

New Carlisle prison damage: Four years later and still no cell repair timeline

GILLES GAGNÉ

NEW CARLISLE – Four years and three months after damages to the New Carlisle prison by an inmate, the Société québécoise des infrastructures and the Public Security ministry are still floundering in a renovation project whose deadline is not even yet defined.

On April 30, 2019, an inmate from the New Carlisle prison caused damages to elements of the plumbing, the electrical system, furniture and the electronic equipment in a section of the establishment amounting to tens of thousands of dollars.

The damages, allegedly committed by Isaac Moffat-Swasson, 32, from Listuguj forced the evacuation of a 16-cell section of the prison and the temporary relocation of eight inmates to other facilities. Mr. Moffat-Swasson has still not stood trial for these damages, 51 months after the events took place.

By December 2019, eight of the 16 cells had been put back into operation because they were less damaged.

As for the other eight cells, the 51 months since April 2019 have only resulted in a refurbishment project affecting two of them, for detainees with "a high classification," reports Louise Quintin, public relations officer at the Ministry of Public Security.

When Ms. Quintin is asked why the cell repair project is taking so long, she specifies that it "required expertise on the components in place, analyses on the solutions required and (it was necessary) to determine the architecture and engineering work to be done to ensure the required security."

Louise Quintin also points out that "the preliminary study (90% of it) was provided to the



Photo: Valérie Castilloux

Port Daniel Harbour is glowing!

On the evening of July 30, over 200 people participated in the first glow-in-the-dark paddle/kayak event which was held in the Port Daniel Harbour. Participants decorated their paddle boards and kayaks with glow-in-the-dark sticks and decorations and were entertained with fireworks and music from DJ STORM. Event organizers are already planning another glow-in-the-dark activity for the summer of 2024.

MPS (Ministry of Public Security) in April 2023. A schedule and a cost estimate are being prepared by the Société québécoise des infrastructures (SQI)."

An old prison

The New Carlisle prison was inaugurated 59 years ago in 1964. The modernization project for the entire establishment is being considered as well. "Analyses of a project to modernize several key sectors are underway at the SQI," adds Ms. Quintin.

The prison is obsolete due to the presence of barred doors and dormitories which is rare in Quebec jails today. The situation has also been denounced many times by the Syndicat des agents de la paix et des services correctionnels du Québec, the union representing prison guards. The union deplored mishaps during the pandemic, because the configuration of the New Carlisle prison contributed to the rapid spread of Covid-19 in November 2020, during that outbreak many guards were also infected.

"The detention facility is



Photo: G. Gagné

New Carlisle jail

under the ownership of the SQI. Asset maintenance work is required in the coming years," notes Louise Quintin.

The Société québécoise des infrastructures reveals no new details when asked about the estimate of the April 2019 damages, or a timetable for when repairs will be completed.

"The cell refurbishment project you mention is underway. We have reached the stage of developing plans and specifications. However, it is still too early to put forward a precise timetable," writes Francis Martel, spokesperson for the SQI.

There are 50 cells at the New Carlisle prison. In July

2021, the Ministry of Public Security was justifying the time elapsed since April 30, 2019, by the context that the occupancy rate rarely surpasses 70% at the prison. Inmates are usually serving a term of two years less a day at New Carlisle prison.

Several more months before a trial

As for Isaac Moffat-Swasson, who was detained in April 2019 for a case of aggravated assault and for having uttered threats in an event which had occurred two months before, he will not stand trial for several months, as he is still looking

for a lawyer, both in the prison mischief case and in his assault and threat cases.

Criminal and penal prosecuting attorney Maxime Rocheville-Paradis, of New Carlisle, succeeded in obtaining a change of judicial district in this case, which is now being heard in Quebec. Mr. Rocheville-Paradis is still temporarily taking care of the file.

"The prison facilities and the New Carlisle courthouse are not suitable for a case of this kind," he maintains.

Mr. Marcel Guérin, the lawyer who had decided to defend Isaac Moffat-Swasson, died in April 2021 and his replacement, Réginal Victorin, decided after a few months not to defend the accused.

Isaac Moffat-Swasson last appeared in court on July 14. "The case was postponed until September 6 in Quebec City. Mr. Moffat-Swasson is still looking for a lawyer. We are still at the pro forma trial procedure step. The judge informed him that a trial date will be set on September 6. It is moving forward," explains Maxime Rocheville-Paradis.

Pierre Dubé fears the end of salmon fishing in 10-15 years due to the increasing presence of striped bass

GILLES GAGNÉ

MATAPEDIA – A fishing guide for 60 years, Pierre "Pete" Dubé, of Matapedia, has noticed for several years the invasion of salmon rivers by striped bass. He, therefore, fears that 10 to 15 years down the road, Atlantic salmon will be replaced as the dominant species in the Gaspé Peninsula rivers.

The warming of the water, he says, is the main factor explaining the rising presence of striped bass in rivers such as the Matapedia and the Restigouche, where Mr. Dubé has fished since his childhood. He caught his first salmon when he was nine years old.

While he is far from denying global warming as a contributing factor to rising temperatures in salmon rivers, the guide sees above all forest clearing as the major explanation behind the massive arrival of striped bass in the rivers.

"The striped bass is attracted to warm water. As salmon habitat deteriorates, the water gets warmer. Our rivers are a third wider than they were many decades ago because of bank erosion, which also leaves sediments in the pools. Water depth is decreasing and the sun has direct access to the river. Logging, because it leaves large spaces, creates fast water run-downs because the trees are no longer there to slow down the snow melting in the spring," describes Pete Dubé.

Based on hydrological data taken uninterruptedly for 41 years on the Restigouche River, Mr. Dubé points out

that spring water flows increased by 450% at this recording station between 1962 and 2003, which means over 14,600 days. The Environment Canada hydrological station is located near the junction point of the Kedgwick and Restigouche rivers.

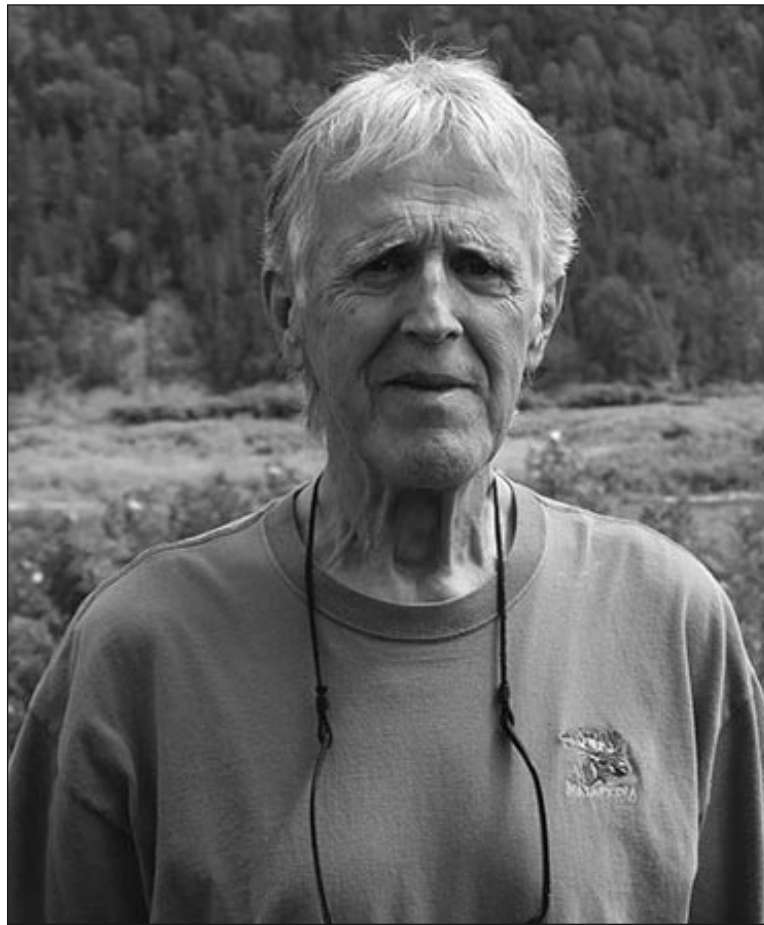
"The ice comes down earlier and earlier in the spring, because of the faster snow thaw. Ice blocks are too big, too strong because they have not had enough time to melt; they demolish the river. They act like bulldozers on the banks," says Pierre Dubé.

This bulldozing action tends to fill salmon pools. "At the McCallum pit, right next to the Matapedia Interprovincial Bridge, there was 40 feet of water (12 metres) a few decades ago. If we returned to the water level of 2021, which was extremely low, we would cross this pool with high boots this summer," he points out.

Spring break-up comes much earlier

Based on 41 years of hydrological data collected by the Environment Canada station situated along the Restigouche River, Mr. Dubé found that the spring break-up occurs earlier over the decades.

"I wanted to have 40 years of data to verify average break-up dates, and I wanted to take five years at the start and five years at the end of those 40 years. On average, the break-up took place on the 94th day of the year (between 1999 and 2003 inclusively) while it was on the 115th day of the year (between 1962 and



Photos: G. Gagné

Pete Dubé is pessimistic about the future of salmon fishing.

1966). It's 21 days earlier. It makes a big difference," he says.

His house is located at the junction of the Matapedia and Restigouche rivers, where the first flows into the second. He knows both rivers like the back of his hand. He has written a book on the phenomena linking logging to spring floods.

He comes back to the explanation about accelerated spring melt, a consequence, he assures, of large deforested areas which on the one hand expose the snow to direct sunlight and, on the other hand, promote surface runoffs because these large deforested areas favour deep freezing during the winter, especially

on the plateaus bordering most of the Gaspé Peninsula rivers, plateaus that are located at a relatively high altitude.

"I have consulted experienced forestry workers and they are categorical. Large surfaces exposed to strong winter winds cause deep frost because the snow will be blown away and consequently doesn't act as insulation against cold temperatures. A dense forest will essentially prevent the soil from freezing as the snow accumulates during the winter. That snow will play its insulation role," he says.

"Over large, depleted surfaces, the water from melting snow, instead of penetrating the ground and replenishing the water table, runs off and picks up sediment as it descends to the rivers. You lose your groundwater in the process. This water would keep the river colder if it passed through the water table," analyzes Mr. Dubé.

He takes, as proof, the difference between temperatures compiled in the river and in brooks.

"In the summer of 2021, the river water temperature was 84 degrees (Fahrenheit) on the Restigouche River and 82 degrees on the Matapedia River. The temperature of the Saint-Alexis hill brook was 44 degrees. That's a 40 degree difference! A lot of those underground brooks no longer reach the river. I went yester-

day and the river was at 76-77 degrees and the brook was still at 44. That's still a difference of 32-33 degrees and it is early August. The temperature will still increase. The river's normal temperature should be 65 degrees," adds Pete Dubé after an August 2 outing.

While he does not dispute the existence of global warming, he is convinced that the main factor in the increase in water temperature in salmon rivers stems from deforestation over large areas and the increased surface of rivers, which diminished water depth.

"Put some water in a container 10 inches in diameter. Put the same amount of water in a five-inch container and you will see that the water in the ten-inch container will heat up much faster. When you lose your depth, you give direct access to the sun to a larger area. The sun heats rocks that once lay deep. I am not saying that climate change does not exist. I would say that more than three-quarters of the warming of our rivers is caused by the deterioration of the habitat, of their banks," assures Pierre Dubé.

Pessimistic about the future of salmon fishing

Mr. Dubé is pessimistic about the future of sport salmon fishing. "There is no way of controlling the striped bass population. A catch limit shouldn't have been imposed upon fishing resumption," he affirms.

He doesn't believe in a deep modification of forestry practices either, a modification that would prevent log harvesters from clearcutting major surfaces of public or private land.

"It is too late. Changing the practices now will not yield results for many years. In some cases, managers have opted to dig in order to repair the river. It was carried out on the Margaree River in Nova Scotia. They dug and narrowed the river bed. It would probably cost \$1 billion to do the same thing on the Restigouche and Matapedia rivers. In the million-dollar pool area, near the mouth of the Patapedia River, such work was done and it took 300 loads of ten-wheeler trucks just for that pool. Imagine the cost of repairing the whole Restigouche River," concludes Pete Dubé.



Sediments are more present than ever on the Matapedia River, near the junction point with the Restigouche.

More striped bass are seen upstream this year

The authorities only have a very partial knowledge of striped bass stock

GILLES GAGNÉ

MATAPEDIA – The rising presence of striped bass in the Matapedia and Restigouche rivers, as reported by fishing guide Pierre “Pete” Dubé and a fair number of sports fishermen is also generating worries elsewhere in the Gaspé Peninsula. In fact, the managers of the Grand Cascapedia and Bonaventure rivers are also keeping a close eye on striped bass, which are moving upstream in greater numbers.

Darlene Sexton, director general of the Cascapedia Society, which manages the Grand Cascapedia River sports fishing, points out that “yes, we do unfortunately (see more striped bass this year than over previous years). We are seeing them all the way up to the Salmon Branch,” states Ms. Sexton.

The Salmon Branch is a stream located about 60 kilometres north of the mouth of the river.

Darlene Sexton is not ready to quantify for now the number of striped bass moving up the river. It is “not hundreds yet that I know of but definitely more than a few dozen.”

The annual count of salmon and striped bass on the Grand Cascapedia River will be carried out mid-to-late August, she points out.

On the Bonaventure River, the annual salmon and striped bass count was carried out on August 1 and 2, eight days later than expected because the river was too high on July 24.

“We saw 33 striped bass during the count. We can’t really say that the count is higher. Over the last few years, it was between 20 and 30. The higher presence of striped bass is not a phenomenon that has been accentuated, not in our river. We manage 60 kilometres from the Hall River junction with the Bonaventure and up. What we see, though, is a greater number upstream. We see a strange phenomenon this way. We used to see striped bass in groups of seven or eight, now they are divided into smaller groups of two to three, with the exception of a group of five. We are worried, even if this

year’s reality resembles that of the last three or four years. We are talking to the other rivers’ managers,” explains Ronald Cormier.

In Quebec, the Ministry of the Environment, the Fight against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks is responsible for the management of freshwater and diadromous species (fish that live in fresh and salt water), including striped bass. Within the ministry, the Aquatic Fauna expertise department provides provincial coordination of management and knowledge acquisition on the two striped bass populations found in Quebec, the Saint Lawrence estuary stock and the southern Gulf of Saint Lawrence stock.

Biologists responsible for aquatic fauna in regions frequented by striped bass participate in the management of the species, which is found in nine regions, as far up the Saint Lawrence River as Montérégie and Lanaudière.

The Ministry of the Environment, the Fight against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks refused SPEC’s request for an interview regarding the importance of the striped bass population in the Gaspé Peninsula rivers.

“The presence of striped bass in fresh water is relatively unknown to date. However, it should be remembered that the striped bass has opportunistic behaviour, both in its diet and in the use of its habitat. It, therefore, tries to find the best habitats for its food in the summer, explaining why it can find itself upstream of rivers, like this year in the Matapedia River. So, the striped bass is a migratory fish, it does not complete its life cycle only in fresh water. It is, therefore, not expected that it will remain upstream of the river. It will probably soon return to the gulf (of Saint Lawrence) to feed there,” replies Ève Morin Desrosiers spokesperson for the Ministry of the Environment, the Fight against Climate Change.

She also stresses that monitoring has been developed in partnership with the Quebec Federation for Atlantic Salmon, allowing salmon fishing enthusiasts to declare

Police report

The March 2022 death of Magella Allard, 83, in Nouvelle has been ruled accidental. The Société du chemin de fer de la Gaspésie, the railway company operating freight trains between Matapedia and New Richmond, complied with the procedures before and after the accident. This is the conclusion rendered by coroner, Maxime Richer, who recently published his investigation report on the collision that claimed Mr. Allard’s life.

On March 1, 2022, Mr. Allard was walking, as usual, on or near the railway tracks unaware that a train was travelling eastbound. When coming around a curve, the crew members on the train saw the back of the man, who was between the tracks. He was apparently leaning forward, as if he was looking for something. The locomotive whistle was blown and Magella Allard turned his head towards the train. He likely tried to get out of the way, but the collision could not be avoided. The man remained conscious in the ambulance during his transfer to the Maria hospital and was later that day transferred to the Hôpital l’Enfant-Jésus in Quebec City. He died on March 2 due to major internal injuries.

The incident report produced by the railway company does not show any breach of procedures. At the time of the collision, the train was travelling between 26 and 29 miles per hour, which is below the 35 miles per hour speed limit at this location. The brake check was carried out in the morning before departure.

Magella Allard was an avid hunting enthusiast. It is, therefore, possible, according to Coroner Richer, that he was distracted by animal traces near the railway or noises. The coroner, therefore, concludes that the death was accidental. The relatively sharp railroad curve located west of the accident location gave very little time for the train crew to react to the sight of Mr. Allard.

Sûreté du Québec officers intensified their surveillance on Quebec roads and rivers over the second week of the construction break following the high number of fatal accidents that occurred between July 21 and July 30, the first week of that active vacation period. Sûreté du Québec spokesperson, Raphaël Drolet, reported on July 31 that 11 road collisions resulted in 15 deaths during the first week of the construction break. “This is more than the whole construction break total of each of the four previous years,” indicates Officer Drolet. He also says that three people drowned in Quebec during the first half of the construction break, mainly in rivers. “This situation means that over the rest of the vacation period, about 20 Quebec families prepared funerals instead of enjoying time off in a park, a zoo or at home,” he summed up. He asks people to slow down while driving, fasten their seatbelts, refrain from consuming alcohol, drugs or using their cellular phone at the wheel, travel earlier during the day to avoid fatigue and wear their life jackets when going on the water.

A 43-year-old man is expected to be charged with impaired driving after hitting three houses and a business with his vehicle on July 24 in Bonaventure. Sûreté du Québec police officers were notified around 1:30 p.m. of the suspect’s erratic driving on Charpentier Street. The damaged business and residences are located on Charpentier and Louisbourg streets. The incident caused no injuries. The man was travelling at a low speed, according to the Sûreté du Québec. “The file has not been submitted to our office for the moment,” points out criminal prosecutor Cédric Leblanc-Falardeau, of the New Carlisle courthouse. The suspect was questioned and released, pending a commitment to appear when summoned to do so. The police have still not completed their investigation.

A drowning was narrowly avoided on the Bonaventure River on July 20 after a woman capsized during a canoe excursion. The woman who was wearing a life jacket, remained stuck underwater. Luckily, a man who happened to be nearby intervened. According to the Sûreté du Québec, he carried out cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on the victim while waiting for the paramedics. The woman was conscious during her transfer to the hospital, and according to police she recovered within a few hours.

Caution is particularly advised on the river due to its high-water level, according to Ronald Cormier, director general of the ZEC Bonaventure, who explains that the flow was 45 cubic metres per second at the time of the July 20 incident, while the normal for this time of year is more like 20 cubic metres. The canoeing conditions are, therefore, more difficult than normal. The salmon run count scheduled for July 24 was cancelled for this reason. The abundant rains in the river’s watershed were responsible for this situation.

Jacques Lantin, 64, from the Pabos Mills part of Chandler, was recently sentenced to 30 days in prison and has to pay fines totalling \$156,450, a conviction stemming from a contraband tobacco investigation carried out by the agents of the Sûreté du Québec from the Rocher Percé MRC police station. On November 25, 2021, Jacques Lantin admitted to police that he bought 21 cases of contraband cigarettes between November 24, 2019 and November 24, 2021. These cases each contained 50 packs of 200 cigarettes not identified in accordance with the law.

On July 5, the man pleaded guilty to one charge against him, having sold, delivered or had in his possession tobacco intended for retail sale in Quebec and whose package was not identified in accordance with the Tobacco Tax Act. It was his third offence for possession of contraband cigarettes. As well as being sentenced to serve 30 days in jail, his driver’s license was suspended for a period of 90 days effective August 1.

Through a press release, Revenue Quebec also announced that the six other people and a company, all based in other parts of the province, were convicted of contraband tobacco offences. They were ordered by the Quebec Court to pay fines totalling \$742,220.39. Another person was also sentenced to serve a prison term. Some of these people were accused of having transported tobacco intended for sale and whose package was not identified in accordance with the Tobacco Tax Act or not being registered with Revenue Quebec or holding any of the permits required by the law to engage in commercial activities related to tobacco products.

Revenue Quebec reminds people who carry out commercial activities related to the products of tobacco that they must hold the permits required by law. In addition, tobacco intended for sale in retail in Quebec must be identified in the manner and on the conditions prescribed by regulation.

Failure to comply with any of these obligations constitutes an offence and may result in a minimum fine of \$6,000 and a maximum prison term of two years. People who buy smuggled tobacco for their consumption are exposed to a minimum fine of \$350.

Revenue Quebec’s mission is to contribute to the economic and social development of Quebec by supporting the population and businesses in understanding and fulfilling their tax responsibilities, adds the ministry in a press release, which also mentions that the organization ensures that everyone pays their fair share and benefits from the programs to which he or she is entitled.

Cont’d on page 7



Gilles Gagné

Commentary

Can Minister Diane Lebouthillier shine at Fisheries and Oceans Canada?

On July 26, Canada's Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, announced a major cabinet shuffle that sent Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands Member of Parliament, Diane Lebouthillier, from the Canada Revenue Agency to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, which includes the management of the Canadian Coast Guard.

Mr. Trudeau dropped seven ministers and changed nearly three-quarters of his cabinet that day, modifying his team during a period of international tensions and controversies in his country. Seven new faces were also added to the cabinet and 12 ministers were assigned different tasks.

Trailing in surveys, the Liberal Party of Canada's high brass opted to reinforce its presence where it is already strong instead of trying to make breakthroughs where the Conservative Party seems solidly entrenched.

Diane Lebouthillier's promotion to Fisheries and Oceans Canada means that Justin Trudeau is counting on Quebec to provide him with solid support when election time comes.

Mr. Trudeau runs a minority government but in reality, he runs what looks like a majority, considering the support provided by the New Democratic Party. The NDP cannot financially afford an election in the near future and, therefore, gives its support to the party whose program looks quite similar. So, the next election might not occur before 2025. It would then be three-and-a-half to four years after the fall of the 2021 election, and it would make an unusually long term for a minority government.

Where does Diane Lebouthillier fit into all of that? She did a less-than-stellar job as Minister responsible for the Canada Revenue Agency. It is an agency that depends heavily on the Department of Finance and to a certain point, on the Treasury Board.

The Canada Revenue Agency is in charge of income tax and fighting tax evasion. Canada remains at the bottom of the class regarding the fight against tax evasion, mainly due to poor laws in that regard, a lack of firmness when the time comes to corner business big shots, staff shortcomings and an overall lack of will to improve the country's record in the matter.

Diane Lebouthillier also lacked the necessary knowledge to tackle a true reform of the Canada Revenue Agency tax evasion targets. The pandemic might have prevented development in that regard but close

to four-and-a-half years elapsed between her early November 2015 appointment to the cabinet and the March 2020 coronavirus crisis. This is not counting the last year of relatively normal life.

A modest regional record

In a fairly high number of regional stakes, her record of the last eight years is also lacklustre.

She was elected on October 19, 2015, promising improvements in transport. Some people still remember her priority, "the bus before the plane, and the plane before the train."

The situation has clearly deteriorated since. Despite that commitment, bus services, although mainly regulated by the Quebec government, have failed to improve, airfares have gone up and the reliability of aerial transporters has gone down the tube, in a sector where her federal government could intervene more. Moreover, Gaspésians are still waiting for the return of VIA Rail's passenger train, after 10 years of service suspension.

Overall, Ms. Lebouthillier has shown very little influence in transport, despite bragging for years about the importance of sitting at the cabinet table and being able to get some points across by talking to her colleagues.

Her lack of knowledge in the railway file is close to embarrassing and some of her positions come in direct contradiction with a regional priority, the overall return of train services to Gaspé, the region's main town, something she doesn't believe in. Her position contradicts the fact that her government has earmarked a tad under \$56 million to support the railroad's refurbishment between Port Daniel and Gaspé.

She should remember that a railway announcement of \$45.8 million just prior to the 2019 electoral campaign greatly helped her re-election following a close battle against Bloc Québécois candidate Guy Bernatchez. The federal government has also slept at the wheel over the years in the housing file, having failed to maintain programs favouring affordable units. When did Diane Lebouthillier raise her voice towards her cabinet colleagues to advocate for such programs, given the lack of housing in her constituency? We haven't heard of it.

Recently, following eight years of her tenure, the Cap-des-Rosiers lighthouse, a country-wide icon, was closed due to poor maintenance. Paltry sums of money were handed out over the years to postpone the current disastrous situation. Again, her lack of vigour in that file stands out more than anything else.

Can she improve at Fisheries and Oceans?

Diane Lebouthillier has not stood out in handling her constituency's Fisheries and Oceans Canada files either since 2015. Truth be told, she recognized, following the Matapedia flood of April 2019, that the

Canadian Coast Guard had failed by giving priority to the Acadian Peninsula crab fishermen instead of properly de-icing the bottom of the Restigouche River.

However, that positive note was marred by her general attitude in the herring and mackerel files, where she failed to support a group of low-income fishermen while there has never been that much money in Eastern Canada fisheries.

Commercial fishing files are often complicated. Over the last eight years, Diane Lebouthillier has rarely shown that she is willing to make the necessary efforts to have a solid grasp on those files, at least publicly.

Can she improve in that regard? Of course, she can. Maybe she will be more animated by fisheries stakes than by those of the Canada Revenue Agency.

She can likely count on a few months to recognize and master the main stakes of her new ministry, and those stakes occupy a fair share of her constituents' priorities.

Ms. Lebouthillier starts her new position with what looks like favourable support from many fishermen associations located in the Gaspé Peninsula, the Magdalen Islands and Maritimes. However, with pending issues like the shrimp crisis, the necessary resumption of redfish activities and the unresolved herring and mackerel crises, she will have very little wiggle room for mistakes.

The support she is currently receiving is common when a new Fisheries and Oceans minister is appointed. Nobody wants to start a skirmish with a new minister before having heard him or her. However, the patience level of some stakeholders could be short-lived.

Letter to the editor

Once again I am reading excellent reporting by Gilles Gagné on the subject of new oil drilling in the fragile waters off the Grand Banks. Moreover, I can't believe that a company such as the American oil giant, ExxonMobil with a net worth of \$432.40 billion dollars will be reimbursed in part by one of the poorest places in Canada, that being Newfoundland and Labrador. You just have to shake your head at the absurdity of it all when we are greatly encouraged to follow the 3 R's and these companies are wrecking havoc on our fragile, marine ecosystems without a thought for the inhabitants of such an environment. Their only thought is for how much money will be made from the hopeful find.

It is sad and also disgusting that our federal government will allow such a project to continue in such a productive marine environment where a blowout or a spill could cause such irreversible damage for years to come. Just look at what happened with Deepwater Horizon; that was supposed to be very safe, too.

Ann Lavoie

Restigouche-Sud-East, Quebec

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Fire mobilizes 50 firefighters and aircrafts in Saint-Alphonse

GILLES GAGNÉ

SAINT-ALPHONSE – An August 3 - 4 fire at Exploitation Jaffa in Saint-Alphonse mobilized up to 50 firefighters and two SOPFEU aircrafts in an attempt to control the blaze that erupted in a pile of building and other residual materials.

The alarm was given at 3:30 p.m. on August 3 and given the proximity of the forest, a call was sent to SOPFEU, the Quebec body in charge of putting out forest fires, explains SOPFEU spokesperson, Mélanie Morin.

"We still don't know the cause of the fire but the municipal firefighters asked for the intervention of SOPFEU because the blaze was spreading rapidly and it was threatening to spread over the nearby woods," explained Ms. Morin on the morning of August 4.

SOPFEU intervened with two aircrafts that came from Baie-Comeau on August 3 and



Photo: Pierre Imbeault

People watched as SOPFEU aircrafts took off after a fill-up.

the organization sent six firefighters on the morning of August 4, as the blaze, although under control, was still quite active under the big pile of material accumulated over the last years by Exploitation Jaffa.

The blaze, called Fire 647 by the SOPFEU staff, covered 0.4 hectare, which is slightly less than a football field. Onlookers watched the aircrafts fill up their tanks along the Caplan beach.

"The Saint-Alphonse blaze forced us to redeploy our firefighters because they were already active on Fire 645, located near Square Forks River, which covered less than one hectare, east of that river, and also east of Road 299 and the Cascapedia River. Fire 645 is located on a very steep mountain side and the aircrafts were active there as well. It was rapidly under control," concluded Ms. Morin.

The mayor of Saint-Alphonse, Josiane Appleby, also talked to the SPEC on the morning of August 4 and said that up to 50 firefighters had converged to the Exploitation Jaffa's site in order to make sure that the blaze would be put out once and for all.

"The firefighters came from Bonaventure, Caplan, New Richmond, Saint-Alphonse and the Maria firefighters replaced the New Richmond ones because they were called to put out a fire in their town," stated Ms. Appleby.

Exploitation Jaffa was supposed to accumulate solely dry building material at its Saint-Alphonse facility.

"Ms. (Magalie) Pouliot accumulates materials in order to process them. She has been doing so for three or four years but the processing stage has not materialized yet. We were fearing a fire and that's what happened," added Mayor Appleby. Magalie Pouliot is the

manager of Exploitation Jaffa.

Quebec Ministry of the Environment representatives were present in Saint-Alphonse to assess the situation and verify if Exploitation Jaffa was respecting the terms of its permit.

"Based on what I know, it was supposed to be dry material. I am not sure it was strictly that," pointed out Josiane Appleby cautiously.

Some photos of the fire were showing the presence of old mattresses in the pile of Exploitation Jaffa.

"We were supposed to have a meeting with Ms. Pouliot later in August and see how the processing project goes. We have one more reason to meet with the company now," concluded Ms. Appleby.

When Exploitation Jaffa bought the location of the former Rexfor sawmill in Saint-Alphonse, the company wanted to turn used building materials into a type of concrete tiles used for floors.

Renovations to the René-Lévesque House will not happen this year

NELSON SERGERIE
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

NEW CARLISLE – The Ministry of Culture and Communications has not planned any work in 2023 on the René-Lévesque House. The ministry took possession of the house located in New Carlisle in September 2021. It is the childhood home of René Lévesque, the former journalist and Premier of Quebec between 1976 and 1985.

In an email, the ministry indicates that it is working on drafting a schedule of needs in order to plan the work that is required on the building.

The Ministry of Culture and Communications hopes that the start of renovations will commence in the spring of 2024. This will give the Ministry enough time to carry out the various necessary expert assessments needed for the building.

"There are several scenarios under discussion with the Ministry of Culture. The consultation team is thinking about an interpretation centre with the Espace René-Lévesque already located in New Carlisle. It would be a contemporary restoration of Mr. René Lévesque's family home and become an annex to the Espace René-Lévesque," says David Thibault, the mayor of New



Photo: N. Sergerie

The current state of the René-Lévesque House in New Carlisle.

Carlisle.

"It could also become an office for the Ministry of Culture or people in journalism or radio, or even linked to a university where journalism or radio students come to the Gaspésie would have a space to work that is linked with the history of Mr. Lévesque," adds the mayor.

"We have no preference for the use of the building. What matters is its enhancement, and its restoration because it remains a building in very poor condition. There was emergency work done but in the

heart of the village, it is important that this infrastructure be updated," says Mr. Thibault, who adds that around 3,000 people visit the Espace René-Lévesque each summer and half of these visitors ask to see the René-Lévesque house.

"Given the state of the house, this is not a desirable situation," continues the mayor who thinks entrusting the house to Espace René-Lévesque would be the natural option.

"That would be another component and eventually linked to a walking tour with

other historic sites in New Carlisle. We could start at Espace René-Lévesque, continue on to the René-Lévesque house and then allow visitors to discover the Hamilton House and the Kempffer Centre. Several sites could be linked together," suggests the mayor.

In its email, the ministry adds that in 2022, it carried out various urgent work to ensure the preservation of the René-Lévesque House and curb its deterioration.

Work carried out included securing the premises, repair-

ing the roof (rafters and sheathing), replacing studs and runners, restoring the heating system and controlling humidity.

In September 2022, the ministry planned new interventions, this time aimed more particularly at the restoration of the foundation of the building, but the plans have since been revised.

It is estimated that restoring the René-Lévesque house to its original state would cost approximately \$800,000.

The detailed 83-page document regarding the state of the house mentioned that the residence built in 1905 needed an investment of \$131,000 immediately for major work and upgrading. The report noted significant mold, heavy interior deterioration due to water infiltration and degraded exterior cladding and roofing. The building may also contain asbestos and lead.

The document specified that the decontamination work must be done before launching its restoration based on the period from 1922 to 1938 when the former premier spent his childhood there.

The René-Lévesque House was classified as a heritage building on October 19, 2012, and obtained recognition status on June 24, 1995.

GASPÉ:

Cleanup and improvements are being done to O'Hara Cemetery

JIM CAPUTO

Located in the very heart of the Town of Gaspé lies an ancient burial ground, the O'Hara Cemetery. No one knows for certain how many people were interred in this place. What is certain is that for many years the site was neglected, left to grow up in brush and weeds and used as a garbage dump. Through the efforts of Heritage Gaspé/Héritage Gaspésie, the area was cleaned of debris and brought to its present condition. Take the opportunity to visit the spot and view the graves of some of our early settlers and think back in time to Gaspé of yesteryear.



Photo: Jim Caputo

Updates

After the initial cleanup, further improvements were made to the site. Stairs were installed to make the area more accessible to the public; white wooden crosses were placed to indicate unmarked graves; a white fence now defines the cemetery; restoration (cleaning of the gravestones) is presently being done - a time-consuming and delicate

O'Hara Cemetery

operation. A new cemetery sign and information plaque have been installed at the site. A small sign indicating the help and support of Lucie Rousseau has been placed on the fence.

The O'Hara's of Gaspé

The O'Hara's, one of the

earliest settlers of the Gaspé Basin area, arrived in Gaspé in 1765. Felix, his wife Martha, and family settled on land long known as O'Hara's Point. Their other holdings included lands that make up much of the present day Gaspé centre. Felix, as well as being a prosperous land owner, played a prominent role in laying the foundations

of the Gaspé communities: being made a Justice of the Peace, becoming the second Collector of Customs for the Port of Gaspé, and being appointed Judge of the District of Gaspé in 1777. He also helped protect the Coast from attacks during the American Revolution, and at the end of hostilities helped to survey and distribute lands to the United Empire Loyalists who came to Douglstown and New Carlisle.

As well as the efforts of Felix, other members of this family also played an important role in the development of early Gaspé. His son, Oliver became Collector of Customs in Carleton; his son Edward represented Gaspé in the first legislature of Lower Canada (Quebec), served in the British army, and was appointed the Governor of the Island of St. Lucia in the Caribbean; Henry, the youngest son, was Collector of Customs for many years and was also a Justice of the Peace and surveyor; Hugh his other son was Collector of Customs in Gaspé.

Through his compassionate efforts in helping immi-

grants sick with fever, he caught the fever himself and died as a result.

The O'Hara's also supported the development of education, the establishment of churches, and served in local militias.

Of the original grave markers, only those of Felix O'Hara (the patriarch of the O'Hara family, who died in 1805); Mary Stuart (wife of Henry O'Hara, who died in 1838); and Jane Chevalier, (the wife of James Perchard, who died in 1848) exist today. It is believed that other members of the O'Hara family may have been buried at this site. It is also believed that others outside of the family were buried here as well.

Throughout the project Dorothy and David Phillips provided immeasurable assistance in researching the information on the O'Hara Cemetery and the O'Hara Family. The following volunteers also played vital roles in the success of the project: Lester and Velma Coffin; Carolyn, Andrew and Jennifer Caputo; Ross Bechervaise; Kerry Miller; Gilles Paris; Bruno Dunn; and Lucie Rousseau.

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23 MURANO SL
\$577 MONTHLY | **64 MOS. LEASE**
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84m Finance		NCF	Banks
Kicks SV SE	Rate	7.24%	7.49%

23 PATHFINDER SL Premium
\$884 MONTHLY | **72 MOS. FINANCE**
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60m Finance		NCF	Banks
Pathfinder SL Premium	Rate	6.24%	7.99%

23 QASHQAI S FWD
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84m Finance		NCF	Banks
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Kempffer Cultural Interpretation Centre renovations: *A fresh face for heritage*

DIANE SKINNER
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

NEW CARLISLE: The Kempffer Cultural Interpretation Centre (also known locally as Kempffer House) recently underwent some major renovations. Current Coordinator, Tracy Major, reflects that back in 2016 the building's renovations were a part of the Centre's action plan. She comments, "When I began as coordinator in 2019, there was already an apparent need for fixing windows. Shingles were missing and there were water drainage issues."

At the end of the 2019 season, writing a project application to the Canadian Cultural Spaces Fund commenced. Feedback from that application indicated that certain elements were missing but the Kempffer Centre was encouraged to reapply.

With the assistance of Dave Felker and Jennifer Hayes of Pacte Rural, a feasibility study was completed which was very positive and helpful, and allowed funders to understand what Kempffer needed. In addition, input was solicited from community members at the AGM in the fall of 2020 after the first application for funding was refused. The next step in what would be a long process, (government funding applications can take a long time to be approved) included Jennifer Hayes reviewing the application along with Mélissa Belanger from the Bonaventure MRC. Numerous meetings including discussions with contractors and other professionals were chaired by the then-president of Kempffer Centre, Betty Anne Smollett.

The funding was eventually approved by Economic Development Canada from their Community Revitalization Fund (CRF) and other funders including the Municipality of New Carlisle, the MRC of Bonaventure, Caisse Populaire Centre Sud Gaspésien and numerous citizens who donated to preserve heritage.

The drafting and inspection were carried out by Mathieu Boulanger of Les Dessins MB and Construction RPD, Inc.

Tracy Major acted as liaison and arranged for contractors to visit the building to evaluate the needs and put forward quotes for the renovations to meet the deadline for the application to be submitted. The most critical renovations required included the replacement of leaking windows, addressing the high



The renovations at the Kempffer Cultural Interpretation Centre are just about complete and these changes will prolong the life of the historic building and preserve its contents.

humidity which can damage artifacts and historic books, and improving overall air quality. Replacing the 15-year-old cedar shingle roof which had deteriorated significantly, upgrading siding to efficient materials that requires no maintenance, replacing gutters and completing trim were on the "must-do" list also.

During the process of meeting with the contractor, Tracy Major learned a great deal about construction materials and methods. During the COVID pandemic and due to wildfires in British Columbia, obtaining materials was an unprecedented challenge. The need to choose materials that would last, and the time allotted to fulfil the renovations became a highly complex task. Heritage New Carlisle felt that the primary goals were to make the Kempffer House efficient, comfortable and sustainable and to reduce operating costs.

In 2019, the historic Caldwell House (circa 1800) now located on the same property, had been recently donated to Kempffer but required immediate renovations. One example of the challenges that are faced when renovating historic buildings concerns the roof's cedar shingles on that building, which normally last for just 15 years. To prolong their life, a special membrane called a "cedar breather" was purchased and installed. This adds to the cost. The only grade of shingles that could be purchased was Grade B due to wildfires in British Columbia. For a while, there was a Canada-wide shortage of any sort of cedar shingles. Another factor to contend with was that after the pandemic, renovations increased everywhere so all materials were subject to limited

supply due to massive increase in demand. This new roof is guaranteed for 25 years because it is made of the best quality materials attainable. Volunteers worked on dismantling the old roof of the Caldwell House which cut down on the cost of that project significantly.

The Kempffer project had several components, and another big challenge was the siding. Most importantly the new siding needed to be long-lasting and efficient, and within the budget. The choice to install "low maintenance" siding was of necessity, a practical decision. The new siding fulfils that objective. The previous siding was cedar shingles on three sides and the Victorian Brick Red on the front that visitors were familiar with had sun damage, so the colour had faded. It needed to be replaced with materials that were more long-lasting and durable. Manufactured siding ticks both of those boxes. The primary goal is the preservation of the building and its contents.

The new colour choice has been questioned by some who expressed their admiration for the previous Victorian Brick Red exterior. Working under time and financial constraints, with an eye on choosing materials with longevity, difficult decisions had to be made. Orders had to be processed and filled as "substantial wait times were not on our side," states Tracy Major. The building has been several colours over the years and was originally made of slate, which is grey. The new colour reflects part of this colour history. Tracy adds, "The new colour is named Cliffside and though we all shy away from change sometimes, this was the best option available."

The first choice Country Red (similar to Victorian Brick Red) had been discontinued. Had wooden siding been a feasible and affordable option, all colours were available but at three times the price.

The Kempffer Cultural & Interpretation Centre is about history, and it is the role of the Board of Directors to preserve that history. The renovations were a long and arduous task, with some finishing touches yet

to be completed. The artifacts and books will no longer be damaged by high humidity, visitors will be more comfortable because previously the temperature was difficult to regulate, which resulted in high heating bills. The building itself should be sustainable for a long time and available for new generations to discover. "The decisions that were made throughout the renovations were always made with longevity in mind," Tracy notes. She adds, "Not everyone is excited about history, but I am!"

There is so much to see this summer at The Kempffer House including a new exhibit by Family Ties, called "Back to Nature." On July 4 a lively Open House welcomed over 65 visitors to the Vernissage. People enjoyed live music, comedy skits and unique local artwork. Visitors are welcome to visit the Kempffer House to tour the building until August 26. Visit and be excited about your local history! The opening hours are Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

If you are a lover of heritage, donations are always appreciated, and a tax receipt will be given for \$20 and more.

STRIPED BASS

▶ Cont'd from Page 3

their catch or simply the presence of striped bass in salmon rivers.

"The Ministry of the Environment, the Fight against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks annually counts the mentions of striped bass in partnership with the Quebec Federation for Atlantic Salmon (...) The Ministry processes this data annually. Since these are observations, it is impossible to estimate the biomass," she adds.

There is no accurate assessment of striped bass catches in the Gaspé Peninsula rivers, points out Ève Morin Desrosiers, because the monitoring carried out in the river is not considered a rigorous catch assessment tool.

"It must be understood that catches in rivers are marginal. With regard to catches at sea, including estuaries, the Ministry of the Environment, the Fight against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks has carried out an annual characterization of the striped bass

fishery since 2014. Monitoring is done through a survey of recreational fishers. Full surveys took place in 2014 and 2015 south of the Gaspé Peninsula. In 2022, the survey covered the south and north parts of the Gaspé Peninsula as well as a part of the Lower Saint Lawrence region included in the striped bass fishing sector. From 2019 to 2021, as well as in 2023, monitoring of fishing indicators allows us to follow trends in this activity south of the Gaspé Peninsula," concludes Ms. Morin Desrosiers.

A Quebec government report released in 2022 and consulted by SPEC shows that the ministry, called Forest, Wildlife and Parks before the October election, has not continuously assessed striped bass catches in every region where the species can be found. This particularity complicates any conclusion that could be useful to evaluate the abundance of striped bass in a specific region over a long period.

30th Annual Gesgapegiag Mawiomi PowWow

DIANE SKINNER
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

GESGAPEGIAG: The weather was beautiful on the weekend of July 28, 29 and 30 which helped the Annual PowWow to be a huge success. The 30th Annual Gesgapegiag Mawiomi PowWow attracted large crowds to the free event. Spectators were able to enjoy the colourful beauty of the PowWow, meet up with friends and have an opportunity to browse the vendors' tables for handmade items, many made locally. This year's PowWow was held at the Traditional Mawiomi Grounds on Perron Blvd., Gesgapegiag. The word "Mawiomi" is derived from the Migmaw language and means gathering.

The weekend started on Friday, July 28, with the Gesgapegiag Health and Community Services 6th Annual Health and Wellness Fair. This was hosted by GHCS from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Greeting visitors was Aftercare Counsellor, Pamela Lavigne, and Wellness Support Worker, Brittany Bernard. They invited people to fill in a survey and enter their names to win a gift basket.

Early Friday evening, from

6 p.m. until 9:30 p.m., live entertainment was a perfect part of a lovely and positive event. The two bands, The Mi'gmaq Boys and Micmac Drive delighted their audience with some great music.

On Saturday, drummers and dancers registered onsite between 9 a.m. and noon. At 12:30 p.m. the splendid grand entry took place including the Flag Song, opening prayer and remarks, and the Veteran Song. Throughout the afternoon a variety of dancers of all ages clad in their traditional Aboriginal regalia enthralled the attendees. There was a drum contest, and head dancer special and many memorable and colourful moments.

The Honourary Host Drum was Eastern Eagle, Keigan Sack, who has attended the PowWow for many years. The Host Drum was Crazy Spirit, who was warmly welcomed to the territory. The theme for this year's PowWow was Honouring the Drum and all drum groups were noted to have been exceptional.

Head Dancers, Alexa Metallic and Tekanatakon Two-Axe Larocque, were praised for their love and pride in the sacred teaching and per-



Photo: Kayla Caplin Photography

On Saturday, July 28, and Sunday, July 29, the 30th Annual Gesgapegiag Mawiomi PowWow took place on traditional Mawiomi PowWow grounds.

forming of dance. The Junior Head dancers, Anayah Larocque and Ala'suinu Barnaby, showed their skill and dedication for their culture's dance and honouring their cultural heritage. All dancers helped to preserve the culture and practice of dance.

Emcees, Trevor Gould and Roger Lee Martin, did a great job of describing the participants and events all while

keeping the crowds entertained. Sacred Firekeeper, Tim Adams kept the fire burning throughout the weekend.

On both Saturday and Sunday mornings a homemade breakfast was offered at the Elder's Lodge followed by yoga led by Acosia at the Youth and Family Centre.

On Saturday evening a Community Feast was held followed by comedian, Howie

Miller. These events took place at the Galgoasiet Natural Resources Building.

Mitchell Syvret-Caplin, a member of the PowWow Committee tells SPEC that a rough estimate of the number of people who attended the PowWow is about 500. He adds, "It's hard to say for sure, because we were all so caught up in the moment and the action of it all."

Exposition / Fair

JEUDI 17 AOÛT / THURSDAY AUGUST 17TH

18H00
Soirée d'ouverture vin et fromage
Opening night wine and cheese
18H00 - 21H00
Encan silencieux dans la salle de danse.
Silent auction in dance hall.

VENDREDI 18 AOÛT / FRIDAY AUGUST 18TH

8H00 - 11H00
Pâtisseries, artisans, récoltes et légumes doivent être reçus avant 11h pour le jugement
Baking, handicrafts, vegetables and crops must be received by 11:00 for judging

9H00 Heure de départ du rallye vélo - Tous les âges
9H00 Bike Rally start - all ages
9H30 Artisanat pour enfants / crafts for kids
13H00 Tîre de chevaux / Local single horsehaul
17H00 Jeux traditionnels / Traditional Games

SAMEDI 19 AOÛT / SATURDAY AUGUST 19TH

10H00 - 16H00
Journée familiale (zoo pour enfants, mobile livres et heure du conte, magicien, atelier de fabrication de cerf-volant et plus)
Family Day (petting zoo for kids, book mobile, story time, magician, kite making workshop, etc.)
11H30 Inscription au tournoi de volleyball (4 contre 4) / Registration for the volleyball tournament (4 VS 4)
12H00 Ouverture des présentations de chevaux (inscription avant 12H00) / Opening horse show (horses must be registered before 12:00)
17H00 Course de tracteurs à gazon / Lawn Tractor Race (inscription \$20)

DIMANCHE 20 AOÛT / SUNDAY AUGUST 20TH

10H00 Messe Gospel / Gospel Service
12h00 - 15h00 Lulu Berlue
13H00 Jugement d'animaux domestiques et exotiques / Domestic Pet & Exotic Animal Judging
14H00 Tîre de chevaux double / Double Horse Haul
15H00 Fin de l'exposition / End of the fair (pickup all submitted handicrafts in loft)

Shigawake Fair & Music Festival

2023

Musique / Music

JEUDI 17 AOÛT / THURSDAY AUGUST 17TH

19H00 Open Mic
20H00 A little bit of Metal (Metal)
20H30 Eastern Connection w/ Alan Walker (Country)

VENDREDI 18 AOÛT / FRIDAY AUGUST 18TH

12h00 Music in Trough / Musique dans Trough
19H00 Max Bujold & the Milestones (Country Rock)
20H00 Jonny & Marie Full Band (Country)
21H00 The Barr Brothers duo (Folk Rock Delta Blues)
22H00 Trilogy tribute to Rush (Rock)

SAMEDI 19 AOÛT / SATURDAY AUGUST 19TH

12H00 Music in Trough / Musique dans Trough
13H00 Boots Fire Line Dancing (Country)
14H00 Socalled and Friends Puppet Party (Musical Theatre/Klezmer/Funk)
15H00 Ten Gallon Hat (Country)
16H00 Clemville Outlaws (Country Rock)

19H00 Socalled and Friends Puppet Party (Musical Theatre/Klezmer/Funk)
20H00 Steve Hill solo (Blues Rock)
21H00 Pamela Rooney (Country)
22H00 Cropduster (Rock)
23H00 Rodney's Fantasy (Pop Rock)
24h00 uRockaoke (Live Karaoke in the Trough)

DIMANCHE 20 AOÛT / SUNDAY AUGUST 20TH

10H00 Gospel Service (Gospel)
12H00 Music in Trough / Musique dans Trough
13H00 Complete recordings of Hezekiah Proctor (Old Time)
14H00 Beatrice Deer ("Inuindie" Pop)
15H00 Thanya Iyer (Future Folk)
16H00 Mother of Cups (Folk Rock)
17H00 Nash and the Narrows (Country)

Billets / Tickets

LAISSEZ-PASSER / WEEKEND PASS: \$30
(avant / before August 17 aout)
LAISSEZ-PASSER / WEEKEND PASS: \$35
(à partir de / as of August 17 aout)
Jeudi / Thursday: Gratuit / Free
Vendredi / Friday: \$10
Samedi / Saturday: \$20
Dimanche / Sunday: \$10

12 ans et - Gratuit
12 years and - Free

TOUTE LA FIN DE SEMAINE / SERVICES ALL WEEKEND:

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Bar

Cantine / Canteen

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Day and night

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Photo: Courtesy of Accent Meubles

The traditional ribbon-cutting in front of dozens of guests.

\$2 million expansion for the Accent Meubles store in Gaspé

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ - Accent Meubles in Gaspé continues its expansion by investing \$2 million to increase its surface area to 31,000 square feet.

The owner, Daniel Mainville, explains that the expansion will help meet the needs of his customers. "Customers were asking us more and more about the choice of products. Everything was fine. We have a great team. We decided to invest for the future and for the customers," explains Mr. Mainville.

This is the fourth expansion of the store which is the largest in the Gaspé Peninsula.

The expansion is not over. "We are working on a concept. We acquired the neighbouring building, the former Store Mag store. This summer, we are going to liquidate the interior and we will start renovations next fall," says Mr. Mainville.

The owner remains discreet about the vocation of this new phase of expansion.

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Hint: Look back into the July 19 issue to answer our bonus question.



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DISCOVER MORE



Photo: Courtesy Town of Gaspé

The mayor of Gaspé, Daniel Côté, with the young workers including the president, Cyrille Stienlet (white shirt in the back) and the coordinator, Patricia Lemieux-Mainville.

High school students launch a small business for the summer

NELSON SERGERIE
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

GASPÉ - Five young high school students are joining forces to launch the Jeune coop de Gaspé. Ranging in age from 12 to 14 years, they immediately admit that their main motivation is money. "I believe that work experience at 12 is not possible elsewhere. The cooperative allows young people aged 12, 13 and 14 to get their first work experience, but also to set up their own small business," explains the coordinator, Pascale Lemieux-Mainville.

These young people are the prime contractors in the operation of their small business.

"We have a lot of contracts. Especially lawn care (contracts). We would like to have other contracts: weeding, painting, housekeeping and exterior maintenance, babysitting and dog walking," underlines the president, Cyrille Stienlet.

The young people are also open to doing other contracts "if it comes up and if it tempts them," adds the coordinator.

"Youth service cooperatives have been around for years. It's fun to see it continue, to see our youth get involved in the community and learn the basics of entrepreneurship. Congratulations young people," comments the mayor of Gaspé, Daniel Côté, who was present at the official launch of the activities on July 18 at the Gaspé Town Hall.

The activities will run until August 11 and are made possible thanks to the collaboration of several Côte-de-Gaspé partners.

Petit Pabos River bridge: Bills continue to climb

NELSON SERGERIE
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

CHANDLER - The bill for work to extend the useful life of Chandler's Petit Pabos River bridge is skyrocketing. From a forecast of \$125,000 last spring, it's now estimated at \$600,000, with the work scheduled for completion in August.

"Due to the increase in the surface area to be repaired, additional time has been added to the duration of the work. Initially scheduled from May 15 to June 15, the work should be completed by the end of August," explains the Transport Ministry in an email.

In the meantime, a second call for tenders was issued in an attempt to obtain a better price, with bids for the bridge rehabilitation remaining higher than estimated.

The Ministry of Transport had estimated the reconstruction work at between \$15 and



Credit: Archives

The cost of repairing Chandler's Petit Pabos River bridge has now reached \$600,000, according to the Ministry of Transportation.

\$20 million. The lowest bid came in at \$22.3 million, while the next highest was \$23.2 million.

The ministry will be analyzing the proposals received and will soon decide on its in-

tentions.

In the spring, the lowest bid came in at \$22.2 million.

The deck, beams, slabs and even an abutment will undergo work over two years to refurbish the bridge built in 1965.

Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



Picking favourites

According to a recent IPSOS poll, a surprising 40% of people choose autumn as their favourite season, spring and summer are tied at 26% and winter takes the last spot as their favourite season at just 8%. Do you have a favourite season?

There is nothing so beautiful as a warm, sunny day on the Peninsula with a slight breeze to remind us that we are near the sea. Besides, that is a perfect day to hang out the wash. Fall days, crisp and sunny, tell us why so many people choose fall as their favourite. The evenings are cooler, so it is sweater weather, hooray! Summer is to be savoured because it passes so quickly. In fact, all seasons can be cherished for their special beauty. The absolute best parts of all the seasons are taking walks to take in the sights, sounds and smells. Looking out the window is lovely but getting outside with all your senses is wonderful.

The great thing about walking is that it is an activity that just about everyone can do. Young or old, amateur or athlete, you can find a trail, path or route that is perfectly suited to you.

Psychologists have compiled studies and from this data, they have extrapolated some similar personality traits from people who prefer a certain season. See if you agree with their conclusions.

Summer: Do the longer, warmer, brighter days entice you? It may mean you are a person who loves to be active outdoors. You like to travel and tend to be outgoing, even extroverted. Others may describe you as assertive and personable.

Fall: The vibrant colours and cooler weather appeal to those who like change in their lives. People who choose fall as their favourite season, tend to be reflective and like to look back and take stock of their lives.

Winter: People who choose winter as their favourite season tend to be a bit introverted, even homebody types. If you choose winter as your favourite, you enjoy curling up on the couch with a hot drink and a soft blanket. Of course, the opposite personality who loves the snow and all that it can offer such as skiing, skidooing and skating, might be a different sort of person.

Spring: If this is your favourite season you crave new experiences and spring offers those opportunities for increased activity and renewal. It is a chance to embrace new beginnings.

Do you seem to suit one of these seasons more than the others? Which is your favourite?

Time is fleeting and soon this summer will be over. Let's get out and enjoy a walk to remember. It can be a short stroll, a brisk walk or a challenging hike. Choose whatever is best for you to enjoy the fleeting days of summer.

Petition denounces living conditions at the New Carlisle prison

GILLES GAGNÉ

NEW CARLISLE - A petition is circulating at the New Carlisle prison to object to the living conditions of the 80 inmates who are currently imprisoned. The conditions the inmates are currently facing are described as deplorable.

Joël Glazer who has been jailed since July 11 for breaking-and-entering, denounces the lack of air conditioning and pitiful air quality. According to Mr. Glazer, who talked to CHNC radio station, the temperature exceeds 40 degrees inside the prison during the summer and the prison also has a high humidity factor. The plastic barriers that were installed on cell doors

during the pandemic are making the situation worse. The petition will be forwarded to the Quebec Ombudsman and the Human Rights Commission.

There are 50 cells at the New Carlisle prison but the capacity of the building is around 100 inmates due to the presence of dormitories. The prison has on average approximately 50 inmates but that number can vary significantly.

During the November 2020 COVID-19 outbreak, 47 inmates and 11 correctional officers were infected with the coronavirus, a situation attributable to the presence of dormitories, barred doors and the obsolete configuration of the prison.

75 years for Camp Haldimand in Gaspé

NELSON SERGERIE
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

GASPÉ – Camp Haldimand, a summer camp for young people, is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year and site officials marked this anniversary with a series of activities between July 26 and 30.

“In 1948, we held our first camp at this site. During the Second World War, the site was a fort and together with Péninsule and Prevel, the three protected Gaspé Bay,” says Martha Patterson Costella, one of the board members.

After the war, the site was taken under the care of the Anglican Church, which organized camps that have been held every year since.

“The site was purchased by the Anglican Church and the primary purpose was to make a camp for children. It is open to everyone and between a quarter and a third of the participants between the ages of six and 12 are francophones,” explains Ms. Patterson Costello while the activities are held in English.

Previously, the camps lasted two weeks, but due to the pandemic, activities were suspended. This year activities resumed but only for one week.



Photos: N. Sergerie

On July 26, a few dozen people participated in the opening of the celebrations to mark the 75th anniversary of the site.

“It is important to mark the 75th anniversary. It's fantastic. Many organizations don't last that long and to our knowledge, it is the only one that has remained in activity,” says Ms. Patterson Costello.

“Can we dream? My dream is to resume activities for the summer with two weeks for young girls and two weeks for the teenagers, two weeks for the young boys and two others

for the older ones,” says the administrator while this mode of operation continued until 2010. Back then, between 30 to 40 young people attended each camp.

“They came from Barachois, New Carlisle, Shigawake, New Richmond and the Magdalen Islands,” says Ms. Patterson Costello.

Ron Dumaresq was one of the first youngsters to attend the camp in 1948. He was 13 at the time. He remembers his first time at the camp.

“The camp was one house. We prepared all this ground in the first year. We built everything with the groups at the time, like the chalets in particular,” recalls the now 88-year-old Gaspé resident. Seventy-five years later, it is still present on the site.

“I come every year. I attend all meetings. This place has been an inspiration to everyone who has come here over the years. The Scouts and Guides came here every year and it was really special,” adds Mr. Dumaresq.

He also remembers the tents set up behind the buildings. The site is now a forest

again.

Other religious communities use the site to hold events including the Christian Assembly of Gaspé.

“For our church family, it allows us a close gathering place. We also have a place in the Bay of Chaleur, but for people with a loss of autonomy or young families, travelling for three or four hours is not easy. This place has become a more relaxed home base. This proximity has been a blessing

for various reasons,” explains the pastoral assistant, Marie-France Lamarche.

Women's retreats, Christian Assembly Whole Church Weekends, and outdoor religious celebrations are also held here.

“We are really grateful for this opportunity and I know people who have done weddings and rented the whole site. So it's a multifunctional place that allows believers to live life together, which we don't experience much now,” adds the pastoral assistant who wishes to have the possibility of using the site in the future.

“We would be very happy. It's a great partnership between our different communities of faith,” concludes Ms. Lamarche, who was accompanied by Pastor Jacques Robitaille of the Christian Assembly of Gaspé.

Fort Haldimand is part of the real estate heritage of the Répertoire du patrimoine culturel du Québec.

It was built in 1941 during the Second World War when the National Defence was setting up the three coastal batteries that are Fort Péninsule, Fort Prével and Fort Haldimand.

The Haldimand site is made up of a set of wooden buildings designed to house nearly 82 soldiers and two officers.



Ron Dumaresq took part in the first youth camp in 1948. He poses in front of the first building constructed on the site.



Pastor Jacques Lamoureux of the Christian Assembly of Gaspé with the pastoral assistant, Marie-France Lamarche.



Some of the Fort Haldimand facilities are in very good condition.

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ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Things that have seemingly been holding you back should be reevaluated this week, Aries. You are looking elsewhere for solutions, when all you need to do is make a few tweaks.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, spend time reflecting on things this week, as you may have some difficult decisions to make in the near future. A close confidante can serve as a sounding board.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Gemini, now is the time to identify your priorities as they pertain to the job. Do you want a career and a company that you stick with? Or, are you satisfied with being a contract worker?

CANCER – June 22/July 22

Prepare for some stressful times ahead, Cancer. It is nothing you cannot survive, but it could throw a wrench in your plans for the time being. Reward yourself with some extra pampering.

LEO – July 23/Aug 23

Leo, you may have planned on staying to yourself, in order to knock things off of your to-do list. That simply will not pan out right now. Expect to be surrounded by people.



VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, others do not seem receptive to your way of doing things this week. You cannot please everyone, so figure out who you can work with and appeal to those people to get things done.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, you may have to take off the rose-colored glasses for a little while. Although it's good to have a cheery outlook, a no-nonsense approach will serve you well in the days ahead.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, you could be having doubts about your role in your workplace. Maybe the work isn't stimulating or the responsibilities too great. If change is happening, do it soon.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, something from your past will come back to the surface in the days to come. Maybe it is an error you made or it could be an opportunity that you

thought was lost.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Think about adding more hobbies or recreational activities to your slate, Capricorn. All work and no play is not healthy for you right now. It's time to find a greater balance in life.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, the latest developments on the job have not been encouraging. You are tempted to cut back on your efforts, but you are worried about the implications of that.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

People who followed you in the past may now confront you with a difference of opinion, Pisces. No need to worry as a healthy dialogue could help the relationship grow.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- AUGUST 6:** Vera Farmiga, Actress (50)
- AUGUST 7:** Kyler Murray, Athlete (26)
- AUGUST 8:** Shawn Mendes, Singer (25)
- AUGUST 9:** Anna Kendrick, Actress (38)
- AUGUST 10:** Rickey Smiley, Comic (55)
- AUGUST 11:** Chris Hemsworth, Actor (40)
- AUGUST 12:** Cara Delevingne, Model (31)

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Construction has begun on a new childcare facility in Chandler

NELSON SERGERIE
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

CHANDLER – After a long administrative delay, caused in part by inflation in the construction sector, work has begun on the new Centre de la petite enfance (CPE), La belle Journée facility in Chandler.

The excavation of the land located near the current complex on Hôtel-de-Ville Street is underway. Once the land is ready, construction of the building itself will begin, which is scheduled for September.

Delivery of the 71-place centre, 15 of which are reserved for infants, is scheduled for the end of June.

Initially budgeted at \$3 million, the \$3.2 million project is in line with the projections, with the increase in the envelope of \$200,000 from the government of Quebec to take into account the excavation of the land, which turned out to be more complex than originally planned.



Credit: Courtesy CPE La belle Journée

Excavation work is underway for the future complex.

Director Hélène McInnis points out that it was a long and arduous process to frame

the project, which at one point was approaching \$4 million. One hundred children are

on the waiting list and around thirty are pre-registered (pregnant women).

Meanwhile, the community at-home childcare project at the l'Assomption school in Val-d'Espoir should open its doors towards the end of September.

The CPE coordinating office, which is responsible for the facility, is awaiting delivery of the site by the Town of Percé, which had reserved \$30,000 to adapt the facilities in accordance with the requirements.

In addition, candidates have shown interest in offering the service and Ms. McInnis is confident of being able to offer the 12 places authorized by the Government of Quebec, especially since the demand is there.

The CPE has not submitted any other projects of this kind to the Quebec government for the time being.

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch # 64: Renovations well underway

DIANE SKINNER
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

NEW CARLISLE: – The recent renovations at the New Carlisle Legion are almost completed, thanks to financial support from the MRC of Bonaventure, Heritage Canada, fundraising activities, donations and the dedication of volunteers.

These recent renovations will better allow the Legion to fulfil its mandates. Once complete the New Carlisle Legion will be able to offer community activities, including suppers and gatherings in a safe secure location (community hub for all). The building will also be available to rent for community activities. The Legion also showcases local military heritage, and plays a role in educating the community of the past sacrifices of our veterans. The specific renovations completed include the installation of a new heat pump, a new electrical panel was installed as the old panel could not support the new heat pump and new appliances. New appliances for the bar area and a new kitchen located on the main floor were also part of the renovations.

Renovations are still ongoing to the old office, which will be transformed into a kitchenette that will be more accessible, have ventilation, wiring, lighting and outlets upgraded.

The bar area and storage area still require lighting,



Photo: Tammy Chatterton

The renovations at the New Carlisle Legion are well underway with a projected reopening for mid-August. The upgrades and changes reflect the stated mandate of the Legion which includes offering community activities in a safe and secure location.

wiring and upgraded outlets to support new fridges, and an ice machine. Changes to the museum section of the Legion are also still taking place, with pictures and artifacts being put on full display for members and visitors to enjoy.

The Government of Canada New Horizons for Seniors Program grant allowed the Legion to purchase new flooring, a shuffleboard table and a pool table.

Historical

The branch was designated

as Mount Sorel Branch #64 by a charter issued by Dominion Command of the Royal Canadian Legion on July 25, 1935.

The Legion building constructed in 1953 was destroyed by fire in early 1970, but was rebuilt in October of the same year. Although the building has had some renovations over the years, it has been almost 20 years since any major renovations took place. Updates were needed to get the building up to code for both safety and accessibility.

The good news is that the number of members is continuing to rise, post COVID. In February 2022 there were 63 members, and as of June 2023 there are 90 paid members.

Kathy Gallon, Legion Secretary, states, “We basically want people who might never have been to the Legion ‘to come on down’ and find out what we’re all about. It’s a very friendly and inviting place and we think once they pay a visit, they will want to come back.”

You do not need to be a veteran, or a family member of a veteran to join. A yearly membership costs \$45 and includes random draws of gifts and other specials such as free drinks and door prizes. Attending member meetings will give you the chance to see the inner workings of the Legion and an opportunity to volunteer at the branch. With your membership you’ll also receive a free subscription to the Legion Magazine.

The board

After the closure of the Legion during 2020-2022 due to COVID, the Legion President Tammy Chatterton, Comrades Kathy Gallon (Secretary), Fay Gallon (Membership), Mary Woods (Second Vice), Howard Chedore (First Vice) and Clyde Flowers (Treasurer) established the goal of reopening the Legion and offering new and different events and activities, as well as the old favourites.

Service Officer is Past-president Comrade John Kaye Walker and Poppy Committee Chair is past-president Comrade Ross Smith.

The Legion currently offers special breakfasts and suppers for Mother’s Day and Father’s Day, weekly darts and shuffleboard including tournaments, line dancing, various fundraisers, room rentals to community and organizations, and musical entertainment at least twice a month. Kathy Gallon adds, “Many people might think our entertainment is geared towards seniors, but that’s not the case at all as we try to showcase a broad cross section of entertainers. We have a little bit of everything from country to rock.”

The committee would love to have all the renovations completed quickly but, as with any renovation project, you can run into additional costs that cannot be foreseen..

Once these renovations are complete, which should be by mid-August, the Legion is looking forward to taking a “reno-break” so that all activities and events can be offered, and the kitchenette will be available for full use for lunches and suppers and for use by the community.

For all upcoming Legion events, check the Coast Round-Up section of The Gaspé Spec or on the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #64 facebook page.

Announcements



Obituaries



KERR: Katherine Victoria

It is with profound sorrow that we announce the unexpected death of Katherine Victoria Kerr at the age of 28 years old on September 27, 2022, in Saint John, New Brunswick.

She leaves behind three precious children: Karson, 10, Demi, 4, and Maycee, 10 months, father: Michel Kerr (Sara); and mother: Deborah Zwicker (Tyler); brothers: Brandon (Catelyn) Kerr, Riley Kerr and Aidyn Zwicker; and sister: Madeleine Kerr; step siblings: Brandon, Justin, Courtney and Tyler Zwicker; aunts Nathalie Kerr and Bonnie (Orrin) Fraser; grandparents: Alfred and Cheryl Fraser and Françoise Kerr. She was predeceased by her grandfather Donnie Kerr.

Katherine was a graduate of Saint John High School in 2012 and furthered her education to become a Personal Support Worker (PSW) finding full-time employment with Rocmaura Nursing Home in Saint John, New Brunswick, eventually becoming a stay-at-home mom.

Katherine who preferred to be called "Katie" was a devoted mother who worked incredibly hard to give her children the best life possible. She was the happiest when she was spending time with her children, taking them to school or just simply playing with them at the beach or out in nature. She was loved by all who knew her and always was willing to help out a friend in need or take in a stray animal. She had a kind soul with an infectious smile and an unforgettable laugh. Katie enjoyed spending time with family, travelling, fashion, music and drawing. She was a strong independent beautiful young lady who had a feisty spirit with a passion for living life authentically on her terms. Katie will forever be missed by all who knew her.

Professional services have been entrusted to the Salon Funéraire Henri Thibodeau inc. A Funeral Serv-

ice will be held at the Catholic Church in New Carlisle on Saturday, August 12, 2023, at 10:30 a.m with burial to take place at the United Church Cemetery in New Carlisle following the funeral. A reception will be held after the burial at the New Carlisle Municipality. Everyone is welcome to join family and friends.



ROBERTSON: William Duncan

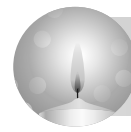
William Duncan Robertson, 97, passed away peacefully at the Parkwood Veterans Hospital, London, Ontario, on Wednesday, July 26, 2023. Bill Robertson who resided in London, Ontario, was formerly from Wiarton, Ontario.

Beloved husband of the late Carole Robertson-Wheeler (nee Evans) (2017). Cherished father of Duncan of Prescott, Ontario and David (Jenya) of Germany and step-father of Cathy Wheeler of Woodstock, Ontario; David Wheeler (Sandra) of Cambridge, Ontario; Bill Wheeler of Thunder Bay, Ontario; and James Wheeler of Ayr, Ontario. Loving grandfather of many. Dear brother of Lee of Montreal, Quebec; Harvey of Thornbury, Ontario; Martha Turner of Brantford, Ontario; Mabel Robertson-Flaherty (Joe) of Paris, Ontario and Alice Chisholm of Brantford, Ontario.

Predeceased by parents Jessie 'Dickie' (nee Delaney) and Duncan Robertson, brothers Howard and Murray, step-son Bob Wheeler and step-daughter Susan Thompson.

Arrangements entrusted to the Dows and Sons Funeral Home, Hepworth, Ontario. The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 586, conducted a Legion Service on Friday, August 4, 2023 at 1 p.m. at the funeral home. Immediately following the Legion service, the funeral service was conducted by Rev. Gerry Hofstetter. Interment at Zion Cemetery, Hepworth, Ontario.

Expressions of remembrance to the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 586, would be appreciated. Messages of condolence may be sent to the family through www.downsandsonfuneralhome.com



In Memory



STARNES: Judy

In memory of my loving wife.
*I have lost my soul's companion,
 A life linked with my own.
 And day by day I miss her more,
 As I walk through life alone.*

Loved and missed by your husband, Alfred.


WARD: Elliott Clarence

In loving memory of a dear father, father-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather, who passed away on August 13, 2003.


*You were a dad who was so special,
 And who was loved so very much,
 And brought so much happiness,
 To the many hearts you touched.
 You were always kind and caring,
 And so understanding too,
 And, if help was ever needed Dad
 It so freely came from you.
 You were a gift to all the world,
 And brought joy to everyone,
 And life has never been the same,
 Ever since you have been gone.*



Sadly missed and forever loved by daughter Frances (Bernie), grandsons Mark (Erin) and great-grandsons Reid, Cole and Benn; Kevin (Courtney) and great-granddaughters Avery and Carys; sons Ken (Chris); Everette; Wayne (Monique) and grandson Dave (Josiane) and great-granddaughter Julia, great-grandsons Elliott and James; and grandson Brian.

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The Gaspé Spec wishes to inform its subscribers that the August 16 and 23 issues of The Gaspé Spec will only be mailed on Thursdays.



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COAST ROUND-UP

BARACHOIS: BADC

August 26: The Barachois public market will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Barachois Rec. Centre, 1062 Route 132 East. Bakers, crafters, artisans and garden produce. To reserve a table, please contact Sandy Coombs at 581-887-

1417. Cost per table is \$10.

CORNER OF THE BEACH: Historical Society

The Corner of the Beach Historical Society is pleased to present a series of concerts every Wednesday at the Corner of the Beach Cultural Museum (former St. Luke Anglican Church). The church will be entirely lit with more than 200 candles for the occasion. The full schedule is available on the Musée culturel de Coin-du-Banc Facebook page.

August 16: Char in concert beginning at 9 p.m.

August 23: Ibal Zadok on sitar and Shawn Mativetsy on tabla in concert beginning at 9 p.m.

PORT DANIEL: Three Star Golden Age Club

Tuesdays: Pétanque from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. every Tuesday evening to have fun and learn a new game. Cost is \$3.

HOPE TOWN: Sports and Recreation Club

September 17: 20th annual Terry Fox Walk at the Hope Town Community Centre. Registration beginning at 12:30 p.m. and the walk will begin at 1 p.m. Two walking options are available. Option one: Walk begins at the Community Centre east along the 132, north along the Chemin du Vieux Moulin, across Le Petit 2 and then south on Route Tennier, ending at the Community Centre. Option two: Walk,

the distance you are comfortable with along the sidewalk in the Municipal Park. Free lunch will be provided for all participants, followed by music with Vern Huntington in the park during the afternoon. Please join us for this worthwhile cause.

September 22: Gift bingo beginning at 7 p.m. at the Hope Town Community Centre. Bring your dabbers.

HOPE: Hope Baptist Church

Sundays: Sunday School starting at 10 a.m. Worship service beginning at 11 a.m.

NEW CARLISLE: Bible Chapel Meetings

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Breaking of Bread for believers. 2 p.m. Gospel meeting and Sunday School.

Thursdays: 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting and Bible Study. Everyone welcome! For more information: 418-752-3372 or 418-752-6011.

NEW CARLISLE: SPEC AGM

September 12: Save the date! SPEC AGM, more details to follow.

NEW CARLISLE: Marché Local Market New Carlisle

Every Saturday: Saturday mornings, come and join us in the Municipal Park, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. There is music, community and conversation, not to mention shopping for local products. Every Saturday including

the Garlic Festival on September 23. (3/4)

NEW CARLISLE: Royal Canadian Legion Branch #64

Please be advised that Legion memberships are available for \$45. Returning and new members welcome.

September 5: General meeting at 7 p.m. at 1 Mount Sorrel, New Carlisle.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: River Museum

Hear the stories of the world famous salmon river and discover the life-cycle of the Atlantic Salmon. Open Monday to Friday until **August 31**, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. **September 4 to 14** open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The Tea Room will also be open on **Tuesdays** from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. For more information please call 418-392-5079.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: 50+ Club

August 19: The Cascapedia 50+ Club will be having a BBQ from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hamburgers, hot dogs and salads, plus deserts, \$15 per person, \$10 for children under 12 and 5 and under free.

ROTARY CLUB WINNERS: The winners for the week of July 2 are:

Josée Barlow, Karianne Boucher, Yvette Huard, Jean Beaulieu, Paul Gagnon, Florence Bélanger and Réjeanne Bujold.

The winners for the

week of July 9 are: Judith Gagnon, Gisèle Cavanagh, Fabien Gagné, Gérald Bujold, Carol Henry, Jean-Marie Poirier and Gary Marsh.

The winners for the week of July 16 are: Daniel Duchesneau, Sonia Dubé, Dominique Cyr, Jenna Boudreau, Armand Lavergne and Zlaturon Palmens.

The winners for the week of July 23 are: Marilyn Coull, Louis Lacroix, Mireille Cyr, Nancy Martin, Nancy Willett, Laval Cyr and Roland Cyr.

The winners for July 30 and 31 are: Hugo Cyr and Myrna Lee Budd.

UNITED CHURCH NEW RICHMOND
Sunday, August 13 & 20
10 a.m. Service

UNITED CHURCH HOPE TOWN
Sunday, August 20
10 a.m. Shigawake Fairgrounds

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
Sunday, August 13

NEW CARLISLE
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist
PORT DANIEL
9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, August 20
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