation before the ensuing June 19 school board public meeting, since its board members were not providing other details than "family reasons."

June 19: ESSB announces that

it will not renew Natascha Joncas' contract. The decision is made in-camera though, so without the public and certain employees of the organization. Wade Gifford, chairperson of ESSB does not provide any additional details at the end of the meeting. "The only thing I have to say is that the decision is not to renew her contract and we wish her all the best moving forward. This is all we have to say about it," he points out, before wishing Ms. Joncas luck for the future.

June 27: In a written state-

ment, Natascha Joncas points out that she was "not leaving ESSB for family reasons" but "because Council has decided not to renew my contract. This was a unilateral decision. I cannot share the reasons for this sudden decision, but I am quite saddened by it." Despite the fact that her sons wanted to return to Nova Scotia, she "had plans to move them back there alone (and) I was to stay at ESSB." She pointed out that ESSB was in need of change. During the summer, Nancy Doddridge as interim DG.

Eleanor Jacobs vividly remembers

Gilles Gagné

GASPÉ: - It took Eleanor Jacobs 65 years before coming back to the Gaspé Peninsula after the trip she made in 1954 with her husband Raymond, and when she talks about that trip, she does it with a stunning array of details, and emotions.

"It was a spontaneous decision we made, after a visit to Montreal the previous year. We heard of the name Gaspé in New York and we decided to go," she says.

"The roads were not paved. We were using an antique car, a Packard 1947 convertible. When we had to go up a hill, the car would stall and drift back, sometimes. That is my first recollection," explains Ms. Jacobs.

She remembers vividly the contact with the fishermen, their wives and their children. "Seeing the fishermen on the seaside, those hardworking people, the men, the women and their children, was so stunning, so overwhelming. We came from Manhattan, a solid concrete jungle. To see that beauty, driving in the centre of that scenery was breathtaking and heartwarming (...) Raymond was incredibly talented. He was able to capture



Eleanor Jacobs was deeply touched by the sight of the pictures her deceased husband, Raymond, took 65 years ago when both of them made a trip to the Gaspé Peninsula.

the essence of the people, their hard life and the beauty of the area," she adds.

Eleanor Jacobs and the two daughters of the couple drove from their Connecticut home to Gaspé for the October 17 vernissage of the exhibition presenting Raymond Jacobs' photos. They discovered the Bay of Chaleur area with the same astonishment that Eleanor and Raymond had felt 65 years ago.

"We cry easily even when we are happy about something. We are overwhelmed and tearful in a beautiful way (...) What is happening here at the museum brings pleasure, sadness and recognition. It is quite a mix of emotion," points out Ms. Ja-

cobs.

Somehow, the three women felt that Raymond Jacobs accompanied them. It could, in fact, be true.

"When Raymond drove me back home to Manhattan in 1954, we heard a big thud after he parked the car. The motor had fallen on the ground. The 1947 Packard convertible was considered an antique car and was not designed for a 900-mile trip. It was amazing that we made it. This week, we rented a Dodge Caravan for the trip from Connecticut and the engine failed yesterday (October 16) in a (Gaspé) parking lot. History repeats itself," explained Eleanor and Susan Jacobs.



PROVINCE DE QUÉBEC
VILLE DE PERCÉ

Public Notice of the poll

By-election

POLL OF DECEMBER 1, 2019
MUNICIPAL COUNCILLOR OF DISTRICT NUMBER 7

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the electors registered on the municipal list of electors of district number 7:

1. a poll will be held;

2. the candidates in this election for the office of councillor of district number 7 are:

- Guillaume Arbour
198, route 132 Est, Percé, G0C 2L0
- Anita Collin
48, chemin Bougainville, Saint-Georges-de-Malbaie, G0C 2X0
- Jonathan Côté
1092, 2e rang de Barachois-Nord, Barachois, G0C 1A0

3. advance polling will be held from 12 noon to 8 p.m., at the following location and on the following date:

location: Centre de la Légion Royale Canadienne
1051, route 132 Est
Barachois

date: November 24, 2019

4. regular polling station will be open on December 1, 2019, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., at the following location:

Centre de la Légion Royale Canadienne
1051, route 132 Est
Barachois

5. the addition of the votes will take place at the following location, date and time :

location: City Hall of Percé
137, route 132 Ouest
Percé

date: December 1, 2019

time: as of 8 p.m.

For more information, call 418 782-2933.

Issued in Percé, on November 6, 2019.

Gemma Vibert
Returning officer

International students: outcry on the Gaspé

Nelson **Sergerie**

GASPÉ - Sixty-eight of the 110 international students could be affected at the Cégep de la Gaspésie et des Îles if Quebec maintains the changes to the *Programme Expérience-Québécoise*.

Training in aquaculture or forestry is missing from the government list. According to the CEGEP, these changes will weaken the training offered and the cultural and economic dynamics of the Gaspé and Magdalen Islands.

"We were not consulted and if we had been, we would have argued how these programs are necessary. In forestry, 100% of our students are offered a job at the end of the program. There is employment for them in the Gaspé Peninsula. It is difficult to understand how this program is not on the list of the *Programme Expérience-Québécoise*," says the director of the Cégep, Yolaine Arseneau.

Economic losses

The regional economy will suffer from these changes pro-

posed by the Legault government.

"It is estimated that \$12,000, perhaps more, is the per capita economic contribution made by these students in the region. (...) We must not forget that these students work part-time. It's an interesting work force for businesses. We know that the shortage is felt. We find that it has a major effect on our community," adds the director.

With the decline of the regional clientele, the arrival of these foreign students allowed the Cégep to maintain and consolidate its programs.

No consultation from Quebec

The Cégep would have liked to have been consulted before the changes were made and, like the other regional Cégeps, it does not intend to give up and will ask Quebec to review its position.

Gaspé mayor reacts

The Mayor of Gaspé believes that the Legault government has not weighed the

consequences of its decision, adding that the medium and long-term effects will be felt in the region.

"Of the hundred or so foreign students, 70 are no longer eligible for the program. We are facing a shortage of manpower, shortage of specialized labour. There are many collateral effects," says Daniel Côté.

According to the mayor a consultation is required and he asks the government to come to the region with hopes of establishing a grandfather clause for students already in training - another step backwards in reviewing the lists in consultation with the regions.

According to Mayor Côté, the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands do not have the luxury of losing this workforce.

"There are lots of things that have not been taken into account. Forestry will resume. If we lose our programs, it will not help us move forward in our future. It lacks vision, consultation with the regions, and analysis of side effects. We hope to take a step back, that

the government will consult us and we will be able to have a reform that will make sense," concludes the mayor of Gaspé.

On the evening of Friday, November 8, the office of Premier François Legault issued a press release to state that the

PEQ (*Programme de l'expérience québécoise*) reform is entirely put on hold for now and that rounds of consultation will be held in order to prepare another version of the regulation change. No time frame was provided.

Police report

The Superior Court has imposed a temporary publication ban on evidence elements that have not yet been submitted to the tribunal regarding Nathalie Normandeau's criminal case. The former deputy premier and minister and Member of the National Assembly for the riding of Bonaventure faces charges of breach of trust, fraud and corruption.

Following the request made by prosecutor Richard Rougeau as a result of leaks pertaining to that case, Superior Court Judge André Perreault imposed a publication ban until December 2, the date scheduled for the representations regarding the relevance of imposing the publication ban until the beginning of the trial. The trial date has not yet been determined, since the Supreme Court must render decisions related to the case.

In March 2016, the Joug and Lierre (Yoke and Ivy) investigations conducted by UPAC, the Quebec anti-corruption unit, led to the arrest of Nathalie Normandeau, former Liberal Party minister; Groupe Roche vice-president Marc-Yvan Côté; Groupe Roche employees: France Michaud and Mario W. Martel; Nathalie Normandeau's former chief of staff Bruno Lortie; and François Roussy, the former mayor of Gaspé.

The investigation pertained to political financing and gifts allegedly exchanged for public contracts.

The November 7 court hearing was followed by slightly more than a week the publication by Quebecor newspapers of articles, videos and a book in which excerpts of Nathalie Normandeau's post arrest examination were published.

Following the judge's decision, the media have informed the court that they will oppose the publication ban.

Initially, Ms. Normandeau was facing eight charges. Five of them were dropped at the end of August, including fraud, conspiracy and corruption, however, the breach of trust, fraud against the government and corruption in municipal affairs charges are still pending against Ms. Normandeau.

Quebecor journalists published a book at the end of October, PLQ Inc., in which they presented the financial schemes that guaranteed ample funding means to Quebec's Liberal Party under the reign of former premier Jean Charest. That book and the media leaks regarding important investigation elements highly irritated defence attorneys Jacques Larochelle and Maxime Roy who represent Marc-Yvan Côté and Nathalie Normandeau, respectively.

The issue of delays in that highly publicized case has become problematic because three years and eight months have passed since the arrest of the defendants. A ruling by the Supreme Court known as the Jordan decision calls for tighter time limits to be observed in the prosecution of criminal cases. The ruling imposes higher efficiency in the management of delays between court appearances.

Since mid-2018, defence attorney Maxime Roy has provided documents to the Quebec Office of Criminal Prosecutions taken from government policies showing, according to him, that Ms. Normandeau followed the proper procedure in the assessment of grants given to municipalities. In an eventual trial, she will have to explain what justified those municipal grant decisions.

Nathalie Normandeau retired from active politics in September 2011. She worked for Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton in 2012 and 2013 before both parties agreed to go their own ways. Since 2014, she has hosted radio shows in Quebec City. She is currently writing a book explaining her version of the saga. When she was arrested in March 2016, she criticized the fact that she was never questioned by UPAC investigators during the probe. (With information from Le Soleil)



Ville de Gaspé

PUBLIC NOTICE

URBANISM

Minor exemption

- 180, montée de Wakeham :** to permit the installation of 2 more signs fixed on the ground to electrical type one with an area of 0,92 m² and with a height of 1,261 m and a second one with an area of 1,85 m² and a height of 1,261 m.
- 103, boulevard Renard est :** to regularize a private isolated garage with an area of 98 m² and a garage door with a height of 3,3 m.

Notice to all interest persons who are entitled to sign an application to take part in a referendum (application must be received at the clerk's office between November 13 to November 21, 2019, at 4:30 pm) :

By-Law 1156-11-42 amends the zoning by-law 1156-11 as follows :

In the area of the marina of Gaspé and the town hall (area RT-284)

- «en modifiant les usages autorisés dans la zone RT-284 afin de permettre comme usage spécifiquement permis dans cette zone, l'usage Vente au détail de poissons et de fruits de mer (5422) »;
- «en modifiant les usages autorisés dans la zone RT-284 afin de permettre comme usage spécifiquement permis dans cette zone, l'usage d'Atelier de conditionnement du gibier et afin d'assujettir cet usage au Règlement sur les usages conditionnels n° 1172-12 »;

In the area of the Wayman's street (area M-248)

- «en modifiant la marge de recul avant minimale dans la zone M-248 et remplaçant la note 2 de la grille des spécifications de la zone M-248 ».

By-Law 1172-12-11 amends the Conditional use by-law 1172-12, as follows :

In the area of the marina of Gaspé and the town hall

- «ajoutant l'article 2.14 DISPOSITIONS APPLICABLES POUR L'USAGE* D'UN ATELIER DE CONDITIONNEMENT DU GIBIER DANS LA ZONE* RT 284».

GIVEN at Gaspé, November 13, 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

A cabinet shuffle is needed to find a new spot for minister Simon Jolin-Barrette

The CAQ government has finally decided to suspend its highly controversial reform of the *Programme de l'expérience Québécoise*, which allowed foreign students interested in settling in Quebec to benefit from a few shortcuts, considering the somewhat complicated steps required in obtaining a Canadian citizenship.

The regulatory change Immigration minister Simon Jolin-Barrette wanted to bring to the program, called PEQ, would have excluded a significant number of the 11,000 foreign students benefitting from the program, at a time when Quebec needs the influx of young workers and new citizens.

The inclusion criteria is primarily based on a list of approximately 200 fields of study that were considered to have enough job potential for the likes of Minister Jolin-Barrette and Premier François Legault, however, hundreds of other fields of study were excluded. Considering the possibility of having to take a longer route towards permanent residency and eventual citizenship despite initial governmental commitment to the contrary, thousands of students were devastated and felt rightfully short-changed.

Other categories of immigrants had already had to deal with the February abolition of 18,000 files already under treatment in the first months of the Coalition avenir Québec government, a decision that was fortunately overturned by a court decision in March.

Now, the list of 200 "acceptable" fields of study according to Simon Jolin-Barrette and François Legault was botched to the point that certain programs had been abolished decades ago.

On the other hand, rejected study fields were

including highly promising university and Cegep concentrations where the possibility of finding a job once the diploma obtained was 100%.

Was linking jobs to available manpower not the purpose of the PEQ reform target put forward by Mr. Jolin-Barrette and Mr. Legault? It was but they failed miserably in their attempt to establish that kind of bridge.

Moreover, they again failed in many more aspects tied to the responsibility of dealing with immigration.

Students leaving their country to take courses thousands of kilometres away from their initial home rarely follow that route for the pleasure of emigrating. They do so because there is not much potential in their country because that country is not a democracy, because they want to give more opportunities to their eventual children and probably for other reasons.

Over the last decade the Gaspé Peninsula has greeted hundreds of students from Réunion Island, located east of Madagascar. The island is overpopulated and job opportunities are scarce because of that. The Reunionese have adapted quite well to the Gaspé Peninsula over the years, participating in the social, cultural, community and economic life of the region.

They are an asset to the Gaspé Peninsula and Quebec. More than half of them would have been excluded from an easier access to potential citizenship had the PEQ program been tailored according to the Simon Jolin-Barrette mould.

That minister and François Legault undoubtedly lack the touch, knowledge and thoroughness to deal with the sensible immigration file.

They obviously have no clue about the courage it takes when you are 18 years of age and leaving home for a school located in another part of the world. You have to adapt to a new culture, new laws, new styles of life and so on. Mom will not send you spaghetti sauce or any other type of food this coming weekend to ease your homesickness.

By targeting the PEQ for major changes, the Legault government displayed a destabilizing lack of common sense, of wit, of competence, of subtlety and of business talent which is supposed to be its forte. That move, even if it was suspended, reinforces the image that the CAQ government is hostile to immigration.

The days following the November 1 announcement of the PEQ reform led to vigorous

demonstrations organized by students, but also by leaders of the business sectors, union leaders, university and Cegep administrators. Despite the gravity of the situation, those leaders all remained worthy in the criticism they expressed.

The same cannot be said about the way François Legault and Simon Jolin-Barrette acted before suspending the reform on the evening of November 8. They both tried to justify their stand, Premier Legault even attempting to blame it on his usual allies, like the Montreal Chamber of Commerce, alleging that its president, Michel Leblanc, wanted more immigrants to keep the wage rate low, something Mr. Leblanc had never said.

Mr. Leblanc showed wisdom and dignity in his reply when he said that he will be happy to work with the government in a consultation process that will lead to the determination of a new program pertaining to foreign students.

In the meantime, François Legault must decide what to do with Simon Jolin-Barrette, a rather arrogant and unsensitive minister. At 32 years of age, he should show way more humility in the exercise of his duties.

The Premier cannot blame Mr. Jolin-Barrette across the board though. After all, all the responsibilities given to that minister came from Mr. Legault. He is also to blame.

For the next few months, this government must slow down on immigration stakes and reflect on the direction that must be given to that touchy file. It might give premier Legault enough time to plan a cabinet shuffle and give lesser responsibilities to Simon Jolin-Barrette. The obsession of fulfilling electoral promises is exploding in the face of the CAQ government right now. The honeymoon of that government is hopefully over. Mr. Legault and other government Members of the National Assembly must switch to intelligent moves rather than making obsessive checks on a list of promises.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

Don't miss our deadlines!

To avoid disappointment, have your ads, notices, classifieds, cards of thanks, etc., at our office by **Thursday for the next week's paper.**

To send a Letter to the Editor THEGASPESPEC.COM



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CÔTE-DE-GASPÉ

Lieu	Date et heure
CLORIDORME Municipal Hall 472, 132 Street (back door)	November 13 9 a.m. to 12 noon 1 p.m. to 4 :30 p.m.
GASPÉ Gaspé Elementry School 234, Mgr-Leblanc Street	November 14 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. November 15 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
GASPÉ Knights of Columbus Hall 25, Cathedral Street	November 26 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
GRANDE-VALLÉE CLSC (conference room) 71, St-François-Xavier East Street	November 19 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. November 28 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
MADELEINE Municipal Hall 104, Main Street (east side entry)	November 8 9 a.m. to 12 noon
MURDOCHVILLE CLSC 600, Dr. Willam-May Avenue	November 4 8 :30 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. November 5 8 :30 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
RIVIÈRE-AU-RENARD Multifonctional Center 55, rue du Banc	November 5 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. November 6 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
SAINT-GEORGES-DE-MALBAIE Community Hall 1939, 132 Street	November 7 - 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.
SAINT-MAJORIQUE Community Hall 3, Corte-Réal	November 21 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.
SAINT-AURICE Golden Age Club 34, Church Street	November 12 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

HAUTE-GASPÉSIE

Lieu	Date et heure
CAP-CHAT CLSC 49, Notre-Dame Street	November 8 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. November 13 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
MARSOUI CLSC 8, Main Street East	November 6 9 a.m. to 12 noon 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
MONT-LOUIS CLSC 19, 1 st Avenue West	November 5 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. November 12 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
SAINTE-ANNE-DES-MONTS BMF (beside the CLSC) 50, Belvedere Street	November 2 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. November 14 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. November 26 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

BAIE-DES-CHALEURS

Lieu	Date et heure
BONAVENTURE Centre Bonne Aventure 105, Grand-Pré Avenue	November 5 12 noon to 6 p.m.
CAPLAN OTJ 2, 132 Street	November 19 12 noon to 6 p.m. November 24 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
MATAPÉDIA CLSC Malauze 14, Perron Blvd East	November 23 12 noon to 4 p.m.
NEW-RICHMOND Commuity Center Adrien-Gauvreau 97-A, Suzanne-Guité Square	November 15 12 noon to 6 p.m. November 16 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
PASPÉBIAC Cultural Center 7, Gérard-D. Lévesque Blvd East	November 8 12 noon to 6 p.m. December 1 ^{er} 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
POINTE-À-LA-CROIX Recreation Center 42, Lasalle Street	November 16 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
SAINT-ALEXIS Villa des Plateaux 187, Main Street	November 12 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
SAINT-OMER OTJ 106, 132 Street East	November 2 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. November 19 12 noon to 6 p.m. November 30 12 noon to 4 p.m.

ROCHER-PERCÉ

Lieu	Date et heure
CAP-D'ESPOIR Church 38, Curé-Poirier Street	November 6 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. November 20 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
CHANDLER Golf Club 200, Commercial Street West	November 1 ^{er} 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. November 2 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. November 3 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. November 4 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. November 13 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. November 26 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
GASCONS CLSC (multifunctional room) 63, 132 Street West	November 7 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. November 21 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

NATIVE COMMUNITIES

Lieu	Date et heure
LISTUGUJ Health and Community Services 6, Pacific Drive	November 2 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Atlantic hour)
GASGAPEGIAG Health and Community Services 95, Main Street	November 7 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Maryline Frenette, *Nurse Navigator, Oncology*

Kim Harrison

NEW CARLISLE: – Recruiting bilingual health professionals and accessing English health services can sometimes be challenging in our region. CASA’s Health and Harmony campaign recognizes health professionals who offer bilingual services and support. SPEC is featuring the stories of these health professionals who have been nominated by members of the community.



Maryline Frenette, Nurse Navigator, Oncology

After receiving a cancer diagnosis, one of the first health care professionals that patients will encounter is the Nurse Navigator.

At Maria Hospital, Maryline Frenette is the Nurse Navigator and an important bridge between the doctor, other services and the patient. She meets with the patient and their family to

help coordinate appointments and provide information about all topics related to cancer.

Maryline Frenette is from Bonaventure and has been a

nurse since 2001, starting her career in surgery, followed by time in pediatrics, obstetrics and, finally, oncology.

She generally sees 10 to 25 new cancer patients every month and estimates about 20 percent of her patients are anglophone. “I carry out the initial evaluation which is very detailed. I have to ask many personal questions. People are relieved to receive help in English during this stressful time and they often express how appreciative they are. Many patients are bilingual, but are more confident in their mother tongue. I believe that having access to health care in your own language is a part of global care.”

Maryline learned to speak English during childhood by watching television and reading English books. One of her first summer jobs was working in a business where

the cook only spoke English and rather than being bored, she learned to speak English so she could chat with her co-worker. She also spent six months in Alberta in 2000 so she could live near the Rocky Mountains. It was here that she was able to perfect her English.

Maryline never aimed to work in oncology, but has no plans to leave anytime soon. She finds the close connections with the patient and their family important.

“Working in oncology is not always easy but it is rewarding. We become a family for a short time. I am happy to provide security for patients and their loved ones, to reduce their anxiety and to be a person they call when they need help and support.”

Because of her patients Maryline has learned to enjoy what she has – “little problems don’t seem so big.”

Progression of the Spruce Budworm

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ - The spruce budworm epidemic continues to progress in the Gaspé Peninsula.

The Society for the Protection of Forests against Insects and Diseases (SOPFIM) has seen a 15% increase in the Gaspesian forest, which is the average of the last three years.

“With severe defoliation that recurs year after year for five or six years, we are starting to experience high levels of mortality,” said SOPFIM Executive Director Jean-Yves Arsenaault.

The spreading reached a rate of 69% this summer. The rain, wind and cold explain these results below the success rate of 70% established by the SOPFIM.

However, the goals were



The mature larva

Photo: Ministère des Forêts, Faune et Pêches



Light-coloured female moth at rest (wingspan: 22 mm)

Photo: Natural Resources Canada

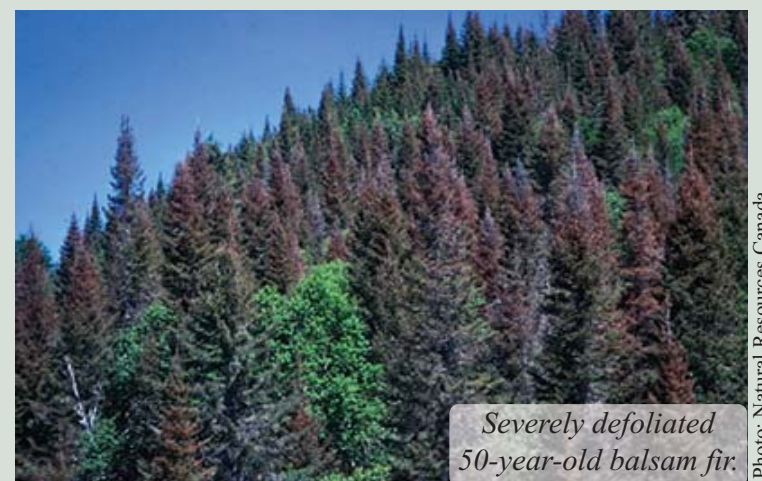
still achieved. “We did everything we could to get the watering done, but given the temperature, spraying was difficult.”

The north of the Peninsula is particularly affected between Rimouski and Gaspé. The epidemic is moving south and there is not much left untouched. In fact, only the Rocher-Percé MRC and the area east of Bonaventure

have been spared.

The presence of larvae indicates a high level of population. SOPFIM is preparing its intervention plan for 2020.

“It is a bit premature to give figures. We know very well that there will be a bigger program. We have strategies based on species and we want to make sure we make the right decisions,” says Arsenaault.



Severely defoliated 50-year-old balsam fir.

Photo: Natural Resources Canada

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Turnip grown by Saint-Omer gardener comes close to breaking Guinness world record

Gilles Gagné

SAINT-OMER: – Until October 16, Damien Allard, a Saint-Omer resident who occasionally keeps a garden, believed that one of his turnips would beat the Guinness world record, a record that belongs to an Alaska resident, who harvested a 17.7 kilo (39 lbs) specimen!

Damien Allard missed the record by 2.2 kilos, his turnip weighing “only” 15.5 kilos (34 pounds). The shape of his turnip played a trick on him and his prediction.

“I could have kept it in the ground and it could have gained a few more pounds but I was sure (that his turnip had surpassed the record). The problem is that it was flat. I was 99% sure of beating the record. I had a long face when I put it on the scale. I thought I had a margin of 30%,” explains Mr. Allard.

Mr. Allard is a retired forestry engineer who had set up a calculation formula that took into account the potential volume of his largest turnip. The formula was based on the shape and weight of a 20-pound turnip he had harvested in August.

“I came up short by five pounds because of its flat shape,” points out Mr. Allard, who had started his turnips in his house in March. At the time, he had a plan in mind rooted in a gardening episode that occurred in 2016.

“Three years ago, I had harvested a 15.5-pound turnip, a random thing. Two years ago and last year, I was outside the region for part of the year and I didn’t grow a garden. This year, I told myself that I was able to do better (than in 2016),” he emphasizes.

What is his secret? “It takes a lot of water,” says Mr. Allard, who also regularly used “a soluble fertilizer on the leaves.” In the ground, he used borax three times, the first dose being put on in May



Damien Allard harvested three huge turnips on October 16. The largest one is the closest to him in the picture. In front of it is an average grocery store turnip.

Photo: Roxanne Langlois

after transplanting the turnips in the ground. “Borax makes turnips less fibrous,” he says.

He says that he was lucky, considering he didn’t conduct any research prior to putting his turnips in the ground in May. “They could have burned under the sun but for turnips, it wasn’t the case.”

When he realized that he had a few very large turnips, Damien Allard started looking into the details of the world record. He was encouraged when he discovered that it was set in Alaska. He realized then that he had a shot at it. “I wouldn’t have entertained that hope had the record been set in Mexico.”

Over the month prior to harvesting, he left seven days for moose hunting, a detail that probably affected the growth of his turnips over the last stretch but “I will still go hunting next year,” he af-

firms, referring to the passion of numerous Gaspésians.

So Damien Allard will make another attempt to set a world record in 2020. “I will provide them with a lot of light in the house and I will put them in a greenhouse for

the whole month of May. They grow faster in a greenhouse,” he says.

He is grateful for the technical support received from an agronomist friend, Gérard Landry, who was present when the three largest turnips

were weighed. A neighbour also helped him when he was away.

The largest turnip “tastes exactly like a turnip from the grocery store,” he says. The 34-pound specimen was given to the Source alimentaire Bonavignon food bank. He kept one turnip weighing ten kilos and divided the third largest turnip, an eleven kilo one, between his agronomist friend and the food bank.

Damien Allard expects to soon receive the documentation he ordered from Guinness in England, so that he can have his eventual record officially recognized in 2020. “Guinness asks for a 12-week delay before delivery but that delay is now 15 weeks because of a large demand. I think it is a matter of marketing. Had I paid 500 euros, I would have received it in five days,” he concludes.



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Érablière Escuminac earns rare agriculture distinctions

Gilles Gagné

ESCUMINAC: – On October 19, Érablière Escuminac, a Bay of Chaleur based organic maple syrup producer, won an *Ordre national du mérite agricole* gold medal. This is a Quebec-wide recognition through the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in collaboration with the Agricultural Producers Union (UPA).

The *Ordre du mérite agricole* medals are awarded every five years. Érablière Escuminac becomes the first maple grove in Quebec to receive that award. Founded in 1998, the company started producing syrup in 2000 and management carries out all its marketing autonomously instead of selling its production in bulk. In 21 years, the Malenfant family has invested just over \$4 million in the business.

Érablière Escuminac is only the second Gaspesian enterprise in 130 years to earn the province-wide gold medal and did so exactly 60 years after the Dugas farm in Nouvelle.

The president of Érablière Escuminac, Martin Malenfant, points out that the company had finished in first place regionally and in second place provincially in the bronze medal category 10 years ago, and in second place as well for the silver medal five years ago, without qualifying for a medal nationally.

“This year, we were registered in the gold category. During the announcement, they named the third place winners and it was not us. They announced the second place and we thought that we wouldn’t



Érablière Escuminac Martin Malenfant: Martin Malenfant has invested slightly more than \$4 million in the enterprise in 20 years.

Photo: G. Gagné

get anything this year. When they announced our first place, we were really surprised, all the more considering that it is taking place after our smallest production year ever, with 300,000 pounds (of syrup), instead of an average year of 330,000 pounds,” explains Martin Malenfant.

He could well have missed the business opportunity provided by Érablière Escuminac if, over the fall of 1998, he had passed a few days earlier or a few days later while delivering maple grove equipment to a New Brunswick customer. Mr. Malenfant was then living in Sainte-Rita, near Rivière-du-Loup, in the Lower Saint Lawrence region.

“I was passing on the other side of the Bay of Chaleur and I could see the beautiful red mountain sides. There are maple trees there for sure, I told myself. In the Lower Saint Lawrence, all the fine maple groves were already exploited,” he says.

He learned shortly after that the Escuminac maple forest was located mainly on public

land. He obtained an exploitation lease of 65,000 taps from the Ministry of Natural Resources and installed all the systems required to collect maple water and process it. He first had a Gaspesian partner and he later bought that associate’s shares in the business.

“We first started with 60,000 taps. It was in 2000. We now have 65,000 taps installed. The government quotas were imposed in 2004. We exploit 350 hectares out of a potential of 700. I could double the production easily but the quota system prevents us from doing so,” says Mr. Malenfant.

That production level could change in the foreseeable future even if the quota system is not adjusted upwards by the Quebec government. Since 2013, Érablière Escuminac is carrying out its whole marketing operations and is therefore selling its production autonomously, instead of relying on the Federation of Maple Syrup Producers. The company sells on line and to individuals and therefore does not sell its syrup in bulk.

“Online sales are not subjected to quotas. It is considered like selling individually to consumers, however, it is not easy. Developing a branding like we decided to do in 2013 takes five years. You have to dig in your pocket but it was my decision,” says Mr. Malenfant.

It is effectively more difficult to sell syrup in small table bottles than in barrels but it is also more profitable. The company also sells some classy packages and bottles as small as 50 millimetres. The firm has also developed birch syrup over the years and its sales are increasing constantly.

Martin Malenfant was already exporting part of his production since the mid-2000 years when he was presiding over the Gaspésie Maple Association and he has maintained important overseas sales since opting for marketing autonomy six years ago.

“We export to the United States, to England, to Spain, to France, to Italy, in fact, towards

all the major European markets. We also reach Austria and Belgium. We sell to Australia, New Zealand and we have a customer in South Korea as well. We will sell to Japan online over the following months, and we have sent a test batch to China,” explains Mr. Malenfant.

If those markets pan out the way he thinks they will, Érablière Escuminac will then apply to obtain a second exploitation lease regarding the public land maple grove that is adjacent to the current one.

“There are interesting things coming up. There is potential for 75,000 additional taps. (...) I already buy additional organic maple syrup quantities from other maple groves like Harold Baker’s in Grand River. I buy close to 200,000 (additional) pounds. I am nearing retirement age but I will stay for a while still. I must decide with Jason (his son, who works for the enterprise) how we will organize the future,” says Mr. Malenfant.

Regional particularities

Gilles Gagné

ESCUMINAC – When it comes to the *Ordre du mérite agricole* awards, the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands are part of a set of regions that comprises Lower Saint Lawrence, the North Shore, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and Abitibi-Témiscamingue. Those regions are characterized by smaller farms than in Central Quebec and the regions around Montreal, however, in maple syrup pro-

duction, the size of the Gaspé Peninsula businesses are larger than Quebec’s average. “In the Gaspé, we have a higher number of taps per enterprise. We don’t have a high number of enterprises but the unexploited potential is high. The quotas limit our growth except if the new enterprises choose to go for online sales, which is not easy,” explains Martin Malenfant. He thinks that the provincial quota system could be adjusted to add some capacity.

The good, the bad, and the hopeful – Contact Environment and SOS Bats

Jeanie LeLacheur

GASPÉ: - The good news for regional species at risk bats is that the collaborative SOS Bats initiative between Contact Environment and the Micmac Community of Gespeg has been accepted for funding by Environment Canada’s Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk program for a three year period; noting that a year consists of approximately 14 weeks of activity.

The bad news is that the number of bats now dead in North America since the appearance of White-nose syndrome in 2006 is up to 7 million.

By now the region is well aware that it has three bat species with an emergency

listing through SARA the Species at Risk Act and that the little brown bat *Myotis lucifugus*, the tricolored bat *Perimyotis subflavus* and the Northern long-eared bat *Myotis septentrionalis* face eminent extinction without fast and efficient intervention.

White-nose syndrome was confirmed by Contact Environment in 2016 in the Gaspé region making data collection and awareness campaigns for this area critical to the federal recovery strategy.

Over the past three years partnerships have been forged with organizations including UNESCO’s Geoparc in Percé and the Grotte de Saint Elzear. Both sites have and continue to encourage the installation of acoustic bat monitoring equip-

ment and provide information about species at risk bats their decline, and the important role they play in a healthy ecosystem to their clients.

Francois Fabianek of the Groupe Chiroptères du Québec is also an important player in the quest, providing technical support, data analysis and sharing a wealth of experience to the project. The group partnered with Contact Environment and SOS Bats to begin a project funded by the MFFP and PAAC in 2018 which had roost loggers and temperature sensors installed at the mouth of a cave to validate entry and exit of hibernating bats and thereby evaluate hibernation time. This phonological study over time will reveal if this important aspect of bat ecology is

impacted by climate change.

SOS Bats continues to monitor a local maternity roost (the places where reproductive females go to give birth to their young). Numbers continue to decline and the roost which started out with more than 200 individuals is down to approximately 42, however, the recent heightened interest in climate change and discussion of a more sustainable region and a possible Action Plan seems to offer a beacon of hope for the many species at risk in the region. The new Pan-Canadian approach to transforming species at risk conservation by shifting from an individual species focus to a multiple species and ecosystem approach may also prove useful in the plan for com-

bined resources and the move towards positive change, although Quebec has its own act on threatened and vulnerable species and will continue to collaborate with the federal government through the Canada Quebec Agreement.

Renewed efforts are underway to illicit local help in collecting information on bats and toll-free number posters are being distributed throughout the region asking for individuals to be on the lookout for bats.

Contact Environment and SOS Bats would like to thank the community at large for their support and ask them to continue to be vigilant and report bat sightings to them at the following toll free number: 1 833 877 2287.

Announcements...



Obituaries



BRIARD: Daniel Alexander

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Daniel Alexander Baird at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute on October 26, 2019, at the age of 86. Alex, formerly of Douglastown and Murdochville, is survived by his wife of 50 years, Lily Ruth Suddard, daughter Cindy (Eric), son Alfred (Jessica), stepson Bob (Renea), five lovely grandchildren as well as his brother Bernard (Elma), sister Edna, sister-in-law Orva and many nieces and nephews.

In keeping with his wishes, cremation has occurred. The ashes will remain with his wife in Ottawa. There are no funeral plans at this time. If desired, donations to the Canadian Heart and Stroke foundation would be appreciated (www.heartandstroke.ca).

A heartfelt thank you to all who have reached out to the family with their offers of condolence.



WILLIAMS: Lena

December 6, 1936 - October 15, 2019.

Lena May Williams of Port Daniel passed away at the Centre D'hebergement in New Carlisle on October 15, 2019, at the age of 82. She is predeceased by her husband, Herbert Ivan Williams; her parents, Russell and Annie-May Dow; her brothers, Linden, Vibert, Robert, and Colin as well as her sister, Georgina.

Lena leaves behind two sons, Brian (Lucy) and Chris (Tammy), and a daughter, Joan (Morris). She is survived by her sister, Leota Travers (John) of Whitby, Ontario. She also leaves behind a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of whom brought smiles to her face and joy to her life. She enjoyed their visits, the phone calls, the cards and, as all grandmothers and great-grandmothers do, she showed them off, touted their accomplishments, and boasted about them at every opportunity.

Lena had been battling severe osteoporosis, among other ailments, for years and during it all, for the most part, remained as positive as one could be. She loved her home and cherished her independence. Over those many years when she was still able to cook and bake desserts, she made sure that anyone who visited enjoyed the results of her efforts.

The family would like to extend heartfelt thanks to the doctors and staff at Chandler Hospital, as well as to those at the Centre D'hebergement in New Carlisle, where she was treated with the utmost kindness and compassion. The family would also like to thank all those people, too many to name, for their visits, caring calls, and the support provided in so many ways, during what we have all come to understand at some point during our lifetimes is an extremely difficult time.

The family would also like to express its immense appreciation to Lori Whalen. When Lena was gradu-

ally losing the independence that she enjoyed so much, among many other things that Lori did, she cooked all of those foods that Lena loved to cook and baked all of those delicious desserts that she loved to bake (under Lena's close supervision, of course.) Lori became such a dear friend, confidant, and pillar of strength for many years.

A Celebration of Life will be held at St. James Anglican Church in Port Daniel on Saturday, July 4, 2020, at 11 a.m. For those who wish to attend, a visitation with the family will be held at the church, beginning at 10 a.m.



In Memory

RENOUF, Ernest

RENOUF, Annie Sawyer

In loving memory of a dear father, grandfather and great-grandfather who passed away May 28, 1991 and a dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, who passed away November 15, 2007.

Today brings memories

Of our loved ones gone to rest,

They will never be forgotten

By the ones who loved them best.

Peacefully sleeping, resting at last,

The world's weary troubles and trials are past.

In silence they suffered,

In patience they bore,

Till God called them home,

To suffer no more.

Always remembered and sadly missed by daughter Pearl and granddaughters Joan and Brenda and their families.

OUR RATES:
Card of Thanks,
Birth Announcement, Prayer, Engagement,
Birthday, Anniversary,
Memorial Service announcement:
\$30 - (\$35 with picture) up to 20 lines.

In Memoriam:
\$30 - (\$35 with picture) up to 20 lines
\$40 - (\$45 with picture) for more than 20 lines

Obituary or Wedding:
\$40 - (\$45 with picture) Max. 300 words

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COAST ROUND-UP

CAP-AUX-OS:

Carol Service

November 30: The annual Christmas carol service will be held in the little Cap-Aux-Os church at 7 p.m. Come join us for Bible readings, stories and carol singing followed by hot chocolate and goodies.

PENINSULA:

Craft Sale

November 25: St. Matthew's Ladies Guild of Peninsula will be having a craft sale with the Fermieres at St. Majorique Hall from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

GASPE:

Fall and Christmas Sale

Saturday, November 30: The Friends of St. Paul's Anglican Church in Gaspé will be hosting their annual Fall & Christmas Sale starting at 9 a.m. The sale will be held in the basement of St. Paul's Church at 216 Montée Wakeham (the yellow church). There is something for everyone including homemade baking, new and nearly new items, toys, games, etc. Free refreshments will be available.

YORK:

York ACW

November 16: Christmas sale and tea at the York River Community Hall. There will be a bake table, handicrafts, white elephant table and mystery parcels. Afternoon tea will be served for \$5. Hope to see you there.

DOUGLASTOWN:

Community Centre

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

November 22: Chess workshop starting at 4 p.m. Come and learn how to play chess or learn new strategies. Families welcome. Free.

November 23: Happy hour at the Dougtown Café from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Microbrewery beer for

sale. We'll provide grilled cheese sandwiches.

November 24: Yoga and meditation workshop with Magalie Larochelle at 10 a.m. Cost \$15.

November 25: Meeting at 7:30 p.m. to choose the best day and time for our beginners knitting class.

November 30: Come and enjoy a culinary experience from India with our guest chef Alex Pringle. Vegetarian three-course meal and alcohol sold on the premises. Tickets available online or in person. Two sittings: 5:30 p.m. or 8 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:

BADC

Christmas Market

November 30: The BADC Christmas Market will be held at the Belle Anse School from 9 a.m. to noon. If you are interested in a table (\$10), please contact Sandy Coombs at 418-645-2874.

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!

November 16: Christmas Tea.

November 23: Military Whist.

December 7: Members and guests Christmas party.

SHIGAWAKE:

Community Centre

November 16: Christmas bake and yard sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$10 per table. Canteen available. All are welcome.

December 2: Christmas gift bingo beginning at 7 p.m. Canteen available.

December 31: New Year's Ball beginning at 8 p.m. \$12 per person. Light lunch served, 18+, DJ (Mark Dea).

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

November 23: Christmas gift bingo beginning at 7 p.m.

December 14: Military Whist beginning at 8 p.m.

HOPETOWN:

Craft Sale

November 30: Craft sale at the Hope Town Community Centre from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PASPEBIAC:

Artisans Exhibit

Artisans exhibit at the Centre Culturel in Paspebiac, near the Catholic church: **Saturday, November 16** from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and **Sunday, November 17** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Look for Enid Legros-Wise exhibiting a large collection of porcelain jewellery, including new designs with and without "veritas" verses.

NEW CARLISLE:

Christmas Bazaar

December 8: Christmas Bazaar for St. Andrew's Anglican Church from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the New Carlisle town hall. Anyone wanting a table, please contact Agnes at 418-752-7192.

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."

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. **November 17:** Annual Roast Beef Dinner at the Community Centre. from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. \$15 for adults and \$8 for children. All are welcome to attend.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: Book Room

Every Wednesday: The book room is now open from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, call Kathleen at 418-392-4896.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: Fifty Plus

Every Tuesday: Grocery Bingo at 7 p.m.

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

November 15 and 29: 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 p.m. Free admission and canteen service on site.

November 16: Craft sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. You may rent a table for \$10. For more information, call Linda at 418-392-6950. Please be advised there is a limited number of tables available.

GESGAPEGIAG:

N.A. Meetings

N.A. Meetings held every **Tuesday** at 7 p.m. at the Mawiomi Treatment Centre located at 85 School Street in Gesgapegiag. Everyone welcome! For more

information, call 418-759-3522.

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.

ROTARY CLUB WINNERS

The winners for the week of October 27 are: Paul Imhoff, Mario Boudreau, Gilles Bilodeau, Roger Cormier, Marc Cyr, Barry Brake and Lucien Dickie.

The winners for the week of November 3 are: Denis Dugas, Gemma Cormier, Esther Bujold, Mini-Mécanique, Isabelle Cormier, Carmen Roy and Danielle Jobin.

UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, November 17
2 p.m. Hope Town

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, November 17

New Richmond

3 p.m. Holy Eucharist

New Carlisle

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Hope Town

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Shigawake

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

PARISH OF GASPÉ

Sunday, November 17

St. Andrews - York

9 a.m. Morning Prayer

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On the lighter side...

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

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

WORDS

BACTERIA
 CALIBRATION
 CELLS
 CHEMICALS
 CONTROL
 COOLED
 CORRECTION
 DISEASE
 DISINFECTANT
 EQUIPMENT
 FOODBORNE
 HANDLING
 HANDWASHING
 HAZARD
 HEATED
 ICE
 INTESTINE
 LEFTOVERS
 OUTBREAK
 PARASITES
 PERISHABLE
 PLAN
 POISONING
 PREPARATION
 SANITIZER
 SERVICE
 SPOILED
 TEMPERATURE
 THERMOMETER
 TOXIC
 TRANSPORT
 UNCOOKED
 UTENSILS
 VIRUSES

Reflections

by
Diane Skinner Flowers



A Polar Coaster?

The Old Farmer's Almanac has been publishing continuously since 1792. In 1982, The Old Farmer's Almanac began publishing a Canadian edition. It contains weather predictions for all Canadian provinces with some forecasts focussing on five regions of Canada, however, the almanac contains much more than weather predictions. It features history and cultural articles as well as planting charts, recipes, astronomy, trivia and more. There are other similar publications such as Harrowsmith Almanac which boasts on its cover "100% Canadian."

The weather predictions are based on averages going back 30 years. The predictions are also based on other factors, such as, sunspots and solar activity. These forecasts are prepared almost 18 months in advance. How accurate are the predictions? Unfortunately, the forecasts are not completely accurate because weather can be such a changeable occurrence. The publishers stated that, "Neither we nor anyone else has as yet gained sufficient insight into the mysteries of the universe to predict weather with anything resembling total accuracy."

The predictions for the Gaspé and area weather for November and December, 2019 are:

Nov 13-17	Rain and snow, then sunny, cold
Nov 18-19	Showers, mild
Nov 20-25	Rain to snow, then sunny, cold
Nov 26-30	Snow showers, cold
Dec 1-8	Rainy periods, mild
Dec 9-11	Snowstorm, cold
Dec 12-16	Snow showers north, rainy periods south
Dec 17-23	Snow showers, cold
Dec 24-31	Snowy periods, mild

It might be interesting to keep this chart handy to see how accurate the predictions are. A Polar Coaster Winter is predicted by the Old Farmer's Almanac for the winter of 2019/2020. A Polar Coaster Winter means very frigid temperatures and an above normal amount of snow, rain and sleet.

You can also find the Almanac on social media. This includes Pinterest, Instagram and Facebook. The Facebook page has over a million followers.

The Almanac makes a terrific Christmas gift or stocking stuffer, and not just for the weather predictions. For the cost of \$8 or so, you also get sections on gardening, food and recipes, astronomy, environment, travel and culture. This provides a great deal of light reading in the cold winter months, possibly during a Polar Coaster.

How they say that in...

- ENGLISH:** Student
- SPANISH:** Estudiante
- ITALIAN:** Studioso
- FRENCH:** Étudiant
- GERMAN:** Studierender

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to sports.
 Each number corresponds to a letter.
 (Hint: 23 = e)

- A. 21 23 20 11**
Clue: Group of players
- B. 13 18 20 10 23 7**
Clue: One who participates
- C. 3 5 20 3 19**
Clue: Teaches team
- D. 3 5 11 13 23 21 23**
Clue: Take part in a contest

Answers: A. team B. player C. coach D. compete

HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
 Aries, you may have to make your own opportunities rather than waiting for some to fall in your lap. Only then can you prove to others what you're worth.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
 Few things rattle your feathers, Taurus. But when your ire is up, take a step back to collect yourself. Use the latter half of the week to get things back in order.

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
 It may take a few steps in the wrong direction to realize you need to change course, Gemini. But smooth sailing will soon prevail. Stay the course.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
 Cancer, with many new changes happening in your life, you may be wishing for the familiarity of things you once had. Revisit photo albums or talk to old friends for nostalgia.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
 Leo, when you take a stand, others are sure to take notice at what you have to say. You have the kind of magnetism and presence to garner the attention and support of others.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
 Work-related stress may not go away entirely, but you can find a way to reduce it, Virgo. Indulge in a long lunch with coworkers or take a much-needed day off to clear your mind.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
 It may take some extra motivation for you to get moving on a project at home, Libra. But once the momentum takes hold, it will be smooth sailing for several days.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
 Many times it is not what you say but what you do not say that has the most impact, Scorpio. Consider your words carefully before speaking up.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
 Managing a household can be just as important as keeping your professional life running smoothly, Sagittarius. Give yourself a pat on the back if you're accomplishing both.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
 A vacation may be just what the

doctor ordered, Capricorn. Begin researching destinations now and figure out the best way to finance a trip to get away and soak up the sun.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
 A change of scenery may do you some good in the days ahead, Aquarius. See if you can fit in an extended weekend to clear your mind.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
 Pisces, put some thought into the fun activities you can do with others. Organize a night out on the town with friends.

- FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS**
- NOVEMBER 10**
Miranda Lambert, Singer (36)
- NOVEMBER 11**
Victor Cruz, Athlete (33)
- NOVEMBER 12**
Ryan Gosling, Actor (39)
- NOVEMBER 13**
Julia Michaels, Singer (26)
- NOVEMBER 14**
Prince Charles, Royalty (71)
- NOVEMBER 15**
Lily Aldridge, Model (34)
- NOVEMBER 16**
Brooke Elliott, Actress (45)

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Hanging out with bats

“To rats, bats are angels.”

Diane Skinner

There is a great deal of misinformation about bats. There is also a fair bit of fear and even disgust. Bats have been around on the planet for about 50 million years. They are fascinating animals and they help humans by being an important part of the ecosystem. It is critical that they survive and thrive.

First myth that needs to be corrected? Bats do not get tangled up in peoples' hair. Not true. You have heard the expression 'blind as a bat?' This is also untrue. In fact, bats can see quite well, but their sense of hearing is very acute and they use this sense to find insects in the dark. Bats, like dolphins, use echolocation to help them navigate the dark. They emit a noise and wait for the sound to bounce back, in a sense an echo. If the sound does not echo back, they are safe to fly in that direction. Humans cannot hear these sounds.

Another partial myth is that you can get rabies from bats. Well, you can because they are mammals, but it is certainly not a common thing, however, just don't touch a bat and you will never have to worry about catching bat rabies at all.

Bats are mammals, even though people long ago believed that they were a type of bird. In fact, they are the only mammal that can fly. Mammals share five characteristics. Mammals have hair or fur, are warm-blooded, most are born alive, the young are fed milk by the mother's mammary glands and they have a generally more complex brain than other animals.

Bats are helpful to hu-



The White-Nose Syndrome – has reduced significantly the number of bats in Quebec.

Photo: SOS Bats facebook

mans because they consume so many insects. As they fly and swoop around, they reseed forests. Further they can pollinate plants, which is critical for our planet. In fact, bats eat so many insects that farmers can use less chemicals on their crops. That is good for all humans.

Bat wings are very complicated and are comprised of two thin layers of skin that is stretched over the bat's arm and fingers. Surprised? Bats have arms, four fingers and a thumb! When they fly, they do more than flap their wings. It is almost like they are pulling their way through the air, like a swimmer. When bats eat fruit, they wrap their wing around it to hold onto it.

Bats are nocturnal and come out at night to feed. They sleep during the day and it is not a myth that they sleep upside down. They do. Most bats feed on insects, fruit and nectar from flowers. There are a few species that eat fish and a few who ingest

blood.

Vampire bats do drink blood from other mammals, such as cows. Vampire bats have a bad reputation for 'sucking blood.' They rarely bite humans and they do not kill the other mammal. They do make a tiny hole with their teeth, which are very sharp and then lick up the blood. They drink only 25 ml of blood, which is less than an ounce.

Bats are in trouble currently. Over the past ten years or so a disease – the White-Nose Syndrome – has reduced the number of bats significantly in Quebec and in fact most of eastern North America. Reports tell us that millions of bats have perished. This disease is caused by a fungus which causes a white muzzle and can spread to their wings. This means the bats wake up more fre-

quently during the winter when they should be hibernating. This in turn causes the bat to lose its fat reserves and become more vulnerable to starvation and death.

Bats are very important to the Earth. They eat insects, they support the planet's biodiversity and they even help with scientific research into blood clotting. Like bees, if we lose them the effects will be massive.

Teachers' Guide (Suggested grades: 7 – 10)

Comprehension:

1. List 3 myths about bats. Tell the myth and then the true fact that corresponds.
2. What is a mammal?
3. Describe how bats are beneficial to humans and the planet.
4. Describe bat wings and how they fly.
5. Why are bats in trouble?

Vocabulary: Define the following:

Echolocation, nocturnal, biodiversity, fungus, pollinate

Extras:

Kenneth Oppel is a Canadian author who has written a terrific series of (fictional) novels about bats for young adults. Titles are Silverwing, Sunwing, Firewing and Darkwing. Check your local library or order from Chapters.ca (available for downloading).

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