

Port Daniel's last restaurant finds tenant

Gilles Gagné

PORT DANIEL – Closed at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, L'Étale, the last restaurant in Port Daniel was put up for sale over the spring by its owner, Alain Cormier, who was not operating it. The operator did not want to run a restaurant while managing pandemic constraints.

L'Étale was Port Daniel's last restaurant. Just a few years ago, there were three restaurants open for business in the village. For now, Mayor Henri Grenier is not too preoccupied by the situation.

"There are two canteens with a dining room in Gascons and they are open year round.



Construction CRT is renting the former restaurant operated under the name l'Étale as recently as last winter. The operator closed it as consequence of the COVID crisis. The photo was taken in July.

Photo: G. Gagné

As for L'Étale, I don't know if there are potential buyers. The building remained empty for several months but CRT, the construction contractor in

charge of repairing the railway bridge in front of the restaurant, will rent it for a certain period. The 'For Sale' sign remains there," says Mr. Grenier.

CRT Construction presented the lowest bid on the Port-Daniel bridge contract. The tender they sent to Transports Québec was

\$15,449,000, well ahead of Hamel Construction, at \$17,971,779. CRT is familiar with the Gaspé Peninsula since they were involved in the construction of two silos at the Port Daniel cement plant four years ago.

In addition to renting the restaurant building, CRT also brought to Port Daniel a big construction trailer, parked near the bridge as well. The contract will take more than a year to carry out. The pillars need thorough refurbishment and the task is complicated by the salmon moving up the Port Daniel River.

CRT has slightly more than 50 years of experience in the construction sector.

Town of Gaspé to receive \$818,000 from Quebec government as COVID-related compensations

Gilles Gagné

GASPÉ – The Town of Gaspé will receive \$818,000 from the Quebec government as compensation for the additional expenses generated by the measures related to dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. The amount was announced by the town administration at the October 13 municipal meeting.

The first installment of the compensation payment will be made in December, for an amount of \$500,000, while the \$318,000 balance will be paid in March.

Mayor Daniel Côté expresses satisfaction regarding the amount for now, considering that it is too early to determine how much the pandemic will add to the total expenses of the town for the fiscal year that will end on March 31, 2021.

"Those expenses are known to be for signage, the acquisition of many computers for the employees now working from home, the licences necessary to hold regular videoconferences, the extra hours worked by the municipal staff, disinfection products and the tax rev-



The new tax assessment in 2021 might spell a decreasing value for some businesses and decreasing taxes for the Town of Gaspé.

Photos: G. Gagné

enues we will lose from the businesses that will experience revenue shortcomings," explains Mr. Côté.

"For now, the whole sum of \$818,000 covers more than the expenses currently engaged because of the COVID crisis. I cannot complain about the amount. However, we will only know if the amount suffices next year. It might not," he adds. A new tax assessment will be determined in Gaspé in 2021.

"The assessment firm could explain the issue better than me but I understand that the businesses that have

experienced a decline in sales this year will likely be evaluated less for a period starting in 2021. If they are valued less, the municipal tax bill will also decrease, since a part of it is based on that value. Some hotels and restaurants had a rough going over the spring, during the shutdown called by the government," adds Mr. Côté.

The summer was excellent for the tourist sector but overall, since the beginning of the pandemic, some businesses have lost sales, he points out.

"The economy of Gaspé remains strong though. LM

Wind Power is going well, the shipyards are working at full capacity and we are expecting some economic development announcements in the near future. The weakness is the retail sector, hit hard by online sales, like everywhere else. Since the beginning of the pandemic, I have not seen one business closure in Gaspé. We have in fact witnessed the opening of new businesses, a bakery, a specialized shop for bicycles and one grocery store, in Petit-Cap, was bought and reopened after last year's closure. The queue is so long at the bakery when I go there that I have not been able to taste that bread until now," says Mayor Côté.

No money for the airport so far

Over the spring, Daniel Côté estimated that the Town of Gaspé would likely lose \$1 million dollars of revenue because approximately 95% of the municipal airport activities came to a halt when the COVID alert was issued, on March 12.

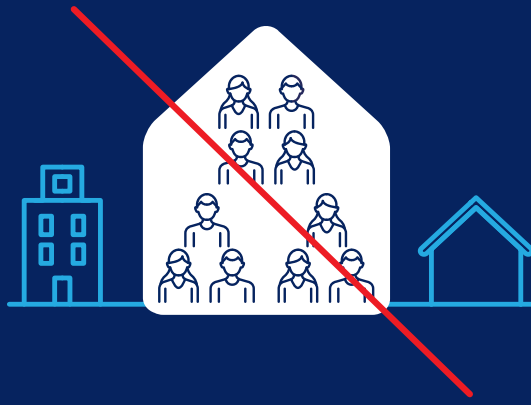
The coming of Pascan in September as a replacement for Air Canada will alleviate

that burden.

"Pascan's presence will significantly minimise the losses but it remains an important shortcoming. We don't have the exact amount for now. We had to keep the airport fully open for the ambulance aircraft and later for the SOPFEU (forest fires) and SOPFIM (forest spraying against budworm). Oddly, we used municipal funds in part to satisfy Quebec government services. So we expect compensations," says Daniel Côté.

Will the airport compensations come from the federal or the provincial governments?

"It will likely come from both levels of government but as a municipality, we are not entitled to talk to Ottawa (the federal government) for that purpose. We must talk to the Quebec government, which will represent us at the federal level. We are part of the Réseau Québécois des aéroports (Quebec's Network of Airports) and that organization can talk to Ottawa. The UMQ (Union des municipalités du Québec) can also talk on our behalf. We will see how it goes," says Daniel Côté.



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Isaac Moffat-Swason, 30, from Listuguj who is charged with several violent crimes, still hasn't acquired a lawyer. He appeared in court again on October 9 through a videoconference and informed Quebec Court Judge Andrée Saint-Pierre that he still had not found a lawyer to represent him. His next court appearance will take place on November 5 in New Carlisle. Legal aid lawyer Richard Lavigne mentioned to the tribunal that he will try to help the accused.

Isaac Moffat-Swason faces charges in two different files. The October 9 court appearance was to deal with the damage he allegedly caused on April 30, 2019, at the New Carlisle prison. He is charged with causing damage exceeding \$5,000.

Isaac Moffat-Swason was in prison in April 30, 2019, because he had previously been charged criminally in another file. On February 21, 2019, he allegedly committed an armed robbery, a forcible confinement and uttered three death threats in Listuguj. The case is postponed until December 9, a date initially set for the beginning of a judge and jury trial. However, the trial is postponed, considering the accused's search for a lawyer. The trial will be presided over by Judge Raymond W. Pronovost.

The accused will be remanded in custody until the end of the procedure, due to the nature of the crimes. For now, he is imprisoned at the Bordeaux Penitentiary in Montreal.

An investigation into a May 20, 2020, hit and run causing serious injuries to a Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé woman led to several arrests October 13 by the Sûreté du Québec (SQ) detachment of the Percé Rock MRC. The injured woman was struck by a side-by-side ATV driven by a man who had just had a harsh verbal exchange with the victim and her friend on the couple's property.

"The side-by-side vehicle literally passed over the 60-year-old woman, who sustained serious injuries. She was then hospitalized. Her injuries were not life-threatening but they caused a lot of problems to her," explains Sgt. Claude Doiron, spokesperson for the SQ.

The driver and his passenger fled the property. Close to five months of inquiry has led to the arrest of Michaël Athot, 24, and Julie Laurencelle, 28 at their Val D'Espoir home.

They appeared at the Percé courthouse on October 14. Michaël Athot faces four charges of driving while his permit was suspended, one charge of hit and run causing bodily harm, one count of aggravated assault, one count of assault with a weapon, one count of obstructing the work of police officers and one charge of mischief causing damage below \$5,000 of a SQ car, during arrest. Julie Laurencelle faces three charges of driving while her permit was suspended, and a charge of complicity in the hit and run causing bodily harm file.

Michaël Athot and Julie Laurencelle were remanded in custody between their arrest and their court appearance. Judge Richard Côté decided to keep them in prison after the laying of charges. The bail hearing for Julie Laurencelle will be on October 26 and Michaël Athot's on November 30. Judge Côté imposed a communication ban, so they cannot talk to each other until further instructions.

On October 14, Rachel Poulin, 49, from Cape Cove was also arrested. She faces charges of complicity after the crime in the file of hit and run causing bodily harm. She is Michaël Athot's mother. She was released after being charged and will return to court on October 26.

Julie Laurencelle already had a hit and run record. On August 6, 2017, she was driving a car that struck and killed Luce Hautcoeur, 62, from Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé. She first entered a plea of not guilty, only to plead guilty on January 29, 2019. Judge Janick Poirier had imposed a sentence of six-months less three days of prison. Laurencelle turned herself in a few hours after the collision. At the time, she did not have a criminal record.

Sûreté du Québec officers from the Avignon MRC detachment and the major crime squad from Chandler conducted a drug bust in a Petite-Rivière-du-Loup Road building on October 8 in Pointe-à-la-Croix, where they dismantled a greenhouse installation for hydroponic cannabis growing. The building was a former garage. "On location, the police officers seized all the equipment. We are talking about highly sophisticated equipment and devices. It took a long time to dismantle it safely. We needed a truck to put everything inside. A 47-year-old man was arrested and questioned by our investigators. He was released and will be summoned to appear in court later. The date is not determined yet," explains Sgt. Claude Doiron. Up to 182 mature cannabis plants were also seized. The suspect will likely face charges of illegal production of drugs and possession of drugs for the purpose of trafficking.

On October 13, Sûreté du Québec officers from the Côte-de-Gaspé detachment conducted a drug bust in a house on Seventh Street in Murdochville. They discovered and seized 200 methamphetamine pills, 150 grams of cannabis and several firearms that were stored illegally. A truck was also seized. Stéphane Boucher, 50, was arrested and he appeared at the Sainte-Anne-des-Monts courthouse on October 14 to face charges of drug trafficking and illegal storage of firearms. The 43-year-old woman living in the same house was also arrested, questioned but she was released. She will be summoned to appear in court later. That operation was conducted after the police received information from the public.

COVID-19 progression stays stable but slowly moves east in the Gaspé Peninsula

Gilles Gagné

MARIA – The progression of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Gaspé Peninsula and the Magdalen Islands was fairly stable during the week of October 9 to 16, as the number of cases per week went from 128 cases to 129. The coronavirus claimed four lives during the week though, one more than over the week of October 2 to 9.

The last week of September had been characterized by the addition of 131 cases, the worst such total so far. It represents a daily average of a bit over 18 cases. Since the beginning of the pandemic's second wave, the coronavirus has killed 14 people in the region, more in three weeks than during the first three months, from mid-March to mid-June, during which nine people died.

During the week of October 9 to 16 the total number of COVID-19 cases reported since March went from 549 to 678. While the October 10 to October 12 stretch was marked by daily increments of 27, 20 and 26 cases, those three days were followed by smaller addition of 11, 15, 14 and 16 cases.

There was also a geographical shift in COVID occurrence during the second week of October. The coronavirus cases remained higher in the Avignon MRC on a daily basis until October 9 inclusively. The Bonaventure MRC, whose numbers had been increasing slightly since the beginning of October, took the unenviable lead of daily cases. For example, on October 16, out of 16 regional cases, nine were based in the Bonaventure MRC, three each for Avignon and Percé and one for the Côte-de-Gaspé MRC.

There were not many positive points noteworthy during the week of October 9 to 16, but the number of people who recovered increased sharply. The October 16 number of 25 was following strong days of 34 and 25. The average of the four previous days was 10. The number of recovered cases for the week nevertheless stayed under the number of new cases, 124 compared to 129.

While the proportion of active cases concentrated in the Avignon MRC represented 62.4% and 79.2% of the regional cases during the first week of October and the last week of September respectively, that proportion dropped again, to 45.6% after the second week of October. The

number of active cases in real terms went from 141 to 103 between October 9 and October 16.

On the other hand, the proportion of active cases located in the Bonaventure MRC compared to the regional total went from 17.26% to 32.3%, almost double, between the conclusion of the first and second weeks of October, or from 39 to 73 in real terms.

The number of active cases in the Percé Rock MRC increased too, from 25 to 37 during the same period. In the Côte-de-Gaspé MRC, it fell from 12 to 10. The Haute-Gaspésie MRC and the Magdalen Islands had three active cases as of October 16. Those three cases were not attributed to a specific area because it is inferior to five.

Regionally, the number of active cases reached 226 on October 9, and exactly the same number a week later. However, it attained a high of 267 cases on October, before decreasing.

New outbreaks

The second week of October was marked by two new outbreaks, first on October 11 at the Maria hospital and the following day at the New Carlisle d'Accueil (publicly-owned long-term care facility).

As of October 16, five employees of the facility had been infected. As for the Centre d'Accueil, six employees and less than five residents had tested positive for the coronavirus.

The New Carlisle municipal administration reacted to the rising number of cases in the Bonaventure MRC by waiting before calling arena workers back to work.

"Legally, we have not closed the municipal buildings but we are reducing our activities. We have not closed our two meetings rooms, which each have a capacity of 20 people seated, but the people who had planned activities there recently cancelled them," stated the Town of New Carlisle Director General Denise Dallain on October 16.

The arena was supposed to open on October 28. "We are waiting. It is on hold. We will not take chances. We will follow the advice of Mr. Legault (Quebec Premier François). We are also keeping an eye on the situation of the neighbouring towns. We have signed agreements with Bonaventure for the pool and with Paspebiac for the public library and the arena.

Those facilities are closed and we understand that. The number of cases was increasing in the MRC. As for New Carlisle, besides the cases linked to the CHSLD (seniors' residence), I am not aware of other infection cases," adds Ms. Dallain.

In Port Daniel-Gascons, Mayor Henri Grenier reported on October 16 that there were approximately 20 cases in the town, including 11 cases at Le Phare school.

"Our town meeting was held without the public. The town hall, the arena (in Gascons) and the library are closed. The community centre in Gascons is still under renovation and remains closed," he said.

In Maria, the owner of the Manoir Lady Maria private residence, Francis Vadnais, issued a press release on October 13 to specify that his enterprise will collaborate with the investigation undertaken by the Complaint Commissioner, that body will try to shed light on the circumstances of the passing of Aurèle Dubé.

The death of Mr. Dubé was reported at the beginning of October. He was a resident of Manoir Lady Maria but he contracted the coronavirus. His confused state, diagnosed prior to COVID-19, complicated the task of Lady Maria's staff. The management of the residence twice sent Mr. Dubé to the emergency of the Maria hospital, asking the institution to keep him as his case was too heavy for Lady Maria. The management did not identify Mr. Dubé in the press release but the case was already well-documented.

Meanwhile, as a result of the New Brunswick government decision to end the inclusion of Listuguj and Pointe-à-la-Croix in the Restigouche region bubble, the 100 or so Native students attending Sugarloaf High School in Campbellton must attend school virtually. That situation was not supposed to happen following the October 8 decision communicated by Premier Blaine Higgs, considering that educational services to the Listuguj students were supposed to continue.

The Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government was trying to clarify the situation as of October 16. A day earlier, that authority had reported the first COVID case in Listuguj. The band administration office was closed as a precaution. The number of cases had also increased in Campbellton during previous days.



Guest Commentary

Cynthia Dow

Remembering October 1970

I was 13 years old when the events of October 1970, now known as the October Crisis, unfolded. It was a rude awakening for an innocent teenager to the realities of social injustice, the intricacies of national and provincial politics, and growing ethnic nationalism in Quebec.

One of my most vivid memories was of a day shortly after the British Trade Commissioner, James Cross, had been kidnapped. I was walking down the road from my Uncle Gerald's general store in New Richmond West to my home. At that time, the road was part of the main highway around the Peninsula, so there was always lots of traffic. A car went whizzing by at an especially high speed, barely missing me.

And my first thought was, "Do they know this is an English neighbourhood? Do they know I'm English, and they want to kill me?"

I remember that our family felt like sitting ducks in the sight of guns we could not see.

I remember visiting Montreal that month, or per-

haps it was early November. My sister lived not far from the football field at McGill, which is perched on the side of Mount Royal. My brother and I were running up through the trees towards the football field when we were met with soldiers carrying guns! The army was using the football field as a helicopter pad... it was not a comfortable feeling.

In my youthful ignorance, I knew little about the situation unfolding. I knew of course that there were tensions sometimes between English-speaking and French-speaking Quebecers, but that felt so far away from us: our little neighbourhood was inhabited almost exclusively by English-speaking farmers, and we went to the Protestant, (ie English) school so, as children, we had very little contact with the French population all around us.

Suddenly that isolation felt very scary. What was going on? How did our francophone neighbours really feel about us? Were we caught up in what would become a violent revolution?

It was an uneasy time around the world. Violent revolution and civil unrest were rocking the world in Asia, the Middle East, Europe and the United States. Students were demonstrating, police and politicians were pushing back against the changing times. And those fighting for social justice in Quebec were not immune to the winds of change sweeping around the globe.

The Quiet Revolution which had started at the end of the Duplessis regime was obviously not making change happen fast enough. Many opinion leaders in Quebec saw francophone Quebecers as a beleaguered and ill-used majority at the mercy of English bosses who did not speak their language or respect their culture. They wanted their majority status reflected in the language spoken on the job, in the street signs,

in the cultural dynamic. And who can blame them?

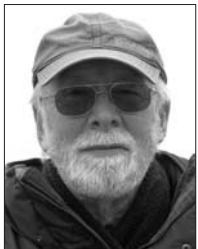
But turning around an unjust system takes time. While the Quiet Revolution had started to see dividends, such as narrowing the gap in income between French-speaking Quebecers and their anglophone counterparts and the nationalization of the majority of the hydro-electric network, much remained to be done to secure the francophone population and their language in the face of an overwhelming sea of English-speaking North Americans.

And so, some young people decided to take matters into their own hands and use violent means to push for change. In killing Pierre Laporte, however, the FLQ quickly lost the popular support they had at first enjoyed.

I don't really remember how my own fears died down as the days passed, the FLQ cell members were apprehended, and our lives went back to "a new normal." Doesn't that phrase sound familiar? Things would never quite be the same in Quebec again.

What occurs to me now is that the only other time I have seen soldiers in the streets of Montreal was during the Oka Crisis of 1990. I was living there at the time and was outraged by the treatment of the Indigenous people. The Oka Crisis proved another political minefield between Quebec and Ottawa, again with ethnic divisions as a basis.

Have we learned to live with and embrace our differences peacefully while we work for social justice for all? Or will young people still lose patience from time to time and take to the barricades? What advances have we made in social justice for Indigenous people in this province, in this country? Given what happened to Joyce Echaquan, it's obvious there is still a long road ahead of us on the way to true equality.



Fred Kirch

An election sailing in uncharted waters

Unlike Canada's parliamentary system, where the timing of the holding of national elections is decided by the Prime Minister, national elections in the United States are held every four years, on the first Tuesday in November. This year, that will be November 3.

Next month, the presidency, vice presidency, all of the members of the House of Representatives, who serve for two years, and one-third of the Senators, who serve for six years will be on the ballot. At issue, will be control of the executive and legislative branches of government and indirectly the judicial branch, since the Senate approves, among other things, the lifetime appointment of federal judges.

The simplest outcome of the election would be that things remain as they are, which seems unlikely. The Republicans would continue to control the presidency and the Senate and the Democrats would continue to control the House, which has not worked well in the past.

Another possibility would be that president Donald Trump would be re-elected but the Democrats would gain control of both the House and the Senate and thus there would be a stalemate between the executive and legislative branches for the next four years.

It seems unlikely that this will happen either because surprisingly, Trump's antics and incompetent handling of the pandemic and the resulting economic recession have put control of the Senate in play, which was not anticipated a few months ago.

While the focus is properly on the presidential race, the Senate is particularly important because the Senators approve important executive and judicial appointments and can stymie legislation adopted by the House, as they have over 400 times during the past two years.

At this point, the Senate agenda is controlled by one person, the leader of the Republican majority, whose primary interest has been to pack the courts with as many ideologically-acceptable judges as he is able to do, which directly affects the work of the courts.

It is clear that this election will be consequential and not without controversy.

The Republicans are already doing what they can to discourage voters from voting, described as "voter suppression," by such things as disqualifying them based on flimsy pretexts; limiting the number of voting sites causing hours-long delays to vote; placing polling places where there is no public transportation; placing phony ballot collection boxes falsely labeled as "official" ballot collection points and even slowing the mail service in order to delay the delivery of mail-in ballots.

Despite these obstacles, the number of persons registering to vote this year and those voting early, which is permitted in many states, are at an all-time high, even where voters must stand in line for hours in order to vote.

For months, Trump has been telling his followers that the election is rigged against him, without any evidence to support his claim. For him, any outcome other than his re-election would be fraudulent.

After a few months of this, he began to focus on what is described as absentee or mail-in voting as the probable cause. This is where a ballot is sent to the voter, who returns it by mail. It is interesting to note that absentee voting has been done since the election of 1864 and there has never been a major fraud.

Although paradoxically, Trump and his family members submit their votes by mail, he claims that mailed-in votes would be the basis for a massive fraud designed to steal the election from him. There is absolutely no evidence to support his claim. He has, however, systematically planted the seeds of doubt as to the legitimacy of the election among his followers to the point where they are threatening violence if the election does not go his way.

His claim of fraud is instrumental to his election strategy. If the results go against him, he will immediately be in court to disqualify the mailed-in votes and the result of the election would become unknown for

the weeks that it would take for the courts to address the cases.

There are more complicated ways that the election could go sideways.

There is the arcane "electoral college," which made it possible for the last two Republican presidents, George W. Bush and Trump, to lose the popular vote by wide margins and still become president.

Typically, in a democracy, whoever receives the most votes wins. This is not the case in the US for presidential elections, where there is an intervening step; the electoral college.

Each state has a certain number of electors in the college, based on the number of members of the House of Representatives from that state, which are apportioned by population, plus the two Senators in the state, for a total of 538.

Generally, the presidential candidate who receives the most votes in each state gets to select the electors from that state who vote in the college. The goal is for a candidate to gain a majority in the college

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Distillery project almost ready to kick off, six months late because of the pandemic

Gilles Gagné

CAPLAN – Back in February, Joseph Saint-Denis-Boulanger was working at a fast pace in order to make sure that his project, the *Distillerie des Marigots*, would be up and running on time for the then coming Gaspé Peninsula tourist season, at the end of May or the beginning of June.

Eight-and-a-half months later, he now targets opening the distillery at the end of November, so before the Christmas break. That opening will have, therefore, been delayed by six months because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The saga pertaining to the fabrication, the transport and the installation of his equipment, the alembic (a distilling apparatus) essentially explains that delay, as well as a few collateral damage elements.

“The alembic comes from France. The manufacturer was forced to stop for a while because of COVID. Then, the subcontractor fabricating the transport wooden cases closed too. There was no other way to carry the equipment. We had to wait until June 5 before seeing the French manufacturer putting the equipment in boxes. The transport companies were also hauling quite slowly. The first ship supposed to leave with our equipment was refused departure. The second ship finally left on July 27, while the equipment was supposed to arrive here in April! Moreover, the second ship also had to call at Liverpool,” explains Mr. Saint-Denis-Boulanger.

He was not finished dealing with transportation trouble after the ship crossed the Atlantic Ocean and the subsequent delivery of the equipment to the new building overlooking the Bay of Chaleur, in the east part of Caplan.

After two weeks of navigation, the cargo liner reached the port of Montreal this summer, the very day the shipyard worker’s strike began.

“It took two weeks to settle the strike. The alembic was delivered here at the beginning of September. We then had another puzzle piece to bring in, the technician able to install it,” stresses Joseph Saint-Denis-Boulanger.

The French technician came to Quebec to install two alembics, one in Montreal and the Caplan one. On September 28, Joseph Saint-Denis-Boulanger’s heart nearly stopped when the technician told him that he was forced to go back to France.

“He had omitted to say that he had to come to Caplan, in the papers he had to fill. There was a high COVID alert in Montreal, but it was not the case here. I had to fight over that issue all week in order (for the authorities) to allow him to come here. I went to Montreal in order to bring him here. We arrived on Sunday (October 4) in Caplan,” adds the young entrepreneur.

“I have watched him work and he is the only one who could have installed it. I don’t know what we would have done had he gone back to France. I would have had to be very creative. I would have been forced to hire an electro-technician, who would not have been familiar with the equipment, and they would have had to talk on Face Time. I was ready to go that far, had he gone back to France. It would have been very long though, putting everything together,” insists Joseph Saint-Denis-Boulanger about the brass alembic.

He mentions having feared for the future of his project when the French technician called to say that he had to go back to France, considering the magnitude of the pandemic’s second wave. The *Distillerie des Marigots* represents an investment of \$1.6 million for the young engineer, who is supported in his endeavour by his girlfriend, who comes from Montreal.

The couple settled in Ca-



Photo: G. Gagné

Joseph Saint-Denis-Boulanger is confident that his gin will be ready at the end of November. Gin doesn’t require a long aging period but involves many adjustments to reach the desired taste.

plan after six years together in Montreal. She is an expert in health care quality control. He is a trained mechanical engineer who decided to become an entrepreneur.

They expressed a desire for rural life after spending some time here in the summer of 2018, after losing a baby at the end of a pregnancy. The couple was much luckier with their second baby, Louisiane, who is now starting to walk.

“Opening six months later than expected forced me to make cash flow adjustments but the project remains at \$1.6 million. The bills are coming in but not the revenues. The herbs and spices are bought a year ahead. Everything costs more, with the pandemic,” he says.

The gin he will produce over the next few weeks is already coveted. “The SAQ ordered 200 cases. They are waiting for me to deliver. I am lucky. A lot of other distilleries waited for liquor orders from the SAQ and here, I am experiencing the opposite (situation),” he explains, referring to

the publicly owned *Société des alcools du Québec*.

The first distillation test will be launched with 1,500 litres of beer from the Naufrageur microbrewery in Carleton.

“We will run three distillation batches of 500 litres. It will yield about 200 litres of a sort of white whiskey. It will be sold

in collaboration with Naufrageur. After this, I will start the distillation of gin,” he points out.

“I have so far made distillation tests with one litre, then with 50 but now, I must run them with 500 litres. It will take two weeks of stabilization to reach the desired taste. For certain ingredients, going from 50 to 500 litres is rather linear. For others, it is not the case. We cannot apply the rule of three (in mathematics). I must find the right scale and it requires adjustments,” he underlines.

A lot of his herbs needed are found in nature on the Gaspé Peninsula.

A whiskey will be added to the products of the *Distillerie des Marigots* but in that case, the consumers will have to be more patient. “It takes at least three years of maturing, adds the Gaspesian entrepreneur, who will be the only employee of the business for a while, “with supporters coming for packaging purposes.”

The word “marigots” derives from a local expression, “*courir les marigots*” that implies very little running (*courir*) because it means hiding to avoid work. For a fisherman for example, it would mean finding a cove and taking it easy instead of going at sea.



CALL FOR TENDERS—SNOW REMOVAL

- Snow clearing/shoveling: front entrance, back deck and side stairway
- Snow must be removed no later than 7:30 a.m. and when required at lunch
- November 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021
- Tenders will be received until Friday, October 23, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

The lowest, or any quotation will not necessarily be accepted. CASA reserves the right to award the contract in any manner it may choose.

All sealed tenders must be clearly marked as to the contents and submitted to:

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New Richmond office
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Email: diane.lebouthillier@parl.gc.ca

diane

The health of others is in our hands COVID Alert app



The COVID Alert app is a complementary tool that you can use to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus. It lets you know if you have been in contact with a person who has contracted COVID-19. You will receive a notification and recommendations if you have spent more than 15 minutes less than two metres away from someone who has tested positive in the past 14 days. The app is free, easily accessible and keeps your personal information safe.

The app does not replace health measures such as handwashing, social distancing and wearing a mask.



Votre
gouvernement

COVID Alert does the following three things:

- 1 Notifies you if you might have been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- 2 Directs you to relevant information concerning the steps to follow after you receive the exposure notification.
- 3 If you test positive, informs other users, anonymously and without sharing personal information, that they were in contact with someone who reported a positive COVID-19 test through the app.

COVID Alert does not do the following:

- 1 Access, collect or archive your personal information or information on your health status;
- 2 Use the GPS on your device to determine your location or any other personal information.

Use of the COVID Alert app is completely voluntary. You are free to download it, use it or delete it. **The more people use the app, the more effective it will be in curbing transmission of the virus.**

How does it work?

The COVID Alert app runs in the background on your device, without hampering or interrupting your activities. The app uses Bluetooth on smartphones to determine how far away you are from other people using the app.

Every five minutes, it exchanges random codes with app users nearby. The random codes cannot be used to identify you or determine your location. It stores the codes on your phone for 14 days.

Every day, when your device connects to the Internet, the COVID Alert app will match your random codes and those of individuals who have indicated through the app that they have tested positive. Even if the app finds matching codes, it is impossible to link them to individuals. **Your identity and the identities of other app users remain confidential.**

If the app finds matching codes, this means that within the past two weeks, for a period of more than 15 minutes, you were less than two metres from another user of the app who has since tested positive and agreed to share that information with other users.

You will therefore receive an alert notification:

- that you may have been exposed to COVID-19;
- that informs you of the next steps to follow.

No personal information or location data is shared. It is, therefore, impossible to know when and where you were in contact with an infected individual.

How do you indicate in the app that you have tested positive?

If you have tested positive and public health authorities have contacted you, you can request a one-time key. To do so:

- Promptly call the telephone number indicated in the app.
- Make note of the key that you receive once your identity and test result have been verified.
- Enter the key in the app within 24 hours, after which it will expire.

If you choose to share your positive result with other users of the app, COVID Alert will not share any information that might identify you. The decision to share your diagnosis is up to you. **Your anonymity will always be maintained.**



To download the app:
Quebec.ca/CovidAlert

Your privacy is protected.

COVID Alert does not use your smartphone's GPS and does not obtain your name, telephone number, personal details or any other health-related information.

Using the COVID Alert app protects you and your loved ones.

Quebec.ca/coronavirus

1 877 644-4545

Québec

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2020: Ceremonies scaled back, safety in mind

Diane **Skinner**

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. People of the Gaspé have always honoured the men and women and their sacrifices while giving service to their country on Remembrance Day. This year, out of necessity, the day will be different due to COVID-19. Legions on the Gaspé will still mark the day, but with the well-being of the community in mind.

Each of the five Legions located on the Gaspé will be marking the day in a way best suited to their communities. What is common to all the Legions, is that ceremonies will be scaled back.

District Commander, Ross Smith has issued this announcement to the community of New Carlisle,

“The Executive members of the Royal Canadian Legion (Branch 64) would like to inform the community that the Remembrance Day ceremonies will be cancelled this November 11. Due to provincial and Dominion Command restrictions, we feel the health of our veterans, seniors and the community are a priority. Large gatherings are discouraged and are unlawful. In lieu of the usual wreath laying ceremony, legion members will lay two wreaths, one representing the Silver Cross Mothers and one in memory of our veterans. Poppy trays will be at the usual places and we encourage everyone to wear a poppy. This year is the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII. This decision was not an easy one, but we feel it is



District Commander, Ross Smith

necessary.”

When Spec spoke to Ross Smith, he reflected that the ceremony has been held for over 100 years in New Carlisle and that he has been delivering wreaths to the community for over 15 years. “I understand that people will be disappointed to not be able to lay a wreath in person.” He recalls that the people honouring our heroes have al-

“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.”

ways attended in large numbers and in all weather. He adds, “People have stood in the rain and even snow up to their knees, without complaining.” However, District Commander Ross Smith stresses that he does not want anyone to get sick because of attending a Remembrance Day wreath laying ceremony. “We hated to do this, to change the ceremony which has been such a tradition, but it is the right thing to do.” If you wish to purchase a symbolic wreath, (not an actual wreath, this year) contact Ross Smith. The donation cost is \$25.

Ross thanked the locations which have agreed to put out a Poppy box, beginning on the last Friday in October until November 11. Ross mentioned that locally boxes

can be found at the Post Office, Loisel’s Store, the Laurentian Bank in Paspebiac, and the Town Hall.

The President of the Bay of Chaleur Legion, Branch 172, Joanne Huntington, tells Spec that there will be a lowering of the flag at 11 a.m. on Remembrance Day at the cenotaph in New Richmond. She will lay three wreaths: the first will be on behalf of the Legion, Branch 172; the second on behalf of the veterans and the third for the National Association of Federal Retirees.

After that citizens will be allowed to lay their wreaths in honour of their loved ones on their own. Joanne reminds them to maintain social distance and wear a mask. Call Joanne Huntington to purchase a wreath.

How can you support your Legion this year? Ross suggests being a little more generous at the Poppy box, so instead of a dollar perhaps a bit more. To support your local Legion, you can become a member. To be a member you need to be over the age of 18 and do not have to be a veteran or related to a veteran. Yearly memberships are \$45. You can contact your local legion by phone or email to become a member or to donate.

Do not forget about Remembrance Day, 2020. Continue to support your Legion. You can also watch the much smaller ceremony from Ottawa on television. Please contact your local Legion for updated information and to ask about donating. We should not forget.

New Carlisle Branch 64
1 Mount-Sorrel
New Carlisle, Quebec
G0C 1Z0
President: Laura Flowers
418-752-6799
Founded July 1935

Gaspé Branch 59
President: Alfred Matte
197, rue Jacques-Cartier,
Gaspé, Quebec
G4X 1N3
Founded February 1935

Barachois Branch 261
President: Lloyd Roussel
1051, route 132 E.,
Barachois de la Malbaie,
Qc, G0C 1A0
Founded June 1974

Bay of Chaleur Branch 172
President:
Joanne Huntington
55, route Gallagher,
Cascapedia-St-Jules, QC,
G0C 1T0
(418) 392-5328
Founded August 1946

Chandler Branch 203
President: Henri Vachon
77, rue Monseigneur-Ross,
Chandler, Qc,
G0C 1K0
Founded June 1948



US ELECTION:

▶ *Cont'd from page 4*

a candidate to gain a majority in the college which automatically awards the presidency to that person. The wrinkle is that the more populous states have more electors so it is possible to win many states and still not prevail in the electoral college.

Should neither candidate gain a majority of votes in the electoral college, which is possible but unlikely (it’s only happened three times, all during the 19th century), the election would move to the House of Representatives wherein the outcome would be determined by a majority vote of the members of the House. Since the

House is controlled by the Democrats and will probably continue to be after the election, the presidency would go to the Democratic candidate.

If Trump does not win the election, it is certain that he will file many complaints and lawsuits, some of which will inevitably end up at the Supreme Court, where, in the 2000 election the Republican majority on the Court handed the presidency to Bush.

Recently, there was a vacancy on the Supreme Court. Ignoring precedent as to how vacancies are filled, Trump and his supporters have moved to fill the vacancy, before the election, with someone of their choosing in order to create what they presume

will be a sympathetic majority on the court to hear their cases. Trump has stated as much.

If all else fails, Trump can fall back on a maneuver relating to the electoral college that has been untested and will surely create huge conflicts and possibly damage the American democracy.

In practice, the electors represent the voters of their state in the electoral college. However, it is possible to completely abandon this arrangement in favour of electors selected only by state legislatures.

At this point, Republican-controlled legislative bodies in 29 states could control about 300 electoral votes (out of 538). by simply ordering their

electors to vote for Trump, completely ignoring both the popular vote and the presumptive electoral college vote. Effectively, under this arrangement, Trump could lose both the popular vote and the presumptive electoral college vote and still become president.

This election is sailing in uncharted and troubled waters. It is quite likely that the Supreme Court will be called on to referee the disputes which could keep the outcome of the election in limbo for weeks, as happened twenty years ago.

Donald Trump has a lot to lose personally in this election should he not be re-elected. He would leave the presidency on January 20, when

the new president is sworn in, and immediately be besieged with civil and criminal prosecutions relating to his past business practices, which could not be pursued for technical reasons while he remained as president. This would place not only his business interests and fortune at risk but could also cause him to lose his freedom.

A native of New York State, Fred Kirch spent most of his adult life in Delaware. He is a retired American judge. He has been living in Saint-Siméon for 15 years and has taken Canadian citizenship shortly after moving there. He has kept a keen interest in American politics since moving to the Gaspé Peninsula.

Announcements...



Obituaries



HARRISON: Brenda

It is with sadness we announce the passing of Brenda at Maria Hospital on August 28, 2020 at 56 years old.

She was the daughter of Earl Harrison and Dorothy Powell. She was predeceased by her father; brother Garry; and sister Violet. She leaves to mourn her only son Jozsef; mother; brothers Rodney, Brent and Michael; and sister Shirley (Dale).

Burial took place at Black Cape cemetery where a short service was held by Rev. Kraglund.

Loved and forever missed, The Harrison family and son Jozsef.



MACWHIRTER: Melba Eva Margaret

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Melba Eva Margaret MacWhirter at the Centre d'Accueil in New Carlisle on October 6, 2020.

Melba was born July 31, 1929, in Hope Town, Quebec to Chisholm MacWhirter and Lillian Chatterton. She attended Hope Town school up to grade nine and received a scholarship for grade ten in New Carlisle. A second scholarship was offered for grade eleven, but Melba chose instead to go to Montreal to establish a career. She chose accounting for CN in Montreal. She enjoyed her work and had many friends. She joined the CN band, playing the drums and travelling with the band.

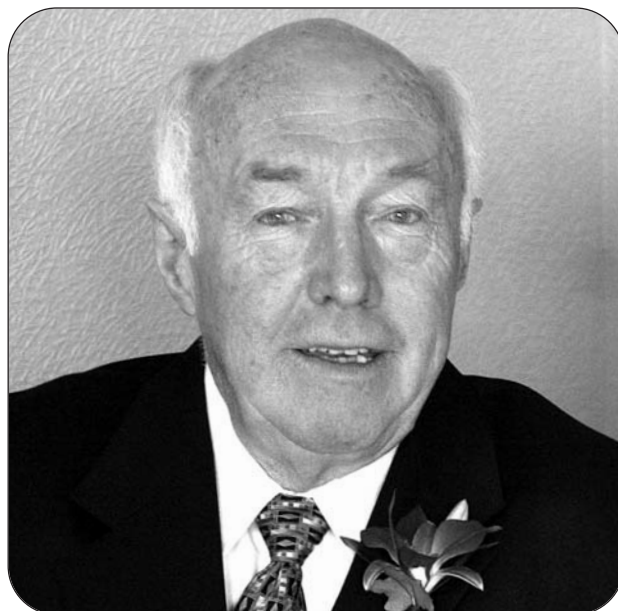
In 1953, Melba returned home on vacation and was offered a job teaching. Her real reason for staying was meeting the love of her life, Clifton Skene. They were married in Montreal in 1955. They raised two children, Stephen and Eva. Melba and Clifton enjoyed visiting the children in New Brunswick. Of course, the trips always involved shopping too.

Melba was a marvellous cook and also enjoyed knitting and gardening. Her flowers are still in bloom. While her children were growing up, Melba was an active Home and School member, Brownie leader and active member of St. Paul's Anglican Church while she lived in Shigawake. She was a highly respected member of that community. In later years, Melba served as a founding member of the Golden Age Club. She and Clifton served on the executive for many years. She enjoyed the various excursions with her friends in the club.

In 1973, after their land was expropriated in Shigawake, the family moved to Hope next to Melba's parents, where she was a great caregiver to her parents in their final years.

Melba resided at home until early September when she, of necessity, went to Maria Hospital, and after transferred to New Carlisle. She spent her final weeks there. Her passing was peaceful.

She leaves to mourn: her devoted husband Clifton (of 65 years), son Stephen, daughter Eva (Wayne Smith), brother Gordon and sister-in-law Anne, sister-in-law Audrey, brothers-in-law Winston (Mildred), Joe (Gaby) and Conrad Jones as well as many nieces and nephews who adored her. Her family and friends will keep her in their hearts forever.



ROBERTSON: John Sidney

It is with great sadness that the family of John Sidney Robertson announces his passing, on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, at the age of 85 years.

Sid will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 55 years, Barbara Busch Robertson. He was a supportive and caring father to Michael, Jennifer Corry (Stephen) and Stephanie (David).

Sid was proud of many things in his life, but he was most proud of being Poppy to his four grandsons, Nathan, Liam, Christopher and Benjamin. Sid will also be fondly remembered by his cousin Margaret, niece Judy, and nephew Harley.

Sidney was born, raised and passed away in the small town of Maria, Quebec on the Gaspé Peninsula. He returned to the house in which he was born after retiring from a 48-year career in the aviation industry.

He spent many wonderful years living in Toronto, the West Island of Montreal and enjoying cottage life in St. Michel des Saints, Quebec.

Sidney loved his Toronto Maple Leafs, telling stories about growing up on the farm but he was most passionate about fishing for trout and salmon in the nearby rivers and streams including the Grand Caspédia River.

The family wishes to send a special thank-you to the staff at the Maria Hospital for their care and compassion. Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer Society of Canada (alzheimer.ca). A Celebration of Life will be held at a future date.

Card of Thanks

The family of the late Brenda Harrison wishes to express a heartfelt thank-you for the phone calls, visits, food, donations and many acts of kindness during this sad time.

Thanks to Rev. Kraglund and all those who attended the service at the gravesite.

*The Harrison family
and son Jozsef*

Thank You

St. Andrew's Anglican Church in New Carlisle would like to thank everyone for their generous donations for the harvest supper that couldn't be due to COVID-19. The amount of \$2,250 was raised in donations.

Grenier & Grenier LAWYERS



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

96 Gérard D. Levesque Blvd, P.O. Box 519
New Carlisle (Quebec) G0C 1Z0
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Notaries & legal counsel

Gaël Tremblay, notary
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COAST ROUND-UP

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.

NEW CARLISLE: Linda LeMore-Brown Foundation

Members and supporters of the Linda LeMore-Brown Foundation are asked to please note that our office located at 168 Gerard D. Levesque, New Carlisle, is closed to the public due to COVID-19. To renew your membership or to give correspondence, we ask that you please mail it to our office. For financial support travelling outside the region for cancer treatment or any other infor-

mation, call the office at 418-752-5995. To make an appointment you must also call the office, walk-ins will not be permitted. We thank you for your patience and cooperation during these difficult times.

NEW CARLISLE: Drive-In Gospel Meetings

Drive-In Gospel meetings at the Fair Haven Bible Campground, Sundays at 2 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.

ROTARY CLUB WINNERS
The winners for the week of October 4 are: Sylvie Dubé, Robert McNeil, Bruce Willett, Yannick Cyr, William Budd, Luc Gravel and Diane Imhoff.

The winners for the week of October 11 are: Maryline Imhoff, Denis Léonard, Nathalie Cormier, Marc Cyr, Jamie Poirier, Régis Cormier and Diane Deroy.

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

Please send your Classified or Coast Round-Up to: holly.smith@globetrotter.net



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, rest and relax now because it may be a bumpy ride over the next few days. Rely on your energy reserves to make it through. Things will calm down soon enough.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, allow friends to lavish attention on you. You deserve a little more time in the limelight because of all the hard work you have been putting in.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21
Gemini, by making yourself more vulnerable, you can show others how you are compassionate and in tune with your softer side. This may help create alliances.

CANCER – June 22/July 22
Cancer, try a new and interesting hobby that aligns with your current interests. Don't worry if it has nothing to do with your profession. It's okay to branch out.

LEO – July 23/Aug 23
Make some changes to your wellness routine, Leo. Changes could help you feel better in your daily life and set the course for many positive things in the future.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
It is always good knowing someone has your back, Virgo. This can be a best friend, a romantic partner, a family member, or even a colleague. It is a relief to have support.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, a pleasant routine is essential for improving your mood and outlook. It's easier to handle stressful situations when you make smart choices.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
There are many things happening around you, and it is best to focus on the positives even in the most hectic times. Immerse yourself in your favorite hobbies.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Being in tune with your feelings is a very good thing this week, Sagittarius. It can help you focus on goals that will make you happy and avoid situations that make you upset.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
You are a natural leader who prefers overseeing projects to getting your hands dirty. But to strengthen authority, you sometimes have to handle some of the nuts and bolts.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Now is the time to increase your income rather

than the pressure on you. That means thinking outside the box in terms of additional work. Consider self-employment.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, most of the time you like making your contributions from the background. But lately you are ready to step into the spotlight.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER 25
Mia Wasikowska,
Actress (31)

OCTOBER 26
CM Punk,
Wrestler (42)

OCTOBER 27
Lonzo Ball,
Athlete (23)

OCTOBER 28
Julia Roberts,
Actress (53)

OCTOBER 29
Tracee Ellis Ross,
Actress (48)

OCTOBER 30
Nia Long, Actress (50)

OCTOBER 31
Peter Jackson,
Director (59)

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, October 25

New Carlisle

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

PARISH OF GASPÉ

Sunday, October 25

St. Matthew's Peninsula

10:30 a.m. Morning Service



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Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



The Two Connies

One positive thing that living through COVID-19 times has given us is that we have realized what is important. After our health, that would have to be our significant people. One of my most memorable people is my dear cousin, for argument's sake I will call her Dale. We were close and we had the most wonderful summers here on the Gaspé that you could possibly imagine from the age of 5 until the summer we were 18.

In many ways we are quite different. She was a little bit sophisticated and always neatly groomed, even at the age of 5. Not a hair was out of place and she stood with her flip-flops turned out like a prima ballerina. Her red hair was gorgeous and shiny. For me, not so much. Looking at a black and white photo from more than fifty years ago, the differences between us are quickly noticeable. There I am with my hair all wild and flyaway, Band-Aids on both knees and sunburned across my nose. Somehow her freckles looked posh. I looked like Howdy Doody. But our relationship worked well.

We walked to the beach every sunny summer day, picking up others on our way and by the time we arrived at the water there were often ten or more kids. In those days it didn't even cross our minds to ask for a drive – besides no adult could see the reason to drive us. So, we walked. We would spend all afternoon on the beach, only drinking our soft drink and eating our chips when we were close to having heat stroke. In those days we did not know about sun damage to our pale skin. In the evening we would all gather to play kick the can or baseball. Now you must know that for a city kid like me this was a kind of wild heaven. Going home to Toronto at the end of each summer was heartbreaking for me. We always cried. My dear grandmother did too as she waved until we were well out of sight.

Another huge pastime for us from the age of eight or so, was a game that we dubbed 'Connie and Connie.' This was our make-believe world that we created in the shed behind her house. It was all cleaned out for us by my gentle, wonderful uncle, her dad. We gathered lots of old stuff for it, such as tables and dishes and clothes and grown-up lady shoes. The day we needed to decide our names for this make-believe world we ran into our first disagreement, ever. You see this was the early 1960's and we both thought the world's coolest name was... Connie. We both yearned to be called Connie. Finally, it was settled when we found out that there were two famous Connies in those days – Connie Francis and Connie Stevens. It was settled, we were forever more known as Connie and Connie.

We see each other from time to time and keep in touch but we always feel comfortable and can still have a great laugh together. Because we are moms we talk about our hopes for our children (none of whom we named Connie) and now our grandchildren. Not long ago, I reminded her about a neighbour, a boy, who we used to invite into our Connie and Connie world occasionally and we pretended he was our boyfriend. We shared him which is perfectly acceptable when you are ten years old. I reminded her that we used to even pretend kiss him. She stopped. Pretend? No, she

informed me she kissed him for real. It's okay, though. I forgive her. Besides, a boy could never break up anything as wonderful as the two Connies.



Juniper

Diane Skinner

The smell of burning juniper in a wood stove is just beautiful, however, juniper is so much more than firewood.

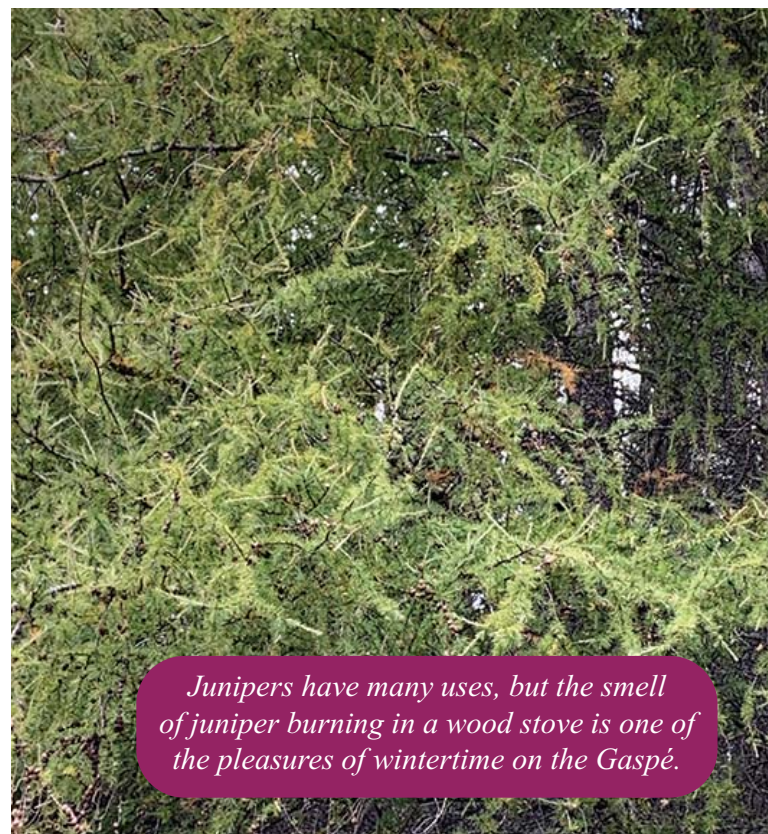
Juniper trees, and shrubs, can be found all over the world and there are more than 50 species of junipers. They possess some unique names such as Flaky juniper, Alligator juniper, Seaside juniper and Himalayan Black juniper. The juniper that grows on the Gaspé is the Common juniper. They can be found from the Arctic, all through North America, Africa, Tibet, and South America. They even grow in the northern Himalayas at an altitude of 16,000 feet. This is said to be one of the highest tree-lines on the planet.

They are a hardy tree that can thrive in a wide variety of environments. Junipers can be found in woodlands, dry and rocky areas and in wide open spaces.

Junipers vary greatly in shape and size and can grow to over 100 feet tall or be low-spreading shrubs. They are an evergreen and have needle-like or a "scaly" type leaf. The needle-like leaves are hard and sharp, so watch when handling them as they can be quite prickly. Most species of junipers produce berries which are often blue in colour but may also be red-brown or orange. If you gather a few of the berries in your hand and inhale you can smell a lovely aroma.

Junipers are gymnosperms which means that they have no flowers or fruit but do have seeds. The seed coating is tough and is normally broken down after being eaten by a fruit eating mammal. Thank you bats! Junipers provide food for moths and butterflies and some feed on the bark of the juniper. Gymnosperms are susceptible to rust disease, which also attacks apple trees. Sometimes juniper is referred to as cedar, but this is not technically accurate. They are not a cedar. However, it is sometimes used in the same way for lining chests (remember hope chests lined with cedar?) because of its lovely aroma and it is commonly used in Norway for siding and roofing.

Juniper wood is quite hard, though it is technically a softwood. It is used for fenceposts and firewood, also, some use it to make furniture, paneling and flooring. It is said to have a lovely smooth finish, a nice colour and a pleasing aroma.



Junipers have many uses, but the smell of juniper burning in a wood stove is one of the pleasures of wintertime on the Gaspé.

Juniper can be finished as particle board and veneer.

Juniper berries are used as a spice and have been as far back as Ancient Egypt. During the Middle Ages juniper berries were used to make an alcoholic beverage. They are a common ingredient used to make gin. The berries are also used to make juniper brandy. Juniper is likely the only spice that comes from a coniferous tree. The berries are said to taste piney and a bit citrusy. As they mature the berries taste sweeter with an herbal scent. It is a valued spice because it has many layers of flavour. The spice is used to flavour pheasant, partridge, rabbit, and venison.

Juniper berries are steamed to produce essential oil. This oil is said to have a variety of uses and benefits. The aroma of the oil is woody and spicy

and has a calm and grounding effect. The oil is beneficial for the health of the skin. Some use it internally, but a caution that none of the uses when taken internally has been proven to be beneficial and could be harmful.

As with many plants, Native cultures used the juniper for many purposes. It was a traditional choice for hunting bows. Also, they used juniper for traditional medicines. Even the juniper ash was consumed as a source of calcium by some Indigenous groups.

Scottish people burn juniper at New Year's (they call it Hogmanay) and the smoke is said to help to cleanse and bless the home.

Junipers have so many uses, but the smell of juniper burning in a wood stove is one of the pleasures of wintertime on the Gaspé.

PUBLIC NOTICE

GENERAL SCHOOL ELECTIONS:
AUTHORIZED CANDIDATES

In accordance with section 206.16 of the *Act respecting school elections*, the Chief Electoral Officer informs the public that the following candidates have been authorized to solicit and collect contributions, to incur election expenses and to take out loans for the next general school elections, in accordance with the provisions of the *Act*. After polling day, authorized candidates may only solicit and collect contributions for the purpose of paying the debts arising from their election expenses.

Central Québec School Board

LAST NAME, first name	DATE OF AUTHORIZATION
EDEN, David	2020-09-26
FORD-CARON, Debbie	2020-09-27
GUAY, Chantal	2020-09-25
O'GALLAGHER, Ian	2020-09-26

For more information, you can call the following toll-free number:
1-888-353-2846.



THE ULTIMATE Autumn Bucket List

- Diane Skinner

- MAKE WARM APPLE CIDER WITH CINNAMON STICKS.
- DRIVE TO SEE THE LEAVES!
- TAKE A DRIVE TO SEE (AND HEAR) THE WINDMILLS UP CLOSE.
- CARVE A PUMPKIN AND ROAST THE SEEDS.
- HAVE A BONFIRE WHILE SIPPING MUGS OF HOT CHOCOLATE AND EATING SMORES.
- MAKE AN APPLE PIE OR ZUCCHINI OR PUMPKIN LOAF
- JUMP IN THE LEAVES
- GO FOR A CRISP MORNING WALK
- CUDDLE UP WITH A COZY BLANKET AND A GOOD BOOK
- EAT CANDY CORN.
- GO FOR A HIKE IN THE WOODS.
- GO FOR A HAYRIDE.
- WATCH A SPOOKY MOVIE.
- MAKE CARAMEL APPLES.
- DECORATE FOR HALLOWEEN.
- DANCE TO THE MONSTER MASH. (IT WAS A GRAVEYARD SMASH!)
- MAKE A SCARECROW TO SIT IN FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE.
- TELL GHOST STORIES.
- COLLECT LEAVES AND MAKE LEAF RUBBINGS.
- GO FOR A WALK ON THE BEACH.
- HAVE AN OUTDOOR PICNIC.
- KNIT A SCARF.
- STARGAZE OUTSIDE. LOOK FOR MARS.
- FLY A KITE OR PLAY FRISBEE.
- GATHER PINECONES. MAKE EASY BIRD FEEDERS OR KEEP TO MAKE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.



October Quiz - Diane Skinner

Enjoy this quiz which tests your knowledge and research skills about the month of October. It is a busy month: Thanksgiving, Halloween and preparing for winter. Here is one more thing to add to your to-do list!

1. If you are born in October, what two Zodiac signs might you be?
2. For what Latin number is October named. Hint: think of a tentacled sea animal.
3. What are the gemstones for October?
4. What is the flower for October?
5. What holiday do Canadians celebrate on the second Monday in October?

6. October in the Northern Hemisphere is like what month in the Southern Hemisphere? (The seasons are opposite to ours south of the equator. Australia is just entering springtime now)
7. There are seven months of the year that have 31 days. October is the ___ month of the year with 31 days.
8. There are two full moons in October 2020. Can you name them?
9. People born in October are more likely to live to the age of 100. True or false?
10. Find rhyming words for Hallo“ween”. These can be 1, 2, 3 syllables or more! Try to find at least one that is 5 syllables long.

20 rhyming words: *Good try.*

30 rhyming words: *Very well done.*

40 rhyming words: *Great work.*

50+ rhyming words: *A+ Go to the head of the class!*



*'And all at once,
summer collapsed
into Fall.'
- Oscar Wilde*

Quiz Answers

1. Libra and Scorpio
2. Octo means eight. At one time October was the eighth month of the year. The hint? Octopus.
3. Opal and tourmaline
4. Calendula
5. Thanksgiving
6. April
7. The sixth month
8. Harvest moon and Hunters' Moon
9. It is true!
10. Queen, mean, screen, teen, shen, green, lean, clean, lean, Dean, bean, gene, seen, wean, machine, unscen, obscene, Justine, ravine, latrine, between, sunscreen, unclear, thirteen, fifteen, eighteen, nineteen, fourteen, sixteen, seventeen, caffeine, chlorine, morphine, vaccine, protein, Irene, Maureen, cuisine, Pauline, Colleen, Eugene, canteen, serene, hygiene, sardine, gasoline, magazine, rampoline, Vaseline, nicozine, limousine, Maybelline, kerosene, plasticene, tangerine, evergreen, wolverine, Listerine, (5 syllable words: Methamphetamine, polypylene)