

Forest fire ravages 22 hectares in the Chic-Chocs

Nelson **Sergerie**

GASPÉ - A fire in the *Réserve faunique des Chic-Chocs*, northwest of Murdochville has, so far, ravaged 22 hectares of forest.

At its peak on August 24 and 25, up to six air tankers, three helicopters and some 60 firefighters battled the destructive element that was ignited by lightning on August 22. The fire has grown to form a triangle between Murdochville, Saint-Maxime-du-Mont-Louis and Mont-Saint-Pierre.

On August 28, firefighters used machinery to force their way through the forest as the fire was on steep terrain. They also took the opportunity to construct fire walls.

The rain this last week significantly slowed the fire's progress. As Spec went to press on August 28, this fire was the only active one in Quebec.



The smoke invaded the municipality of Mont-Louis.



Photos: Guy Bernatchez

Government of Quebec supports 27 projects

Nelson **Sergerie**

GASPÉ - Twenty-seven projects in the Gaspé region are receiving \$1.4 million from *Quebec Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions* (FARR). The government's contribution promotes investments totaling \$4 million.

Among the projects supported, \$100,000 is being paid to the Rocher Percé MRC to identify the sectors where the most vulnerable seniors are found and an equivalent amount to support entrepreneurial succession in the region.

The implementation of tourism and agri-food priorities also receives \$100,000, as does the redevelopment of Taylor's Point in New Richmond.

"You have heard how the economy and economic recovery are important to our

government. With this fund, several projects will start up and this is important for those involved in the community," says Minister of Municipal Affairs and Habitat, Andrée Laforêt, during the announcement made in Gaspé on August 26.

The decision making was made by the community and Quebec ratified the decisions.

The Gaspé Peninsula table of prefects wants the FARR model to apply to other development decisions made by Quebec.

The president of that table, Nadia Minassian, welcomes decisions being decided in the Gaspé Peninsula and hopes for more decentralization in decisions.

"These are public funds. It is the government's role to determine the amounts to be sent to the regions, however,

it is up to the region to see how this money should be spent. I believe that the FARR mechanism is an example to follow and should be the preferred example for all other government programs," states Ms. Minassian.

Money for infrastructure

Quebec confirms aid of \$3.9 million for the municipal garage in Gaspé and the Barachois fire station in Percé. Gaspé will receive \$3.1 million, which represents 65% of the construction cost. Percé receives \$800,000 for its station, which will cost close to \$1 million.

Several municipal infrastructure projects are also on the table. The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Habitat, Andrée Laforêt, who

continued her visit to Gaspé on August 27, wants to take advantage of the economic recovery plan to get several projects unblocked.

"There are projects that have been around for a long time and we definitely want to accelerate them. We understand that with the pandemic situation, there have been delays. Economic recovery is a priority for us," says Ms. Laforêt.

Investments in health

The Gaspé hospital centre has benefitted for almost a year from a new sterilization unit.

This unit of the hospital required an investment of \$1.8 million, at a rate of \$1.5 million from Quebec and \$290,000 from the Gaspé Peninsula Integrated Health and Social Services

Centre (CISSS).

"We were not up to Canadian Accreditation standards. The ventilation and the mechanical system were obsolete. We have increased the workspace to create a more spacious environment for the staff. We also increased the volume of our work because we have new equipment," says the President and CEO of the CISSS, Chantal Duguay. Three people work in that unit of the hospital.

In addition, the Sainte-Anne-des-Monts hospital centre will have a new emergency department. This area of the hospital will cover 930 square metres in the existing building and will have six stretchers, in addition to three intensive care beds. The work, worth almost \$9 million, will begin in 2021 and be completed in June 2022.

Need a medical consultation? Don't wait.



If you need an appointment with a healthcare professional and have no symptoms of the flu, gastroenteritis or COVID-19, contact:

- your doctor
- your medical clinic
- your family medicine group
- or Info-Santé 811 if you don't have a doctor

to get a consultation over the phone or, if needed, in person.

A mask must be worn for in-person consultations.



Cough into
your sleeve



Wash
your hands



Keep your
distance



Wear
a mask

Let's continue to protect ourselves properly.

[Québec.ca/coronavirus](https://quebec.ca/coronavirus)

 1 877 644-4545

Jean-Pierre Pigeon rallies behind Erin O'Toole

Nelson Sergerie

SAINTE-ANNE-DESMONTS - Even though Jean-Pierre Pigeon, the President of the Conservative Association of the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands, gave his support to Peter MacKay, in the race for party leadership, he believes that the Conservative Party has chosen a good leader with Erin O'Toole.

"It doesn't matter if you lose in an election, in the leadership, or in a vote on the board of directors, you are always disappointed. Mr. O'Toole is a very good choice," reacted Jean-Pierre

Pigeon a few hours after the vote on August 22.

The former Minister of Veterans Affairs won with 57% of the vote, against Mr. MacKay who was considered the front-runner in this race. Mr. O'Toole even finished first in Quebec.

Mr. Pigeon believes that the platforms of the two candidates are not that different and that Mr. O'Toole will be able to bring the party together across Canada.

Mr. Pigeon has made it clear that he would be ready to serve under Peter MacKay when the candidate made a whirlwind tour of eastern Que-

bec on July 11. He had travelled to the Gaspé to meet with members in Sainte-Anne-des-Monts.

Erin O'Toole was born in Montreal and raised in Ontario. He has been a Member of Parliament since 2012 for the Toronto area. He is a veteran and a lawyer. Mr. O'Toole presents himself as a "true blue" with defined positions and recalled his colours during his victory speech.

He appears right-wing in economics, public safety and foreign affairs, but is more centred on issues of human rights, women and homosexuality.

Gaspé holds in-person council meeting



Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ- On August 24, elected officials in Gaspé held their first in-person municipal council meeting at the town hall since the beginning of the pandemic in March.

In order to respect social distancing, the councillors entered the room with a face covering. No spectators were permitted to attend the public session which was televised by Télé-Gaspé.

The Gaspé Spec was, however, in attendance for this "first post-containment" meeting.

Mayor Daniel Côté said the town administration is looking for a way to allow the public to start attending council meetings once again, however, the room is relatively limited space-wise.

Note: The Town of Chandler has yet to rule on a first open session.

Photo: N. Sergerie

Orléans Express is busy

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ - Orléans express is pleased with the number of passengers travelling on their coaches since the return of their service in the Gaspé Peninsula a month ago.

Limited to 14 passengers due to current health measures in connection with the current COVID-19 pandemic, departures are near capacity. Some coaches were full and passengers were unable to board, especially on departures from Montreal to the Gaspé, even though the carrier tried to meet needs as much as possible, depending on the availability of vehicles and drivers.

"This is good news and we are happy about it. We started with a restriction of 14 passengers. The average number of people transported per day is approaching this figure. We are happy in the circumstances," said Keolis Canada President and CEO Pierre-Paul Pharand.

Discussions are being held with Quebec to increase capacity.

"We are working hard to increase the capacity to 24. With this traffic and this support, we are trying to convince them that the measures in place allow more passengers to be transported safely. Wearing a mask should allow us to do certain things," says Mr. Pharand.

Washrooms are now accessible on the coaches and food is permitted on board. The link with Trois-Rivières was also re-established during the weekend of August 22.

Even if the losses are significant despite assistance from Quebec which reimburses 75% of the operating deficit, Mr. Pharand remains confident of being able to remain in operation in the coming year. "Difficult, but there is no reason to believe that Orleans Express will not be there when we return to normal," concludes Mr. Pharand.

LM Wind Power: the union accepts the employer's offer


Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ - The third time is a charm. Of the 375 CSN unionized employees of LM Wind Power in Gaspé, 70% accepted the third proposal from their employer.

The proposal includes increases of 3% for 2020, 2.5% for 2021, 2% for 2022 and 2023 and an offer of 2 to 2.5% for the last two years, depending on the consumer price index for a six-year contract. The agreement also provides for a \$500 signing bonus for the 110 most senior employees.

"Overall, we are satisfied in the context of the pandemic and the global economic context. It is reassuring that the company wanted a seven-year contract. The union wanted five years. I think the company is looking in the long term," comments union president Marko Collin.

The contract will be valid until December 31, 2025. Management preferred not to comment.



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE EASTERN SHORES
EASTERN SHORES SCHOOL BOARD

AVIS PUBLIC
PUBLIC NOTICE

AVIS PUBIC est par les présentes donné que Mme Nancy Doddridge remplace M. Luc Martin à titre de commissaire à la Commission scolaire Eastern Shores pour la circonscription no 4 - qui comprend la municipalité de Cascapedia-St-Jules, la ville de New Richmond, la réserve MicMac de Gesgapegiag et les municipalités de Caplan et St-Alphonse.

Donne ce 27e jour du mois d'août 2020 à New Carlisle, Québec.

M-A. Cooke
Secrétaire générale par intérim

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that Ms. Nancy Doddridge replaces Mr. Luc Martin as commissioner with Eastern Shores School Board for Ward No. 4 – That Includes the municipality of Cascapedia-St-Jules, the city of New Richmond, Gesgapegiag MicMac reserve, and the municipalities of Caplan and St-Alphonse.

Given this 27th day of August 2020 at New Carlisle, Quebec.

M-A. Cooke
Interim Secretary General

Jennifer Blais
Owner / Optician
Propriétaire / Opticienne

**Optique Comeau Optical**

2 pour / for **1** 

2 Prince William, Campbellton 506-759-9828

Enter to win Glasses for **LIFE!**
See staff for details
Participez et courrez la chance de gagner des lunettes pour **LA VIE!**
Voir notre équipe pour détails

OPTOMETRIST ON SITE.
CALL TO BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT.
OPTOMÉTRISTE SUR PLACE.
APPEL POUR UN RENDEZ-VOUS.

Changement de pneus etc.

**418-752-5896**
418-752-8306

LAWNMOWER AND SNOWBLOWER REPAIR
SANDBLASTING AND WELDING

The Changing etc.

193 RUE CHURCH STREET, NEW CARLISLE, QUEBEC

Disagreement between the Mayor of Gaspé and Pascan

So far, no follow-up regarding gas prices

Nelson Sergerie
GASPÉ - The mayor of Gaspé is not surprised by Pascan's recent comment, saying that an agency or a cooperative doesn't take into account the imperatives of operators.

Company co-owner Yani Gagnon said two or three-year contracts don't provide a return on the investments needed to operate in these models. Daniel Côté rejects this observation.

"Private aviation companies don't want to be vetted. That's clear. The model we were proposing was not on two or three-year contracts, but rather on minimum five-year contracts that could even stretch. This is what prevails in Western Australia where airlines make profits while being controlled by a public body," says the elected official.

Quebec is continuing to analyze the proposals submitted in particular by the two municipal unions.

Mayor Côté, who is also chairman of the UMQ's Air Transport Committee was asked additional questions on the tabled proposal, in particular on the governance of the proposals. That is a sign that the file is moving forward, he says.

Meanwhile, Québec solidaire invites the Minister of Transport to implement an air transport model focused on

service and not on profits. A few days before the intervention group's second meeting on the relaunch of regional air services, Québec solidaire does not want Quebec to repeat the same mistakes as in the past.

Québec solidaire is pleading for a cooperative model, like Treq, to replace Air Canada.

According to the left-wing party, this model would ensure an affordable and accessible transport offer for local populations.

More reasonable gasoline prices

One year after asking the Competition Bureau for an investigation into the high gasoline prices in the Gaspé, the mayor of Gaspé has still not received a follow-up.

Daniel Côté started the ball rolling after the Town noted abnormally high prices in the region.

"Maybe the investigation is closed, but I think when an investigation is closed, the depositor is notified. We were not informed that it was finalized," says the mayor.

Elected officials from across the region joined the movement to demand an investigation from both Ottawa and the Régie de l'énergie, which

concluded that the profit margin in the Gaspé was twice the Quebec average in 2019. The mayor notes that for a year, the displayed price is on average in line with the realistic price.

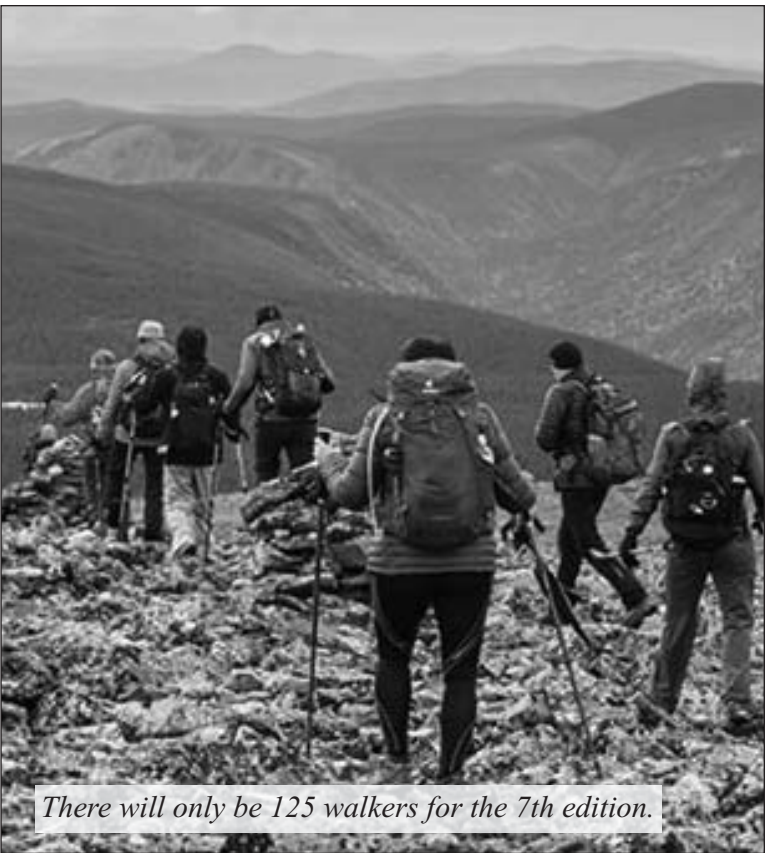
"What we want is for the price to stay normal, but it is abnormal that politicians and journalists control gasoline prices. When we go public, the price of gasoline goes down. When we close the box, the price increases. This is abnormal," says Côté.

A year ago, the price at the pumps was \$1.31 per litre.

CORRECTION

In last week's Spec I got ahead of myself. The Harvest Moon is actually on October 1 in 2020. Most years the Harvest Moon is in September, but every three years or so it occurs in October. The Harvest Moon is the Full Moon nearest to the September Equinox on September 22. The Full Moon on September 2 was the Full Corn Moon. No matter what you call it, a Full Moon is a beautiful sight! On line 16 the word eclipse should be elipse.

D.S.



There will only be 125 walkers for the 7th edition.

Photo: Courtesy of TDLG

Fewer participants for the 7th edition of the TDLG

Nelson Sergerie
L'ANSE-À-BEAUFILS - There will be a 7th edition of the Traversée de la Gaspésie (TDLG) on foot, from September 19 to 26, but this year there will be some modifications due to COVID-19.

Accustomed to receiving on average 250 participants, this edition will take place with only 125 participants in order to comply with COVID-19 health regulations. The event will be focused on two main sites in the parc de la Gaspésie and Gaspé.

Like other organizations, staff had to be laid off last March amid a pandemic, however, Ottawa came to the rescue by granting \$56,002 to reinstate two employees and absorb the additional costs of keeping events organized.

"We absolutely needed it to be able to deliver our fall event and also get ready for winter. Currently, we are full and we have a waiting list," says President Claudine Roy.



Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada

INVITATION TO SUBMIT AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AS TO THE AVAILABILITY OF SPACE FOR LEASE IN SAINTE-ANNE-DES-MONTS, QUEBEC


FILE NUMBER: 81001764

Public Works and Government Services Canada is asking interested parties to submit a response by September 10, 2020, with respect to office space available for lease in buildings in Sainte-Anne-des-Monts, for a term of 10 years commencing between April 1, 2022, and April 1, 2023.

To view the complete text of the request and to respond to this invitation, please log on to www.buyandsell.gc.ca/goods-and-services/leasing-of-real-property or contact Emilia Rochetta at 418-998-2066.



THEGASPESEC.COM



ESTABLISHED • MAY 1975

208-B Gérard D. Levesque
New Carlisle, Que.
G0C 1Z0

Tel: 418-752-5400
specs@globetrotter.net
thegaspespec.com

SPEC OFFICE HOURS:
Wednesday and Thursday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
President: Roger Wise
Vice-President: Elaine Sexton
Treasurer: Ray Venables
Secretary: Maria Chatterton
Directors: Hayden Sams, Bonita Annett, Bethany Paetkau, Patricia Ste-Croix Annett

Published every Wednesday by:
Les Publications de la Côte Inc.
(Sea-Coast Publications Inc.)

(Taxes included)
1-year (paper or digital): \$46
6-months (paper or digital): \$25
Outside Canada:
1-year paper \$165 digital: \$46

JOURNALISTS:
Nelson Sergerie
Diane Skinner

CONTRIBUTORS:
Cynthia Dow,
Jeanie LeLacheur


Publisher:
Penny MacWhirter

News Editor:
Gilles Gagné


Office Manager:
Joan Imhoff

SPEC welcomes letters to the editor on subjects relevant to topics covered by the paper. Letters must be kept within 300 words or less and may be edited for clarity or to remove any slanderous, sexist, racist or homophobic statements. We reserve the right to reject any letters. Opinions or letters published do not necessarily reflect the editorial policies or beliefs of this newspaper. All letters must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include the address and number(s) for verification purposes. (Address & phone number will not be printed.). The Publisher shall not be liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. The Publisher's liability for other errors or omissions in connection with any advertisement is strictly limited to publication of the advertisement in any subsequent issue or the refund of any monies paid for the advertisement.


We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.
We acknowledge special funding from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications.



CMCA
AUDITED




Gaspé's Home Page:
www.gogaspé.com



News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada

Member of:
QCNA, CARD





Dr. Pascal Cyr
Optometrist



Dr. Stacey Starrak
Optometrist

CLINIQUE D'OPTOMÉTRIE L'ÉMERILLON

LENSES CRAFTED ON THE PREMISES

PASPÉBIAC: 104 Gérard D. Levesque Blvd West • 418-752-5553
CHANDLER: 260 René Lévesque Blvd East • 418-689-5553
MARIA: 435 Perron Blvd West • 418-759-5553



BILINGUAL SERVICE

MEMBER OF

 **Canada's Largest Network of Optometrists**

Grand River sorting centre: what to do with soft plastics?

Gilles Gagné

GRAND RIVER – *The Régie intermunicipale de traitement des matières résiduelles de la Gaspésie*, which owns and operates the Grand River sorting centre, is working with a consultant and will soon benefit from tests carried out by two universities in order to solve some plastic-related problems. The ultimate goal will be to fabricate something with the so-called “soft plastics,” the types of plastic that must be recuperated but that are not sold because there is practically no market for them.

Those plastics amount to hundreds of tonnes of material annually for the Rocher Percé and Côte-de-Gaspé MRCs, where 37,000 people live.

“Just the plastic bags total 300 tonnes per year for the two MRCs that we serve. We are not counting the agriculture packaging plastics, plastic nets, plastic pockets and the other types that are close to that,” explains Nathalie Drapeau, director of the *Régie intermunicipale de traitement des matières résiduelles de la Gaspésie* (RITMRG).

In Quebec, the volume of unwanted plastic bags amounts to at least 70,000 tonnes, and the total reaches more than 100,000 tonnes, a minimum number, when one includes the other types of plastic without a market.

The sorting centres accumulate those plastics for a certain time, only to bury them after a while. Considering the average burial cost of about \$200 per tonne, a cost that varies from one region to another, those 100,000 tonnes lead Quebecers to pay at least \$20 million per year for the burial of soft plastics, a net loss.

Nathalie Drapeau explains the constraints tied to these soft plastics, generally called categories 3 to 7. “We have been accumulating them for two years here. According to the charter, we must accept them but there is no market,



The Gaspé Peninsula Intermunicipal Board of Residual Material Treatment has been accumulating soft plastic bundles for two years, says Nathalie Drapeau.

Photo: G. Gagné

or very little. We are far from the processors, we have small volumes to offer them and very little storage room,” points out Ms. Drapeau.

More often than not, when there is a shortage of space, the RITMRG must get rid of them (the unwanted plastics) by burying them if no taker comes up, which is the usual outcome. This year though, the bundles will be directed towards an experimental market. Some researchers are checking if a part of soft plastics could be used as an input in asphalt, while another part could be utilized for the fabrication of various objects, including landscaping slabs.

In November 2019, tired of seeing hundreds of tonnes of plastic being sent to the landfill, the board members of the RITMRG reflected on the possibility of considering that soft material a resource.

“I received the authorization to request financial support from Recyc-Québec for a pilot project. We should get an answer in September,” points out Ms. Drapeau. The project would cost \$135,000. Recyc-Québec is the organization su-

pervising a significant portion of Quebec’s recuperation, recycling and waste management.

In the meantime, the RITMRG, an intermunicipal board, took a leap and contacted experts in “green chemistry” such as Consulchem, in order to identify markets for products made with soft plastics. The emphasis is put on a regional utilization of the products to minimize transportation costs and create jobs. Consulchem secured the collaboration of *Université Laval* and the *École de technologie supérieure*, an engineering school, for eventual experimental phases.

“There is an analysis phase to find the best local use options and the realization of a pilot project with the Town of Percé. The trial to use soft plastics in asphalt should be carried out there. To our knowledge, it is a première in Québec. It will probably take place over the spring. We think of being able to integrate two tonnes of plastic per kilometre of asphalt. Trials were made for a parking lot in Nova Scotia,” explains Nathalie

Drapeau.

The fabrication of landscaping slabs will also be analyzed. “One of the pilot project goals also consists of making sure that the process remains green (ecologically friendly). The laboratories of the two schools (*Université Laval* and *École de technologie supérieure*) as well as Consulchem will find out about that after running tests,” she adds.

The Intermunicipal Board has already shown its innovation capacity by developing abrasive material for the roads with broken glass and landscaping uses for that same broken glass.

However, the organization is advocating to solve some problems at their source, instead of dealing with waste.

“Packaging must be dealt with at the source, to make sure that the material sent to the consumers will be easy to re-use and recuperate. There is a huge task of sensitisation ahead,” concludes Nathalie Drapeau.

Nathalie Drapeau has de-

veloped over the years clear principles pertaining to ways of progressing in terms of recuperation and re-use of materials sent to the sorting centre she manages in Grand River.

“The Recyc-Québec charter tells us that ‘the sorting centre must accept that material.’ The citizen says ‘it is cardboard, paper, plastic, glass and metal, so it goes to the blue bin.’ The sorting centre employee wonders in which container will it go? The sorting centre manager will ask ‘who will buy it?’ The buyer tells us ‘I don’t want that material.’ So, I wonder why it is on the market if nobody knows what to do with it,” states Nathalie Drapeau.

She thinks that society would change if every citizen “could come and visit a sorting centre, and work a few hours on the floor,” she says. “It would also put a bit of respect in the blue bin,” she adds, giving examples of the wide array of objects that should never reach the sorting centre, like moose skin and diapers.



You're invited to CASA's virtual AGM.

The health and safety of our community members is our main priority. With current Covid restrictions, the AGM will be carried out online, using the Zoom platform.

A link to connect to the meeting, and the documents for the AGM, will be sent via email to members who have RSVP'd.



CASA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
2020

WHEN:
Wednesday, September 16, 2020

TIME:
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Please RSVP to
418.752.5995 or
fay@casa-gaspe.com



VILLAGE
Real Estate Agency

Suzanne Landry
CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE BROKER AEO
418-752-0792
suzannelandry@royallepage.ca
www.suzannelandry.ca

Friendly bilingual service
from Matapedia to Port Daniel
19 years experience

A photograph of three young children in a classroom. The child in the foreground is a young boy with brown hair, wearing a green and white striped shirt, looking towards the camera with a slight smile. Behind him, two other children are visible, both with their hands raised in the air. The child on the left is wearing a dark red shirt, and the child on the right is wearing a light-colored sweater. The background is slightly blurred, showing a classroom setting with a green wall and some decorations.

The ABCs of going back to school safely

From assigning **one classroom per group** and **handwashing** to solutions to ensure **all subjects are taught** and **increased support** for students, we've adopted measures for a safe and successful school year.

See the FAQs

[Québec.ca/back-to-school](https://Quebec.ca/back-to-school)

Votre
gouvernement

Québec

Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



Things change: Things stay the same

The phrase “plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose” was coined in 1839 by French writer Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr. Literally translated it is “the more things change, the more they stay the same.”

This famous and frequently quoted saying came to mind when I found a 1990 copy of The Gaspé Spec earlier this week. Yellowing with age, it reminds us that newspaper writing is very transitory. Nothing is permanent in this physical world, but newspapers are particularly vulnerable to being read and then tossed away, however, reading through this 30-year-old edition of Spec confirmed Jean-Baptiste Karr’s comment on change.

Headlines for the week included “Lawyers stay out of New Carlisle Court House.” Lawyers were protesting underfunding for Legal Aid clients. This continues to be an issue because not all low-income clients can get access to a lawyer in a timely manner in 2020.

It seems that residents of Escuminac were quite unhappy with telephone party lines in the 1990 article “Escuminac residents to get improved phone service.” A party line was a telephone line shared by two or more homes. Telephone service issues still exist but in a different form. Today, cell phone users want better reception, fewer dropped calls and lower rates.

Another article boasted, “Gaspésie Forests less susceptible to acid rain, says expert,” but reading through the article it is revealed that sulphate levels in the soil were at the maximum threshold. Today Gaspésians are concerned about air quality near the McInnis Cement Plant in Port Daniel-Gascons.

The article entitled, “Situation of seniors and youth concerns at Sirros meeting,” outlined issues about anglophones accessing health and social services. Note that Sirros referred to Christos Sirros, then Quebec Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services. One of the issues, residences for seniors, was highlighted in the article. It was stated that there was a lack of “English speaking residences” and that the “only English-speaking senior residence east of Quebec City,” Mary’s Boarding House, had closed. The article mentions that Mr. Tom Duncan presented a brief on the “New Richmond Elderly Home.” This residence is now known as the Manor. “A 20-bed licence was given to the project by the regional office of the *Conseil de la Santé et des Services Sociaux*,” it reports. The issue of increased support for the elderly, especially as the population ages, is still a concern today.

The Spec of 1990 contained many of the features you can find in today’s Spec: Police Report, Commentary, Birth announcements, Obituaries and In Memoriams, Cards of Thanks and Grad announcements, Coast Round-Up, Notices about Annual General Meetings and, of course, advertising. A full-page ad from Robin’s Grocery Store (Robin, Jones, and Whitman) tells us that one thing has changed – prices! The ad boasts prices of 12 oranges for \$1.69, sirloin steak for \$2.88 per pound and hamburger for \$1.88 per pound. Read the fine print and you will see that the store was not open on Sundays. Admittedly a few things change.

Dave Doherty’s Legion News, a favourite column over the years, is no longer part of the Spec’s weekly offerings. You will not find a full page of tv listings, but you could in 1990. On Sunday evening, May 27, 1990, you could watch a new episode of Murder She Wrote at 8 p.m. You can still watch reruns of the show on Vision TV channel!

Over 30 years the world has changed, and the Spec has changed, with the biggest change of all being technology, but the issues and concerns are eerily similar – the environment, jobs, fishing, everyday life and the well-being of seniors and children. Babies are born and people die.

Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr was correct – things change but they fundamentally stay the same.

Paspebiac mayor wants Magdalen Islands maritime link to his town

Gilles Gagné

PASPEBIAC – The mayor of Paspebiac, Régent Bastien, wants to verify the possibility of establishing a maritime link between the Magdalen Islands and his town. He points out that, ultimately, he would like to go as far as bringing the ferry service between Cap-aux-Meules and Souris to the Bay of Chaleur area, even if he acknowledges that it is a long shot.

The difficulties experienced by Magdalen Islanders since March to secure the Souris-Cap-aux-Meules service given all the hurdles set up by the governments of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island because of the COVID-19 pandemic shook up Régent Bastien. He has a problem seeing Quebecers depend so heavily on the decisions made in other provinces.

“We are part of a province where there is pretention that we can be autonomous and independent. I believe that the Magdalen Islands and Quebec should be linked directly,” says Mr. Bastien.

The Souris-Cap-aux-Meules link is a daily service during the major part of the year, and two to three times a week service in the winter. That service being interprovincial is paid for by the federal government. There is also a weekly link between Montreal and Cap-aux-Meules, with frequent stops in Matane between the fall and the spring. Two vessels are assuring that link, including the CTMA Vacancier which is a cruise ship.

The CTMA Vacancier made weekly stops in Chandler between June and September for a dozen years before the Chandler wharf was closed four years ago by Transport Canada due to the ministry’s poor maintenance of its own port.

This year, the CTMA administration cancelled the CTMA Vacancier cruise season due to the pandemic but it will likely come back at some point next year or in 2022. (CTMA stands for *Coopérative de transport maritime et aérien*.)

“I talked to the mayor of the Magdalen Islands, Jonathan Lapierre, and he explained to me that concentrating all the services in Quebec would be complicated, however, not impossible. It costs billions of dollars over the long term (decades, including the replacement of the ship) and considering that it is an interprovincial service including New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and the Magdalen Islands, it falls under the responsibility of the federal government. If Quebec says yes, we will pay for that. It might work but as it is now, the Magdalen Islands people don’t want to take a chance. They want to keep ties with New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island,” explains Régent Bastien.

He will address the subject to the next Bonaventure MRC council of mayors meeting and to the table of prefects. He sits on that table despite not being a prefect.

“I would like to form a committee that would regroup the table of prefects and the CTMA and determine what it would take to put up a link. At the present time, we are the only ones on the south side of the Gaspé Peninsula to have a wharf in working order. The federal government must keep maintaining our wharf,” stresses Mr. Bastien.

Upgrades needed

The mayor of Chandler, Louisette Langlois, is in talks with federal authorities to have that town’s wharf rebuilt, because the bearing capacity of it is not sufficient to be used to unload supplies for the Port Daniel cement plant.

The port of Belledune, in New Brunswick, is used for unloading some materials because of this situation.

Ships can dock at the New Richmond wharf, owned by the municipality, but it cannot support heavy vehicles.

The Carleton wharf no longer has a commercial status as the municipal administration has decided to abandon that side of economic development

even if ships were still docking there.

As for the McInnis Cement port in Port Daniel, it is strictly used to load bulk cement and unload other materials. It is privately owned. “If Chandler or New Richmond get the nod from CTMA, it is just as fine. I’ll support it,” states Régent Bastien.

In an ideal context, the mayor of Paspebiac would like to undertake a study that would identify the business opportunities that could be generated by a return of CTMA along the south shore of the Gaspé Peninsula.

“I will ask the table of prefects to earmark some money from the RRRF in order to pay for the study. A RRRF initiative has to cover two MRCs and we would be all right because we would have the Bonaventure MRC and the Magdalen Islands as parts of the project,” he says.

The Paspebiac wharf can count on a water depth of six metres, which is 20 feet. Such water depth can always be improved with dredging. There is no roll-on, roll-off ramp there and building one could cost several million dollars.

There are three commercial users of the Paspebiac wharf: Groupe Océan which harbours the tugboat used to assist ships docking at Port Daniel; ships unloading de-icing salt for Transports Québec and the municipalities; and groundwood coming from Anticosti Island to be processed by the Saint-Elzéar sawmill.

According to Régent Bastien, the Paspebiac wharf is owned jointly by Transport Canada and the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Both ministries have not communicated any intention to part with that infrastructure, which has been the case for most commercial wharves in Eastern Quebec.

The CTMA Vacancier has used the Paspebiac wharf in the past during the Desjardins Cup hockey tournament. In 2006, it provided transportation and lodging for the Magdalen Islands hockey players and their families.



Pro Pieds de la Baie

Roxanne Major N.D.
Foot Care Technician

Service in the comfort of your own home.
418-752-3670
NEWPORT TO NEW RICHMOND
Free advice with every visit!



AVAILABLE TREATMENTS

- Health Checkup / Thick nails
- Nail maintenance / Corns / Calluses
- Nails with fungus or mushrooms
- Ingrown toenails / Plantar warts
- Preventive care for diabetics
- Massage on certain reflexology points
- Insurance receipts available
- Appointment only / Bilingual service
- Gift certificates are available

Announcements...



Obituaries

ASSELS: Earl

Passed away July 25, 2020, at the age of 68. From Sunny Bank, Gaspé. Born in New Carlisle. Son of Frank Assels and Ena Chatterton.

It was very sad to hear we lost a member of the family - Earl. We lived close together, five minutes away. I enjoyed going to visit him once a week on Sunday. I enjoyed talking to him. He liked to talk about his work. He worked hard. He went for walks after his retirement. He had a few friends to talk to and enjoyed that. They will miss him also.

He and his wife moved several years ago to be with his daughter Jamie. He was ill and needed help. I thank my sister-in-law Krista and the family for looking after him and being with him with all my heart.

Sadly missed by sister Laurine and family Vezina from Gaspé.

Sadly missed and leaving behind who will miss him also: sisters Beverly and Joan and brothers Daniel, James, William and family.



TROWSDALE: Vina Alma

Passed away at the North Bay Regional Health Centre on Monday, August 10, 2020, at the age of 97. Vina was born in Wakeham, Gaspé, Quebec, on September 13, 1922. She is survived by a son Laughlin (Red) and his wife Beverly. Lovingly remembered by her three grandsons: Charles, Winston and James (Leora); and great-grandchildren: Samantha, Tristan (Jacklyn), Morgan; and by her great-great-granddaughter: Ember. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Dear sister of Amelia Pelletier of London, Ontario, and Howard Clark of Thorold, Ontario. Remembered by her nieces and nephews. Vina was predeceased by her husband Bob in 1993, her son Kevin in 2007, and by her parents Charles Patterson in 1929 and mother Hazel Clark in 1991.

She served in the RCAF for 2½ years during World War II. In Calgary she had been a member of the Mizpah Chapter H 6, the Order of the Eastern Star (Hillhurst Rebekah Lodge #116) and St. Martin's Anglican Church. She lived in various places in Canada from Newfoundland to BC including over 40 years in Calgary, six years in Edmonton and settling in North Bay since 2007. At present she was a member of the Christ Church Anglican Church.

Due to COVID restrictions a private family service will be held at Christ Church Anglican Church in North Bay. In lieu of flowers, donations to Operation Eyesight, Stars Air Ambulance Service or Christ Church Anglican Church would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Martyn Funeral Home with online condolences at www.martynfh.com.



In Memory

FLOWERS: Elmer Clyde

In sad and loving memory of my dear husband, father and grandfather who passed away September 5, 2018.

*We made our vows together,
Joined in love to death do us part.
God came and took your hand.
My life fell apart.*

*No one knows the heartaches
I've tried so hard to hide.
No one knows how many times
I've broken down and cried.
I thank you for our children.
Without them I don't know what I'd do.
Each one in their own special way
Reminds me so much of you.
Looking back upon our lives,
The ups and downs, the good and bad.
I'm so happy you chose me to share with you
The precious years we had.*

Sadly missed and loving you forever in our hearts by wife Doris; sons: Clyde and Wayne; daughters: Carol and Darlene and grandchildren.

FLOWERS, Elmer Clyde

In loving memory of a precious father who passed away September 5, 2018.

*Dad – The day I was born I filled
your heart; the day you died you
emptied mine.
Dad's life is a beautiful memory.
His death is a silent grief.
He sleeps in God's
Beautiful garden
In sunshine of perfect peace,
We miss him, oh how much;
But realize God knew best.
He let us have him many years,
Then gently bade him rest.
Our Dad was the best.
He is our Guardian Angel.
He may be gone from our sight,
But he is always in our hearts.*

With all our love, daughter Carol and son-in-law Richard.

FLOWERS: Lloyd

In loving memory of our cherished son, father and brother who left us suddenly as a result of a car accident on September 5, 1979.

*He was taken without warning.
His death left hearts bitter with pain,
But although he is gone from amongst us
In our hearts he will remain.
Your memory to us is like the heart of a rose,
The older it gets the sweeter it grows.
We hold in our hearts the love of the past,
For it was planted forever to last.
In our hearts you will always live.
The dearest son, father and brother you could ever give.
Lord, please forgive if we ask why,
The thorn lives on and roses die.*

Too dearly loved to ever be forgotten by Mom; brothers Clyde and Wayne; sisters Carol and Darlene; and son Christopher.

**Card of Thanks, Birth Announcement,
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

**SUBMISSIONS FOR THIS
PAGE MUST BE IN OUR OFFICE
BY THURSDAY AT 4 P.M.**

FLOWERS: Lloyd Elmer

In loving memory of a dear brother who left us suddenly September 5, 1979, as the result of a car accident.

*The years may wipe out many things,
But this they'll wipe out never;
The memory of those happy days,
When we were all together.
We think of you in silence,
Your name we oft recall;
But there's nothing left to answer,
But your picture on the wall.
Just when your life was brightest,
Just when your hopes were best;
God called you from among us,
To a home of eternal rest.
You had a nature we could not help loving,
And a heart that was purer than gold;
And to those who knew you and loved you,
Your memory will never grow old.*

Lovingly remembered by sister Carol and brother-in-law Richard.

Congratulations on 90 years of exceptional service!

The IODE has recently disbanded after serving the community for more than 90 years! Family Ties would like to thank the IODE for their continued support over the last 25 years. Since inception in 1995 the IODE has always believed in our programming and understood that our community could benefit from the services offered at Family Ties.

The IODE has provided support to Family Ties in many ways over the years. In the early years I can still remember the homemade snacks the IODE prepared for the first children who attended Munchkin Mansion Playschool and the hand sewn cloth bags made for the Born to Read Program. They also helped to stock our library with new books and over the years have purchased a wide assortment of items for the Family Ties centre from vacuum cleaners to fridges and more.

I would like to congratulate the IODE on 90 years of service and I want you to know that Family Ties is grateful for your support and will never forget your generosity and community spirit.

Congrats and thank you on behalf of the entire community.

Heather MacWhirter
Executive Director Family Ties

**PURCHASE YOUR
ANNOUNCEMENT ONLINE AT
THEGASPESEC.COM**



**Four Generations
of Monument Craftsmen**

HIGHEST QUALITY - BEST PRICES
**MONUMENTS, MARKERS, CEMETERY LETTERING,
LASER DESIGNS AND PORTRAITS**

SALES REPS:

Steven Imhoff	418-752-6041
<i>Covering Port Daniel to New Richmond</i>	
Alexis Normandeau	418-759-3270
<i>Cascapedia-St-Jules</i>	

CLASSIFIEDS



FOR SALE: Two bedroom newly renovated 24' X 28' chalet at Lac Menard (situated behind New Carlisle/Paspébiac). Open concept. Serious inquiries only: 418-752-6041 and ask for Steven.

COAST ROUND-UP

GASPE:

Annual General Meeting
Notice is hereby given that the 2020 Annual Assembly of FADOQ – Région Gaspésie Îles-de-la-Madeleine will be held: **Thursday, September 3**, at 9:00 at the Club FADOQ le Croissant d'Or de Gaspé located at 75, boulevard de Gaspé.

NEW CARLISLE: Drive-In Gospel Meetings

at Fair Haven Bible Campgrounds, Sundays at 2:00 p.m. COVID-19 considerations/social distancing. Rain or shine. All are welcome - invite a friend! Sponsored by the New Carlisle Bible Chapel. For more information, please call 418-752-3372.

GASPE:

Gaspé Cancer Foundation

Members and supporters of the Gaspé Cancer Foundation are asked to please note that our office at the Gaspé Hospital has been temporarily closed due to COVID-19. To renew or become a member of the Foundation, please send your twelve dollar (\$12) payment to the address indicated below. For members who have travelled outside the region for treatment while we are closed, please send your referral paper(s) with your address and phone number to The Gaspé Cancer Foundation, CP 6078, Gaspé, Qc G4X 2R6. Your request will be processed and a cheque will be mailed to you.

ROTARY CLUB WINNERS

The winners for the week of August 16 are: John Lepointe, Pat St-Onge, Donald Cyr, Martin Gauvin, Patrick Cyr, Karen Imhoff and Thérèse Cyr.
The winners for the week of August 23 are: Pierre Dugas, Mike Geraghty, Vicky Cyr, Anita Leblanc, Sophie Gagnon, Josée Cormier and Gilles Gagné.



SEA-COAST PUBLICATIONS INC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please note that the Annual General Meeting for Sea-Coast Publications Inc. (The Gaspé SPEC) will take place at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, September 12, at the Municipal Hall in New Carlisle. Please wear a mask. To request a copy of the Annual Report or to submit a question or comment in advance please contact specs@globetrotter.net or visit the Spec office Wednesday or Thursday.

Please be advised that all **cheques**
must be made payable to
THE GASPÉ SPEC



ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, someone from your past may come back into your life this week in a good way. Don't be nervous about what he or she has to say. Everything will work out with the relationship.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, you have various options to consider at this time. Delay an important decision for a little while longer until you can narrow things down with a level head.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

An unexpected opportunity arrives this week, Gemini. It may be some good news you have been waiting for or it could be something you didn't see coming. Embrace it.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, enjoy how your mood changes when you enjoy some different scenery this week. A change in your perspective is sparked by a visit to an idyllic place.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Once you make a decision this week you have to stick with it and see it through, Leo. It can be challenging waiting for results, but be patient. The outcome will be known soon.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

A few things will be beyond your control this week, Virgo. However, you have many things that you can grab ahold of and make your own. Try a new creative project.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, even though you may be dishing out advice, others may not be inclined to take it. Don't be

offended by this. Not everyone is ready to make changes.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, sometimes you have to relinquish control and let others steer the boat. This may be a welcome relief because it lifts some pressure off of your shoulders.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, just when you thought it was a straight road ahead, life throws you a curveball. You're good at adapting, so you shouldn't have difficulties overcoming this challenge.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, once you establish your objective, you can plot out your plan. This approach can be applied to both big life changes or even smaller decisions.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you will attract more flies with honey than you will with vinegar. Consider your tone and delivery when speaking, tweaking things a bit if need be.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, every day may not be an adventure, but you have a knack for making daily life exciting. Find ways to share your joy.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS AUGUST 30

Cameron Diaz, Actress (48)

AUGUST 31

Jeff Hardy, Wrestler (43)

SEPTEMBER 1

Zendaya, Actress (24)

SEPTEMBER 2

Keanu Reeves, Actor (56)

SEPTEMBER 3

Jack Dylan Grazer, Actor (17)

SEPTEMBER 4

Damon Wayans, Comic (60)

SEPTEMBER 5

Michael Keaton, Actor (69)

MONUMENTS P. FOURNIER



GUARANTEED QUALITY
Tel: 418-892-5312
Cell: 418-355-4799
pfmonuments@gmail.com
641 Forillon Blvd, Gaspé, Que.

Since 1846
Tingley
Monuments
Limited
A Division of MGI

Nelson
MONUMENTS
SINCE 1909
A Division of MGI

**WE ALSO REPLACE
FOUNDATIONS, AND
PROVIDE CLEANING
AND REPAINTING.**

Grenier & Grenier LAWYERS



Réal Grenier, b.a.ll.l.
Jules Grenier, b.a.ll.l.

96 Gérard D. Levesque Blvd, P.O. Box 519
New Carlisle (Quebec) G0C 1Z0
Tel.: (418) 752-3308 • Fax (418) 752-6935



Tremblay & Barriault, notaires inc
Notaries & legal counsel

Gaël Tremblay, notary
Serge Barriault, notary

119B Perron Blvd West, New Richmond, Que.
Tel.: (418) 392-5282 • Fax: (418) 392-6155
E-mail: gaeltremblay@notarius.net

**FULLY
BILINGUAL
SERVICE**

Forage Moreau Inc.
418-392-9501
Mathieu Mercier - Driller/Owner



- Artesian Well Drilling
- Budgetary Price
- Bilingual Service
- RBQ: 5672-1467-01

foragemoreaumercier@gmail.com



By Appointment

Richard Ste Croix

Denturologist

Construction and repair of dentures.
We also make dentures on implants.

9 Adams Street, Gaspé Tel.: (418) 368-1525
Quebec G4X 1E5 Fax: (418) 368-1542



**GROUPE
OHMEGA
GROUP**

Going beyond and reliable since 1982



**Electricity - Plumbing
Automation
Industrial computing
Counter sales**

3 Rue Cerisiers
Gaspé, Québec G4X 2M1
Tel. (418) 368-5425
Fax (418) 368-7290
www.groupeohmega.com

Distributors of petroleum products: diesel, furnace oil, stove oil, gas and motor oil



**Les
Pétroles
C. Poirier inc.**

Proud to serve you!

HEAD OFFICE:

Bonaventure
125 Route 132
Bonaventure, QC G0C 1E0
Tel.: (418) 534-2777
Fax: (418) 534-4210
csc@petrolescipoirier.com

Chandler

125 Route Leblanc
Pabos, QC G0C 1K0
Tel: (418) 689-2595

Gaspé

216D Montée Sandy Beach
Gaspé, QC G4X 2B3
Tel.: (418) 368-8777



IN BUSINESS FOR OVER 35 YEARS

Masks work: Scientists say so

Who knew before COVID-19 that so many droplets of other people’s spit and other body fluids are flying around in the air and landing on items in stores? They are and they are still very capable of transmitting the virus. Who could have predicted a year ago that we would all own at least one mask and perhaps even be saying to others, “Ooh, I love your mask. It is super cute!”

It is a reality in 2020 and possibly for another year or two. Do not let down your guard now. Keep washing your hands, using sanitizer, wearing a mask and social distancing. If we do not continue

to protect ourselves and thereby protect others, this virus will continue to infect. If we flatten the curve (remember that curve?) all this can be behind us more quickly.

All masks are not created equal. The droplets can be transmitted not just by coughing and sneezing, but simply by talking. An effective mask is one that simply prevents droplets from spreading. Many people are making their own masks or buying online or in stores now that they are more available. Masks work. Masks protect. Masks block the tiny droplets, therefore, scientists and doctors recommend them. Scientific data has caused governments to make masks

mandatory. Best to listen to those who know, rather than your cousin’s neighbour’s opinion on facebook.

In an experiment carried out at Duke University, an optical laser was set up to determine how many of the droplets get through various styles of masks. People were asked to put on their masks and to repeat the phrase: “Stay healthy, people.” Almost 15 styles and materials were tested.

These scientists confirmed that droplets are spread when talking, and that some masks were better at blocking them. One fabric made the droplets multiply! Read on.

The N95 masks blocked the most but surgical masks, the



Three of the best types of masks include N95 (without a valve) surgical masks and cotton masks that have a pouch for a disposable filter.

Photo: D. Skinner

disposable ones you can now buy cheaply at many stores were a close second. (Important note: N95 masks that have a valve protect the wearer but not others and will therefore not stop the spread of COVID-19.) The mask that came in third place was a mask made of polypropylene. Polypropylene is a fabric made from a type of plastic.

However, if you have a mask made from cotton, especially one that you can add a filter to such as a piece of disposable shop toweling that can be cut to size and changed regularly, these are highly effective.

Some people wear cotton bandanas, (think of a guy robbing a stagecoach in an old western movie), but these are not an effective style of mask. They concluded that the worst

type of mask is one made of fleece. It is so bad, in fact, that it is better not to wear a mask than to wear one made of fleece. This is because the fleece makes the droplets multiply. If you are using a fleece mask throw it out today.

The best masks to use:
N95 (the kind with NO valve)
Surgical masks
Polypropylene masks
Cotton (Best style: Those with a pouch for a disposable filter)

Worst masks are:
Cotton bandanas (that are worn as a triangle and loose at the bottom)
Fleece Masks

Nothing has changed about COVID-19 – not its ability to spread, not its ability to make us sick and not, unfortunately, its ability in certain cases to kill.

“Hello September! Thank you for the reminder that change can be beautiful”

September is traditionally a busy month. Holidays are over, kids have returned to school and everybody is getting back to their routines. Activities such as cleaning out the garden, preparing for colder weather and maybe getting your firewood in the basement, remind us that the change of season is here. The autumn weather can already be felt in the air. Here is a little quiz to try out in between getting all the preparations done for the change of seasons. Feel free to look up the answers or to phone a friend!

- Diane Skinner

1. What is the September gemstone?
2. What is the September flower?
3. When does the Autumn Equinox begin?
4. More people are born in September than in any other month. True or false?
5. The first Monday in September is always _____.
6. September is the only month with the same number of letters in its name in English as the number of the month. True or false?
7. Groucho Marx said that his favourite poem begins “Thirty days hath September...” Can you recite the whole poem?
8. If you were born in September, what two signs of the Zodiac might you be?
9. The deadliest attack on United States soil took place in what month, day and year? Over 3,000 people lost their lives.
10. Shakespeare did not mention September in any of his 37 plays. True or false?
11. Finish this poem, “By all these lovely tokens, September days are here. With summer’s best of weather and _____.” (If you know the last line, great, but if not and you make up your own AND it rhymes, you get the point.)
12. Neil Sedaka recorded the song ‘Calendar Girl’ in 1960. He sings about his girl for each month of the year. What does he sing about her for September? “Light the candles at your sweet sixteen.” OR “They’ll let me take you to the junior prom.”
13. The Fall Equinox occurs on September 22. The word equinox comes from Latin and translates as “equal night.” What happens on September 22 that makes it an appropriately named equinox?
14. Lucy Maud Montgomery wrote a poem called ‘September.’ She was most famous for her fiction writing about a young girl named Anne. (with an e!) What is her most famous book?
15. Make at least 40 words by rearranging the letters in September.

Hello September Answers

1. Sapphire
2. Morning glory, forget-me-not, or aster
3. September 22
4. True
5. Labour Day
6. True
7. Thirty days hath September, April, June, and November, All the rest have thirty-one, But February’s twenty-eight, The LEAP YEAR, which comes
8. Virgo or Libra
9. September 11, 2001
10. True
11. Autumn’s best of cheer.
12. Light the candles at your sweet sixteen.
13. Twice a year, on September 22 and March 22 (this can vary by a day) when day time and nighttime are the same length.
14. Anne of Green Gables
15. Steeper, temper, beeper, beeper, pester, metres, metre, embers, ember, presel, esteem, berets, beret, peers, peer, trees, tree, terse, perms, perm, terms, term, tepees, tepee, spree, steer, reset, sleep, beet, beset, embers, ember, beeps, beep, beers, beer, seep, seem, trees, tree, step, bet, bet, seer, bees, bee, best, metres, mete, reps, rep, tees, tee, met, per.



JOB OFFER

Family Ties is searching for a Coordinator to implement a Canadian Heritage Cultural Project entitled “Now You See Us.”

The responsibility of the Coordinator is to increase the Official Language Minority Communities pride and sense of belonging in their community by inspiring English speakers of different ages from New Carlisle and surrounding area to develop or rediscover an interest in photography.

Qualifications:

- Strong communication skills: both oral and written
- Excellent writing and grammar skills required
- Dynamic, self-motivated, organized, self-reliant
- Must have a valid driver’s licence and have own means of transportation
- Computer skills necessary including the ability to create publications
- Flexible hours – evening and week-end work may be required
- Bilingualism will be considered an asset
- Successful applicants will be required to pass a police screening

Education / Work Experience

- Post-secondary education required
- Relevant work experience will be taken into consideration

Salary and Work Period:

- The salary of the coordinator is \$20 per hour
- 35 hours of work per week
- The duration of the work is from September 14th, 2020 until June 25th, 2021

We thank all candidates for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Please forward resumes to Heather MacWhirter at familyties@globetrotter.net no later than September 8th, 2020.

Debbie Sams: Music, painting and theatre

Diane Skinner

YORK: Debbie Sams, daughter of Calvin Savidant and Mary Ellen Drody, was born in 1950 and lived in York with her parents; sister Susan; and grandparents, Edward and Georgina in the Savidant home. She attended Gaspé High School and took a hairdressing course in Montreal. She opened her own beauty salon in York and has been serving the public for 51 years and hairdressing at Mgr. Ross for over 30 years. She married Hayden Sams and built a home, also in York, and raised two sons, Todd and Ryan, who both moved to Ottawa to work and have since married and each have a child of their own.

Music was always a big part of her life. She can remember, as a little girl, when the family would have visitors, which seemed to be a common occurrence, her mom was always asked to sing. So, she would bring out the guitar and sing some old Irish Ballads. She had such a beautiful voice and sang with such feeling, that Debbie would often hide so she wouldn't cry. Her mom began singing at the St. Patrick's Concert by the age of 14 and Cottage by the Sea was her signature song.

Debbie began taking piano lessons at age nine or ten, from an English lady, a war bride, who was a neighbour, Mrs. Julia Vardon. She only stuck with it for a couple years. Her dad bought her an accordion, and Deb soon began accompanying the fiddlers at family gatherings. She also accompanied other fiddlers at concerts as well, such as Mr. Joe Howell and Leigh Stewart and, of course, began playing along with her mom as she sang.

Debbie's piano sort of fell by the wayside for quite some time, until she volunteered to play at church because, unexpectedly, they had no pianist. To say the least, she had to spend some time doing a crash "refresher course" and



spent many hours learning a lot of old traditional hymns. She found a new passion for the "ivories" and before long, began teaching piano to a friend's daughter, and it began to snowball, and soon she had seven students.

About twenty years ago, a few gals, who enjoyed singing, decided to get together on a regular basis and formed the group Friends in Song. With Karen Briand, Linda Drody, Suzanne Briand and Debbie Patterson, they started singing gospel and folk songs. Then Sharon Howell added her lovely voice to the group. Over the years they have touched on several genres, and lately the Irish songs have suddenly become popular. Kathy Kennedy joins when she is taking a break from teaching in Montreal.

Recently they were asked to participate in a couple of facebook live shows, which have become very popular during this COVID time, one being Women of the Coast on July 30, hosted by Dave Felker of the Gaspesian Way and Glenn Patterson of A Different Tune.

"I feel fortunate to have been a part of such a successful broadcast which has had 9.5 thousand viewers up to this point. The other facebook live show was The Brysonville Schoolhouse Re-

visited on Aug. 7 from Ormstown, Quebec. As I write this, I am thinking of a performance we are doing tomorrow (August 25) in Shigawake for a documentary they are making as part of the Shigawake Music Festival to be launched in November."

Usually they get together to have some laughs and keep it fun. Debbie says that if some good stuff comes out of it, well, that's a bonus. She mostly plays the keyboard, because it is like having a band with the rhythm and percussion.

They have had performances to raise funds for the Gaspé Cancer Foundation, entertained at Mgr. Ross (the San as most people know it) and other seniors' residences, and also shows at the little church in Cape Cove and Corner of the Beach Cultural Museum. From time to time they are fortunate to have some great musicians join them, like Don Barclay who plays exquisite guitar or Glenn Patterson on fiddle and lately Kathy Kennedy on guitar. This allows Debbie to play accordion or the Irish drum, the Bodhran.

Debbie tells Spec that she hears stories about how music was so prevalent in Douglastown a few generations ago. There were many good fiddlers, best known are Erskine Morris and Joe

Drody. The Irish thread ran deep, and their music was a mainstay at kitchen parties and dances. Every community had their dance hall and the Douglastown fiddlers were always willing to provide the jigs. Of course, there was no TV, so people were more sociable, even though they worked extremely hard, with no modern conveniences. Debbie's Papa (Joe Drody) always had time on the weekends to take the fiddle off the wall, and play a few tunes while her Gramma put on a big pot of stew because you never knew when someone would pop in for a visit. Debbie says, "Those were the days, my friend!"

Painting

Debbie has also done many paintings, mostly acrylic and she is self-taught. She started doing sketches of movie stars in charcoal when she was 14. She then tried her hand at painting landscapes, starting with oils, but then switched to acrylics.

She hasn't done many paintings in the last few years except for family but has sold many in the past which are dispersed from coast to coast and she has given many as wedding gifts.

She has a painting of the Saint James Church of Wakeham in the *G is for Gaspé* book of paintings put out by CASA in 2011. She thought the COVID "Life on Pause" period, as she calls it, would get her back to painting, but she had decided a few years back, that she wanted to learn to play the fiddle so most of her leisure time has been spent in her practice room.

Acting

Debbie recounts, "I believe it was 1992, when I was asked by Albert Patterson to play a major role in a play put on for the Wakeham-York Homecoming Festival. The play was Aaron Slick from Pumpkin Crick, a two-hour comedy production which was presented as a dinner show at Gaspé Elementary.

David Letemplier was Aaron Slick, a slow-witted farmer and I played the straight lady. We played to a packed hall and I remember Tim Belford from Quebec AM sitting in the front row laughing so hard he was wiping away tears! It was such a fun time with a great cast. There were many lines to memorize, but we all became so at ease with it over the months of practice, that we were playing practical jokes on each other on stage, to try and throw each other off.

Many laughs rang out that night. In fact, the play was so popular that we took it on the road and performed it at five schools as a fundraiser for them, props and all!

Four years later, David and I wrote a sequel, Return to Pumpkin Crick another two-hour production and it was again a dinner theatre production and received very enthusiastically. After all, who doesn't love to have some real belly laughs?"

Pandemic

Debbie's thoughts on this pandemic: "I think it has had both good and bad effects on people in general. The worse of course is the loss of lives, and the loneliness felt especially by the shut-ins, cut off from family and friends.

On the up side, most people have come to appreciate what they have lost, their freedom to do whatever, whenever, without preplanning every move, looking forward to a real good hug from a friend or family member, appreciating the simpler things again, enjoying a walk and appreciating our scenery.

Music has had a revival. People are learning to play that instrument that they had no time for before they take up a new hobby. Baking bread has been on the rise (pardon the pun) and people take time to pick up the phone and call a friend. Even the earth is breathing a sigh of relief with less pollution. So, until we can have a real hug, stay safe, my friends."



5727

ASSET-BASED 3PL

Powered by **Integrity**. Driven to be **Different**.

gaspe@shipENERGY.com
shipENERGY.com | 1-866-530-9555



AN APPROACH THAT PAYS!

Société de comptables professionnels agréés

ASSOCIATES

ALPHONSE BERNARD, FCPA, FCA
CLAUDE BERNARD, CPA, CA
HÉLÈNE LAGACÉ, BAA

alphonsebernard.ca
CARLETON-SUR-MER
418-364-7471
CPA



DIANE LEBOUTHILLIER

MP • Gaspésie—Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine

Serving the English-speaking community of our beautiful region!

Grande-Rivière office 418 385-4264	Magdalen Islands office 418 986-1489
Sainte-Anne-des-Monts office 418 764-2890	New Richmond office 581 355-0060

Email: diane.lebouthillier@parl.gc.ca