

The Gaspé Spec

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Let's glow!



Photos: Anouk

PENNY MACWHIRTER

PORT-DANIEL-GASCONS: - On Saturday, August 3, the second annual Glow-in-the-Dark event took place at the Port-Daniel harbour. Approximately 200 paddleboarders and kayakers attended the event, listening to live music and watching fireworks from the water.

Last year, Port-Daniel's Maryse Beaudin was reflecting on the beauty of Port-Daniel harbour, when she came up with the idea for a Glow-in-the-dark event. She quickly organized the activity and about 120 people attended. She knew she had found something people wanted. This year planning began in advance with the formation of an official organization and a four member board of directors. In addition, the organization was able to secure regional sponsors which aided in the success of this year's event. According to Ms. Beaudin, organizing the event was a labour of love with the community coming together and volunteering for a variety of tasks.

"This is a completely free event, and I hope we are able to keep it that

way for as long as possible," explains Ms. Beaudin, who is proud the organizers were able to offer such an entertaining evening at a beautiful location.

Drake Almond and Melissa Bourgaize (left photo) participated in the Glow-in-the-Dark event on paddle boards. "It was such a nice experience having so many people gathered in Port Daniel," says Drake. He adds "It was relaxing being in the water at night, but also scary wondering what was below me. When I got there, I realized I forgot my life jacket, and most people had one on. I felt like I should've had one on too. My toes were curled into the board, I had such a fear of falling into the black water."

Kimberly Campbell, Kristal Ward, Tracy-Lee Pelletier and Anouk (right photo) were decked out in neon colours and glow sticks. It was Tracy's second year attending the event, and despite the forecasted rain, she was determined to enjoy the activity. "Luckily the rain stopped once we got in the water. It is truly magical to see so many people come together and make the night so colourful!" says Tracy-Lee.

Barry LeBlanc's *By Gone Days* exhibit at Cascapedia River Museum features barns

GILLES GAGNÉ

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES – The Cascapedia River Museum presents, until September 6, a photo exhibit prepared by Barry LeBlanc and called *By Gone Days*, showing barns located in the Bay of Chaleurs area, some of them gone a few years ago.

Mr. LeBlanc's concept was to take close shots of the barns, showing just a selected part of the buildings. They are the ones exhibited at the Cascapedia River Museum in a large format. Just beside it, a much smaller photo shows the whole barn in its general context.

"Most photos were taken in 2012-2013 and some photos were taken a bit more re-

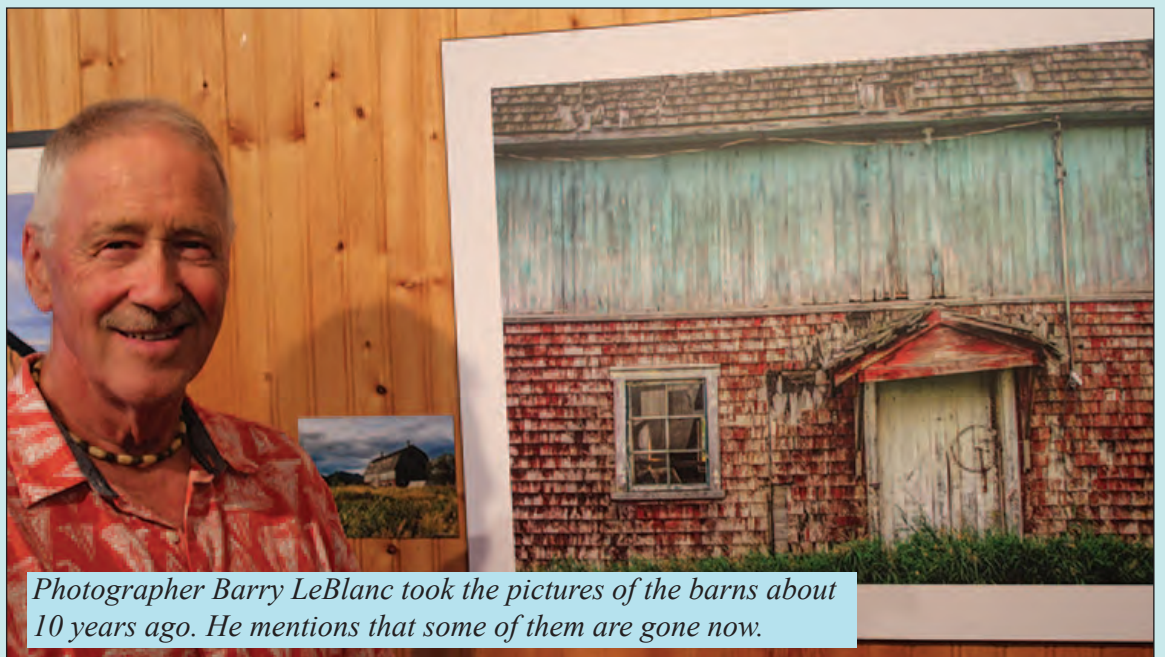
cently. I took courses at Photos Gosselin in Quebec City at one point and some photos were selected by the teacher," he explains.

He likes the idea of running small pictures of the barns "but a smaller size doesn't always provide the extent of them, the details," he specifies.

Barry LeBlanc's selection of barns rests purely on personal criteria. "I take shots strictly based on what my eye suggests, no matter how old the barn is. I have no other criterion. It is based solely on my artistic side," he says.

When he took his shots, he also recorded video interviews of the barn owners.

At the August 8 vernissage, he invited three men who



Photographer Barry LeBlanc took the pictures of the barns about 10 years ago. He mentions that some of them are gone now.

Photo: Gilles Gagné

talked about barns that played a role in their life, cattle farmer Billy Budd of New Richmond, Normand Moreau, the former owner of Location Moreau,

also based in New Richmond, and Rémi Audet, a Maria resident who has developed over the years a keen interest in barns. Normand Moreau's fa-

ther, William, was a blacksmith for over 50 years in New Richmond's 3rd Range.

Cont'd on page 5

Lobster processing results in the Gaspé Peninsula vary according to product

GILLES GAGNÉ

CARLETON – While lobster buyers in the Gaspé Peninsula experienced a satisfactory season overall, the live lobster market faced challenges, whereas the sale of frozen and processed showed better results.

Bill Sheehan, vice-president of E. Gagnon et Fils, in Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé, the largest lobster buyer on the Gaspé Peninsula, estimates that 2024 results are slightly lower than those of 2023.

“Certain sectors risk being in the historical top 3 (volume-wise), but it’s not like last year, (which was) a record year. The weather was generally good. Some areas did not lose many fishing days. I noticed that it was a little harder in the Bay of Chaleur area,” specifies Mr. Sheehan.

The plant is expected to process a total volume of 6 million pounds in 2024, including a relatively small amount from New Brunswick fishermen representing less than 10% of the tonnage processed at E. Gagnon et Fils.

“All I have left is Anticosti to enter the plant, that and we buy a little in Zone 19 on the north side of the Gaspé Peninsula,” adds Mr. Sheehan.

The price paid to the fishermen stood at \$8.01 per pound during the tenth week of catches, which should have pushed the average price of the season a little above \$7. Prices from the first to the tenth week were as follows: \$8.13 twice, then \$7.22, \$6.76, \$6.36, \$6.16, \$6.30, \$6.91, \$7.69 and \$8.01.

The weighted average will have to wait until all calculations have been carried out, based on the latest landings and weekly volumes. Depending on some subzones, the lobster season differs along the Gaspé coast.

“In frozen products, prices were good at the start for whole lobster, meat and tails, which represents 95% of our production. There remains the minced flesh which is marginal as a production. The market was good but it fell. We still have an inventory of tails and whole lobsters. I froze some trailers at one point. I was happy to have the warehouse in Rivière-au-Renard. In the lobster flesh market, it started well but it weakened a little. Over the past two years, five or

six plants have closed (in the Maritimes). When there are fewer plants, that’s five or six times 50,000 pounds that have a hard time finding a taker every day. All this helps to reduce the price. Everyone also arrives at the same time on the markets, which creates congestion,” analyzes Bill Sheehan.

He finds it difficult to accept the idea that lobster fishermen could have received better prices if processors had given more weight to the good prices for processed products rather than live lobsters.

“This is the first time in almost 10 years that this situation has occurred. We base ourselves on the price of the Magdalen Islands joint plan, which was advantageous for 7 or 8 years for fishermen. The price (to the fishermen) is based on the price of the live lobster. Processed products were more advantageous in the middle of the season,” notes Mr. Sheehan.

The destinations for processed products have been varied, starting with the United States, “still the largest share of the market,” then Asia, where a new hub, Singapore, has developed, more than China. Products passing through Singapore go to Korea. With what happened in Hong Kong (which became part of China), the expatriates left for Singapore with the business,” he says.

As for live lobster, “It’s a day’s truck ride to Boston and New England, and the Canadian market to Montreal, but not Toronto or New York in the United States,” explains Bill Sheehan.

He assesses that inflation was not a determining factor in the moderate sale of live lobster, “not at the price we are at when we think of the prices of chicken and beef. The price of live lobster is very reasonable if we compare it to the McDo trio at \$20.”

The lobster industry must now adapt to the emergence of an important new player, Newfoundland, he notes.

“In lobster, the industry will reposition itself. There have been so many lobsters in Newfoundland that this year, landings reached 16 million pounds after four weeks, whereas there had been 14 million for the whole of last year,” he underlines.

The exchange rate was ad-



Prices for processed lobster were more advantageous than those for live lobster in 2024.

Photo: G. Gagné

vantageous in 2024. “It remained stable during the season. We are very happy to have had \$1.36 Canadian for one American dollar. If the exchange rate had been at \$1.10 as in 2009, we would have been talking about a price of \$5 to \$6 to the fisherman rather than the \$7 this year. We often talk about the lobster crisis of 2009. I think it was more the exchange rate crisis than the lobster crisis,” says Mr. Sheehan.

The firm E. Gagnon et Fils hired 400 production workers in 2024, the average of recent years. Large volumes of snow crab are juxtaposed with lobster to keep this workforce employed. Approximately a hundred Mexicans worked at E. Gagnon et Fils this year. In total, the company hires just over 600 people, including office people, truck drivers and dock workers.

Lelièvre, Lelièvre and Lemoignan

As of July 11, the Lelièvre, Lelièvre and Lemoignan, in Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé, still had to transform what was in its fishponds and the upcoming catches from Anticosti.

“We are at 3.5 million pounds of supplies, if we include catches purchased in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, the Magdalen Islands and Newfoundland. This is a first for us to buy lobster from Newfoundland. It is transported by truck. They try to organize it quickly because they’re alive. It’s a little longer as a road (than NB or PEI) but if it has made a fishpond, it is reinforced before transport,” explains the president of the

company, Roch Lelièvre.

In 2024, Gaspé lobstermen delivered 30% of this company’s volume, compared to 60% by New Brunswick fishermen and 10% elsewhere.

The live lobster market was challenging in 2024. “The live lobster market was not there. I don’t know if there were too many in the markets. I must say that it was very good in Montreal and Quebec City, but elsewhere, it was very difficult. We sell to China, and it goes through Nova Scotia. From there, it goes by plane to China,” he adds.

“The price was a little lower. I have the impression, and this is very personal, that when it came to \$20 a pound last winter, during the winter fishing in Nova Scotia, it may have affected the market from China. If you give \$35 to the distributor once you get there, including transportation costs, and it reaches the restaurant owner for \$60, demand drops. If your restaurants remove it from the menu, it is difficult to sell it,” analyzes Roch Lelièvre.

Consequently, a large part of the volume of lobster purchased by Lelièvre, Lelièvre and Lemoignan was processed.

“We have done a lot of transformation but it is normal. It compares to 2023, if not better, in processed products. In the live lobster market, it isn’t as good, except Montreal-Quebec City. In proportion, I would say that we sold 500,000 pounds (14 to 15% of the plant’s total supply) in the live market and the rest went to processing. We sent a lot of products to Europe, Asia, then

to Quebec and elsewhere in Canada. We have a good inventory of frozen products but they go out regularly. We thought we were depending on the live lobster products and it’s the opposite. We depended on processed products this year. Even with my years of experience, I was wrong this year,” explains Mr. Lelièvre who has been involved in the fishing industry for forty years.

He points out that inflation always has an impact. “It’s still a high-end product. The exchange rate is not bad for us. It is, in fact, very good at \$1.36 (Canadian per US dollar). It was \$1.22 last year.”

Regarding the dissatisfaction of certain fishermen with the price, which could have been better this year if it had better reflected the reality of a more vigorous frozen products market, Roch Lelièvre remains calm.

“We have an accounting formula that considers the price of the Magdalen Islands. Some years it is advantageous for fishermen and some years they are disadvantaged. We cannot change the formula every year. Last year we were losers and this year, we are winners a little,” he explains.

Lelièvre, Lelièvre and Lemoignan employs 200 to 225 people in processing, including 80 Mexicans.

It is more than likely that there will be a processing season in the fall at this plant.

“It takes 18 weeks to qualify workers for employment insurance,” notes Mr. Lelièvre, who will take advantage of a harvest season in southern New Brunswick to ensure his autumn supplies.

Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec and Ciment McInnis slammed by Superior Court

GILLES GAGNÉ

PORT DANIEL – Superior Court Justice Carol Cohen rules in favour of Alternative Capital Group (ACG), which had been seeking to recover a commission since 2019 for securing funds to complete the construction of the Port-Daniel cement plant in 2016 and 2017.

Highlighting “wrongful acts and false representations,” Justice Cohen slammed Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec and Ciment McInnis, the name of the cement plant that officially opened in September 2017, for refusing to recognize the scope of the March 2016 mandate given to Alternative Capital Group.

The judgment, rendered on July 16, requires the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec and Ciment McInnis to pay ACG \$187,500, plus interest, additional compensation as provided for in the Civil Code but the amount of which is not specified, and legal fees incurred by ACG since 2019.

In March 2016, ACG was mandated to find venture capital so that construction of the cement plant could continue. The legal action brings to the surface the cost overruns that characterized the construction of the Port Daniel cement plant. The Liberal Minister of Economy and Innovation at the time, Dominique Anglade, told the SPEC on June 28, 2016, that this cost overrun amounted to \$444 million, bringing the total project cost to \$1.55 billion at that time.

The context

Begun in May 2014, with the Beaudier holding and the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDPQ, which manages Quebecers’ pension plan) as majority shareholders of the future plant, the construction of the cement plant was progressing quite quickly between 2014 and the end of 2015, but in early March 2016, it was obvious to the shareholders that a significant cost overrun requires them to quickly find additional financing.

The shareholders themselves had previously extended funds to adapt to a first cost overrun. However, the



Photo: G. Gagné

The construction of the Port-Daniel cement plant was characterized by a significant cost overrun, the repercussions of which are still echoed eight years later.

banking consortium that lent funds to the shareholders in 2014 refused to advance further sums, as did the shareholders. In early March 2016, the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec estimated that the amount needed to complete the work ranged between \$200 million to \$450 million in Canadian currency.

The only way out for the CDPQ, which is now leading the project in Beaudier’s place, is to find funds on the venture capital market, a search in which ACG specializes.

A mandate was given to ACG on March 9, 2016. Shortly after, ACG’s executives contacted BlackRock, a British venture capital firm, one of the largest firms of its kind in the world.

Under the mandate granted by the CDPQ, ACG was to receive a commission of 0.75% of the amount loaned by BlackRock for the cement plant project. BlackRock was prepared to advance \$300 million to the project, which would give ACG a commission of \$2.25 million.

However, in the weeks following the mandate given to ACG, Caisse de dépôt et placement and BlackRock agreed on a loan of \$125 million. CDPQ informed ACG that BlackRock did not want to lend more.

The trial’s conclusion

The hearing of the case es-

tablished that it was at CDPQ request that BlackRock did not lend more than \$125 million, as CDPQ had decided to provide the missing funds rather than borrow them.

ACG management, which had signed a release in 2016 based on a commission of \$937,500, was also unaware that in 2017, BlackRock would add \$25 million to its initial loan. ACG later learned the details of CDPQ’s maneuvers to avoid paying it a larger commission.

Justice Cohen ruled that under the terms of the mandate given by CDPQ to Alternative Capital Group, the latter should have received \$187,500 in commission on this additional \$25 million.

Judge Cohen concluded that it was the “wrongful actions and false representations” of the Caisse de dépôt et placement administrators in charge of the file that “caused ACG to sign the agreement’s release and not be able to claim this additional commission of \$187,500.00 under the mandate (given to ACG)”.

The trial took place between March 19 and April 18, 2024. Reading certain passages of the verbatim, one learns that the CDPQ representatives tried to convince the court that the talks they held with BlackRock were part of “another negotiation” separate from the one conducted by ACG. This led CDPQ representatives to argue that ACG was lucky to

Police report

On August 1, the body of a 70-year-old woman was found at the bottom of a cliff in Caplan. The body was discovered early in the afternoon after emergency services were called around 10:30 a.m. to the Perron Boulevard West area following the resident’s disappearance. Sûreté du Québec (SQ) communications officer Élisabeth Marquis-Guy confirmed that “Unfortunately, around 1:30 p.m., she was located lifeless at the bottom of a cliff behind a residence,” specifies the SQ spokesperson,

An investigation by the Bonaventure MRC investigation division of the Sûreté du Québec is underway to determine the causes and circumstances surrounding the death, specifies Ms. Marquis-Guy. Preliminary observations suggest that the victim likely fell from the top of the cliff. Another Sûreté du Québec communication officer, Béatrice Dorsainville, stated that it is too early to rule out foul play, although the incident appears to be an accident.

The Sûreté du Québec (SQ) presented in August the road report of the construction holiday and there is a slight improvement compared to last year. In 2024, there were 17 fatal collisions on Quebec roads and the recreational tourism network (off-road) resulting in 18 deaths. Last year, during the same period, there were 19 fatal collisions, with 24 deaths in total.

This year during the construction holiday, thirteen of the fatal collisions occurred on the roads, causing 14 deaths, while four off-road accidents also resulted in four fatalities.

The main contributing factors to these serious and fatal collisions include failure to comply with signage, exceeding speed limits, driving under the influence of drugs, alcohol or a combination of the two, and failure to wear safety equipment.

In the Gaspé Peninsula-Magdalen Islands and Lower-Saint Lawrence regions, the (SQ) reported one fatal accident that claimed one life. Last year, two accidents had claimed two lives. The SQ doesn’t release statistics for each of the two regions but according to verifications made by SPEC, the fatal accident of the construction break took place in the Lower Saint Lawrence region.

Numerous police operations were held from July 19 to August 4 throughout the territory, including recreational tourism activities on bodies of water and off-road. During this period, police officers ensured an increased presence, particularly during the high-traffic summer vacation period.

For many Quebecers, summer vacations are continuing and the Sûreté du Québec would like to remind them to remain cautious, both on the road and during their recreational tourism activities. The theme of the Construction Holiday Operation remains relevant at all times and in all places: Safety Does Not Take Vacations. The SQ in collaboration with its partners, will continue its awareness and intervention efforts across the entire road network, as well as on trails and water.

obtain the first commission. Judge Cohen clearly did not accept the argument of the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec.

Initially, ACG filed its legal action claiming a commission of \$2.25 million, or 0.75% of \$300 million, the amount that BlackRock initially offered for the cement plant project. However, Justice Cohen dismissed part of ACG’s claim, recalling that the terms of the mandate stipulated that the commission would be paid based on the amount loaned by BlackRock, with totalled \$150 mil-

lion.

McInnis Cement is now called Saint Mary’s Cement, following its acquisition in April 2021 by the Brazilian company Votorantim.

The sharing of the bill between the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec and Saint Mary’s Cement is not mentioned in the decision rendered on July 16 by Carol Cohen. The total amount that both partners must pay, which includes the interest, legal fees and the compensation provided for by the Civil Code, is also not specified in the judgement.



Gilles Gagné

Commentary

Kamala Harris triggers momentum shift south of the border

Keeping an eye on American politics is a good thing, no matter where people live on the planet because the United States' decisions still impact a majority of countries, worldwide.

The principle also applies to the Gaspé Peninsula, as most of the products we export in fisheries, cement and lumber end up south of the border. Some of our wind energy also takes the same path, although indirectly.

The recent switch at the helm of the Democratic Party, where current vice-president Kamala Harris replaced president Joe Biden as the top spot candidate for the November election, undoubtedly spelled relief in Ottawa, where the Liberal Party government of Justin Trudeau keeps dismal memories of the Donald Trump 2016-2020 reign.

Trump's erratic economic decision making, not to mention his lame international politics, kept most Canadian cabinet members on their toes.

The fact that Kamala Harris now leads in surveys is perceived like a breath of fresh air by those cabinet members, even if they will not say it, as a Donald Trump victory remains possible. Expressing enthusiastic support for Kamala Harris before the poll would greatly irritate Trump, would he win in November and his actions towards Canada would then be influenced by frustrations, at least as long as the Liberal Party forms the government.

A surprising nominee for vice-president

Timothy Walz, a former schoolteacher, a former football coach and a retired U.S. Army non-commissioned officer who is serving as the governor of Minnesota since 2019, was chosen on August 5 as the Democratic Party's nominee for vice president in the presidential election. He is 60 years of age.

It was a surprise. A few days after Kamala Harris replaced Joe Biden as the presidential candidate, Mr. Walz' name was not even mentioned on the list of potential vice-president nominees.

The wind changed when Nancy Pelosi, the speaker of the United States House of Representatives from 2007 to 2011 and once more between 2019 and 2023, said he would be a good choice. Still majorly influential, Ms. Pelosi worked backstage to reject Josh Shapiro, the Pennsylvania governor, probably because of his heavily pro-Israel positions when he was a young adult.

Mr. Shapiro, a lawyer now aged 51, has Jewish origins and amidst the conflict that has been raging since October 7 between Israel and the Hamas movement, Ms. Pelosi feared losing the cross-section of the Democratic Party voters favouring a conflict resolution that would at last provide Palestinians with better living conditions.

Mr. Shapiro was, however, representing a pivotal state, Pennsylvania, which would have provided the Democrats with a greater edge, politically speaking. It is not the case for Minnesota, which is considered

acquired by the Democratic Party, which has won that state uninterrupted since 1976.

So, there is no clear advantage in selecting Tim Walz, except that he has rural upbringings, coming originally from Nebraska. He is a hunter, which is considered an advantage, given the gains the Democrats must make in rural areas.

In a way, the low profile of Mr. Walz gave him an edge at a moment of almost perfect unity for the Democratic Party while, until July 20, the possibility of seeing Joe Biden running again in November created intense discussions. Tim Walz brings very little to the party, but he is not a hindrance either, which could have been the case of Josh Shapiro, given his past Middle East positions. The Republicans are already searching for scandals in the case of Tim Walz, which is also standard strategy.

Mr. Walz has proven that he can reply with vigour, underlining the fact that violent crimes increased under the 2016-2020 Trump administration and that Trump himself is a criminal.

Mark Kelly, a former astronaut representing Arizona, a state located along the Mexican border, was also receiving serious considerations from some Democratic Party supporters but Nancy Pelosi's choice prevailed.

The role of the economy

A phenomenon close to panic struck the American stock market on August 5 and 6, only to regain some stability over the following days. It was enough though to make some political analysts wonder if that stock market decrease could have an influence on the electoral campaign.

History has proven that only a few factors play a determining role regarding American election results, and the state of the economy is one of them. For example, a recession makes it extremely hard for the reigning party to be re-elected. Currently, the United States is not experiencing a recession but the economy is just correct. The unemployment rate has increased a bit but mainly because of the arrival of new workers on the labour market, not due to massive layoffs.

Donald Trump has jumped on the occasion to affirm that the stock markets are bad, that the labour market is nose-diving because of the immigration influx and that the country is headed to a third world war.

As always, he is taking shortcuts, which proves

good for his original electoral base. However, he will need more than his partisans to win, come November.

Right now, there is no indication that the stock market plunge will last. Only three weeks after Joe Biden pulled out of the race, Kamala Harris is conducting a sound, well-structured campaign while Donald Trump seems disoriented.

However, the victory is still uncertain for the Democratic Party. The September 15, 2008, events are proof of that. That day, as Democrat candidate Barack Obama was toe-to-toe with Republican opponent John McCain, the stock market nose-dived, capped by the bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers, changed the campaign. The Republicans were trying to win a third straight poll, but Barack Obama won with relative ease, following the devastating effect of the previous September stock market crash.

If they want to keep that half-step of lead, the Democrats must hope that the stock market will stay under control. As the reigning party, one must wonder if they can intervene at this stage of the race. They probably can't have a major impact now.

The Democrats must also work to alleviate the internal tensions regarding the Middle East conflict. Those tensions are currently rising. The context remains volatile in a now very short campaign, given Kamala Harris' late arrival.



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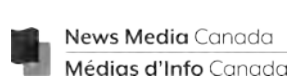


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Canada Economic Development for the Quebec region funds three Mi'gmaq projects for \$1,170,666

GILLES GAGNÉ

GESGAPEGIAG – Canada Economic Development for the Quebec regions, a federal government agency, has announced \$1,170,666 in funding for three Mi'gmaq initiatives that will have a sizeable effect, two in tourism in Gesgapegiag and one in Listuguj which will allow an expansion of the community garden.

The announcement was made on August 7 in Gesgapegiag by Soraya Martinez Ferrada, Minister of Tourism and Minister responsible for Canada Economic Development, alongside Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, announced on August 7 in Gesgapegiag. The three non-repayable financial contributions already enhance the regional economy and development potential.

In Gesgapegiag, \$357,000 was used to build sanitation facilities in the local park, which is now a campground, and complete a tourism diversification. That strategy is prepared by a development agent and is supported through a grant of \$156,000, with a total cost of



Photo: G. Gagné

Gesgapegiag's tourism coordinator Walter Jerome, Listuguj band council employee George Martin, Minister Soraya Martinez Ferrada, Listuguj Chief Scott Martin, Fisheries and Oceans Canada Minister Diane Lebouthillier, Gesgapegiag councillors Shawn Martin, Shannon Gedeon and Tracy Condo gathered to share good news for the Mi'gmaq communities.

\$284,000.

In Listuguj, two greenhouses were added to the community garden at a cost of \$676,666, with the project totalling \$712,346.

"The garden was opened ten years ago. At the start, five or six people worked there, now there are 10 or 11. The construction of the new facility

is progressing well. The garden is located near the former Busted property. A lot of people benefit from the garden harvest and this can only increase in the future," comments Listuguj Chief Scott Martin.

The Listuguj facility also includes a refrigerated container and a storage room.

Gesgapegiag's tourism coordinator Walter Jerome points out that the infrastructure in Gesgapegiag has been increasing at a very fast pace in recent years, notably with the acquisition of the Relais la Cache, along Route 299, and the development of a campground where teepees are installed at the west end of the community.

"We are absolutely excited about what has been happening here. It is so much for such a small community. Gesgapegiag probably stands out the most in Native communities of its size," remarks Mr. Jerome, also mentioning the Lobster Hut and the l'Anse Sainte-Hélène Chalets.

The campground, completed at the end of July provides visitors with the opportunity to rent a teepee.

"The toilets and the showers are now in place. People had been asking to sleep in teepees for years, but we couldn't charge anything before getting some services like toilets and showers," says Mr. Jerome.

"Our government is committed to promoting economic development in Indigenous communities and advancing reconciliation. We are therefore proud today to highlight the work of two Mi'gmaq communities in the Gaspésie region that are not only creating good jobs in the region but also showcasing their communities while making a valuable, sustainable contribution to Quebec society," stated Minister Soraya Martinez Ferrada.

Gilles Daraïche to run again for mayor of Chandler

NELSON SERGERIE

CHANDLER - The mayor of Chandler, Gilles Daraïche, has announced his candidacy for a second term in the 2025 election.

Mr. Daraïche, who was first elected in 2021, wants to continue the development efforts initiated during his first term which have so far created favourable conditions for advancing the town.

This marks a turnaround for the mayor, who had hinted a few months ago that he might not seek a second term due to experiencing intimidation and threats.

"After reflection, when you look at it, it's always the same handful of people who post messages on Facebook to try to hurt us, but the vast majority of the population says we're doing a good job," says the mayor.

Mr. Daraïche recalls that when he arrived at the town hall, the situation was not

rosy.

"We brought our town back to life. We took our town in a state of advanced decadence. Conflicts everywhere, projects that weren't being carried out, no political contact. Our projects are progressing well, and we're working hard. We will try to continue for another four years," says the mayor.

The wharf is at the top of his list of priorities. The federal government wants to divest itself of the wharf, and the town wants to turn it into a recreational and tourist site.

"The next mandate will be one of implementation, and we've got some great projects coming up," says the mayor, without going into further detail for the moment.

Housing

Decontamination is required on the land designated for 48 housing units by the developer Han Logement in

Chandler.

"There was some contamination, but it's not very significant. The developer will pay for the decontamination. The work will cost less than \$30,000. It's not a major issue," says the mayor.

The developer is expected to provide a work plan and sketches for construction to begin next spring.

The homes should be delivered by spring 2026. The project is estimated to cost nearly \$16 million.

There is a lot of interest in these homes. "We're getting a lot of feedback from people who are looking. We have a terrible housing problem. We're talking about 48 units and maybe 56. We're going to solve a big problem," he says.

Another developer has submitted plans to build two six-unit buildings on Rue des Bâtisseurs.

Municipal services will need to be extended for the project to proceed.

Town of Percé to hold October election to replace mayor and a councillor

Gilles Gagné

PERCÉ - The citizens of Percé will head to the polls on October 27, following the resignation of Mayor Cathy Poirier on July 2.

Since the next general election is only scheduled for early November 2025, a by-election is required to fill the vacancy left by Ms. Poirier who cited her inability to support council members' decisions that overturned several of her actions during her absence as the reason for her departure.

Ms. Poirier was on leave to reflect on her political future a few weeks before officially stepping down. Following her resignation, the elected representative for District No. 8, Nicolas Sainte Croix, also threw in the towel without giving a reason. Citizens interested in one of the two positions must submit their candidacy between September 13 and 27.

EXHIBIT:

Cont'd from cover

Billy Budd, who is recovering from a July 10 heart attack, pointed out that his main barn was moved to his property after being carefully dismantled on its original property.

"The barn belonged to George MacWhirter, who was a veterinarian living on the 3rd Range, not too far from our farm. So, it was recycled," stressed Mr. Budd.

He explained to the atten-

dees that he started on the family farm at a young age. "It is in my blood. So, I keep going."

His recovery is progressing as planned, which also means that he has to take a bit of additional time to rest.

It is Barry LeBlanc's 18th exhibition at the Caspédia River Museum since 2013. His first exhibition was called Witnesses of the Past and it showed old buildings and structures located along the Grand Caspédia River.

Quebec provides \$1 million for the restoration of the Manoir Le Boutillier in Gaspé

NELSON SERGERIE

GASPÉ - The \$1.3 million project to renovate the Manoir Le Boutillier in the Anse-au-Griffon sector in Gaspé will be able to move forward with \$1 million in aid from the Quebec government.

The project to preserve the building includes restoring the windows, installing insulation, and painting.

“It’s important to act on all fronts. For example, in cinema, to act in the performing arts.” But when we talk about built heritage, there are buildings all over Quebec that stand out for their heritage value. Here, we have a very eloquent example. The project is on the table, it is well managed, and we have decided to move forward,” said the Minister of Culture, Mathieu Lacombe, who visited the manor site on July 22.

This support, granted under the Capital Assistance program of the Ministry of Culture and Communications, aims to preserve and showcase the Le Boutillier manor, a heritage gem classified since 1974 and rooted in regional history and



Gaspé Mayor Daniel Côté, Minister of Culture Mathieu Lacombe, Gaspé MNA Stéphane Sainte-Croix and artisans from the manor in period costume.

Photo: N. Sergerie

culture.

Built in the 19th century, this emblematic building attracts many people each year who are captivated by its role as a site for the interpretation and historical reconstruction of the fishing industry, a pillar of the Gaspé economy.

“We have assistance for the manor. We will take it one bite at a time, but the needs required to maintain our heritage are enormous. The barn is another element and there are other her-

itage elements on the territory. Today, we are focusing on the manor,” said Mayor Daniel Côté.

In a broader sense, every time a heritage building is threatened, an outcry is raised among the population, but some have been demolished without anyone taking action.

“We have to take care of it. We have to be vigilant. We must always ensure that the owners, when it comes to classified properties, or even when

it doesn’t, do their duty,” said Mr. Lacombe, mentioning the fate of the Cap-des-Rosiers lighthouse.

Could the Quebec government force the federal government to renovate the lighthouse? “That’s an interesting question. I think that when we’re in Quebec, the law is very broad. I think we have ways to protect our heritage. I was told about this file and I find it interesting. I am not telling you that we are going to

force anyone, but we have a law in Quebec on cultural heritage. When a property is classified under the law, the owner has obligations. The lighthouse is not classified. Could it be classified one day? I think that could be the case,” suggests the minister.

The Cap-des-Rosiers lighthouse was recognized as a National Historic Site on June 11, 1973, and a heritage building on March 31, 1994, by the Government of Canada.

Since 2020-2021 the site has been part of the Côte-de-Gaspé MRC’s built heritage, however, the government of Quebec has never registered the lighthouse in its heritage registers.

Villa James

Now that the Quebec government has abandoned the Espaces bleus concept, the minister has relayed that the Member of the National Assembly for Gaspé, Stéphane Sainte-Croix, is leading the Villa James file.

Cont’d on page 9

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Shigawake Agricultural Fair and Music Festival to prioritize family activities

GILLES GAGNÉ

SHIGAWAKE – The 2024 Shigawake Agricultural Fair and Music Festival will present a mix of family activities, agriculture-oriented events and a blend of music genres, from August 15 to 18 inclusively, at the fairgrounds, a location that has greeted people annually and uninterruptedly since 1909.

Following the Covid-19 years, Shigawake Agricultural Fair and Music Festival Director Dave Felker points out that again this year, more emphasis will be placed on family activities to attract more children as well as focussing on the agricultural aspect of the event without neglecting the music side.

“We organized a parade last year called Tots and Wheels Pageant with little cars, and people really got into it, and asked for it to come back. We are also organizing new games with Gaspésians. The comedy group will animate that part. We added more family stuff. People said a couple of years



Nash and the Narrows will be featured on the afternoon of Saturday, August 17 at the fairgrounds.

Photo: G. Gagné

ago that we didn't have enough for kids,” explains Dave Felker.

Family Day will take place on Saturday, August 17. Another feature of this year's Agricultural Fair side of the Shigawake event will be the return of a Gymkhana competition on Sunday morning. “Some (Shigawake Agricultural Fair) directors are trying to bring it back. We lost it a

couple of years before the Covid crisis,” says Mr. Felker.

The vegetable and animal judging events are expected to be well-attended this year as part of the organizing committee's effort to raise awareness of the agricultural side of the Shigawake event.

Dave Felker stresses that the Music Festival will again feature a diversified program, both genre-wise and geograph-

ically, as some local bands and bands mainly based in Montreal will step on the big top stage. Beatrice Deer, The Barr Brothers and Ron's Fantasy will be among the artists coming to the Gaspé Peninsula, all of whom have performed in Shigawake, sometimes almost annually, as is the case for Andrew and Brad Barr, as well as for Ron's Fantasy.

Shigawake's Shaina Hayes,

whose career is blossoming at the national level, will be featured on the main stage during the event's peak period.

“We wanted to highlight Shaina's popularity by headlining her on Saturday night with the major bands instead of Sunday afternoon as a local. Beatrice Deer is also scheduled on Saturday night,” says Dave Felker.

There is a band called FelBarr scheduled for Sunday afternoon, and this group doesn't feature Dave Felker, Andrew and Brad Barr, although the latter ones are part of it.

“Fel stands for Michael Felber. Meghan (Clinton, the Shigawake native who manages the Barr Brothers) called and told me that Michael Felber was playing with Andrew and Brad in a band called FelBarr. Michael is already here for Ron's Fantasy. So they will play on Sunday afternoon,” explains Dave Felker.

A strong contingent of local bands will appear on the main stage, like Eastern Connection,

Cont'd on page 9

Exposition / Fair

JEUDI 15 AOÛT / THURSDAY AUGUST 15TH

18H00 Soirée d'ouverture vin et fromage
Opening night wine and cheese

VENDREDI 16 AOÛT / FRIDAY AUGUST 16TH

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

13H00 Tire de chevaux / Local single horsehaul

13H00 - 15H00 Artisanat pour enfants / crafts for kids

16H00 - 20H00 Lulu Berlue

17H00 Jeux traditionnels / Traditional Games

SAMEDI 17 AOÛT / SATURDAY AUGUST 17TH

10H00 - 16H00 **Journée familiale**

(zoo pour enfants, heure du conte, Biblionook, peinture de visage, magicien, et plus)

10H30 Concours "tots and wheels"

11H00 - jeux comiques avec les Gaspédiens dans la tente

12H00 - 14H00 - cônes de barbe à papa pour les enfants

10H00 - 16H00 **Family Day**

(petting zoo for kids, story time, Book Mobile, face painting magician, etc.)

10H30 - "Tots and wheels" pageant.

11H00 -comedy games with the Gaspédiens in the tent

12H00 - 14H00 - Cotton candy cones for kids

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 18 AOÛT / SUNDAY AUGUST 18TH

10H00 - Gymkhana

10H00 Messe Gospel / Gospel Service

13H00 Jugement d'animaux domestiques et exotiques /
Domestic Pet & Exotic Animal Judging

14H00 Tire 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

2024

Musique / Music

JEUDI 15 AOÛT / THURSDAY AUGUST 15TH

19H00 Open Mic

20H00 **P.P.K.** (Pop Rock)

20H30 **Thursday Night Jam Band** (Mixed)

VENDREDI 16 AOÛT / FRIDAY AUGUST 16TH

14H00-18H00 **Music in Trough / Musique dans Trough**

19H00 **Eastern Connection** (Country)

20H00 **MLou** (Pop Rock Folk)

21H00 **The Branded Men** (Hommage Merle Haggard Tribute)

22H00 **Quimorucru** (Quebecoise Folk Festive)

SAMEDI 17 AOÛT / SATURDAY AUGUST 17TH

13H00 **Music in Trough / Musique dans Trough**

13H00 **Boots Fire Line Dancing** (Country)

14H00 **Sam Tucker Trio** (Rock Blues Folk)

15H00 **Nash and the Narrows** (Country)

16H00 **Entrepot Country Live** (Country)

18H00 **Rockin' Blues Trio** (Rock Blues)

19H00 **Beatrice Deer** ("Inuindie" Pop)

20H00 **Shaina Hayes** (Indie Rock Folk Country)

20H00-23H00 **Music in Trough / Musique dans Trough**

21H00 **The Barr Brothers** (Electro-acoustic swirling folk rock)

22H00 **Ron's Fantasy** (Pop Rock)

23H00 **Cropduster** (Pop Rock)

24h00 **uRockaoke** (Live Karaoke in the Trough)

DIMANCHE 18 AOÛT / SUNDAY AUGUST 18TH

10H00 **Gospel Service** (Gospel)

13H00 **Music in Trough / Musique dans Trough**

13H00 **L'ivrogne et le pénitent** (Traditional)

14H00 **Brad Barr** (Transcendental folk)

15H00 **ZÉNON** (Folk Country Pop Rock)

16H00 **FelBarr** (Good time covers)

17H00 **Hall** (Rock & Roll)

Billets / Tickets

LAISSEZ-PASSER / WEEKEND PASS: \$40
(avant / before August 10 aout)

LAISSEZ-PASSER / WEEKEND PASS: \$45
(à partir de / as of August 10 aout)

Jeudi / Thursday: Gratuit / Free

Vendredi / Friday: \$20

Samedi / Saturday: \$25

Dimanche / Sunday: \$10

12 ans et - Gratuit

12 years and - Free

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How to be the best host this summer

PENNY MACWHIRTER

HOPE TOWN: As summer passes its midway point, those who have been hosting guests since the beginning may be starting to feel a bit exhausted. Yet, more guests are arriving, or perhaps there's one last summer barbecue with friends and family to plan.

As a rule summertime get-togethers are usually more casual, making it easy to make your guests feel special without burning yourself out.

If you're planning a summer get-together, remember to be yourself. Planning will be so much easier if you are serving food and doing activities you are familiar with and enjoy.

If you have a lot of people invited or are bringing together several families, don't be afraid to ask for help. Many guests will be happy to feel they've contributed and will eagerly follow your requests, whether it's asking them to make food or bringing a speaker and making a playlist for music. Remember, the party is for you too, and you'll want the energy to enjoy yourself.

Don't underestimate the effect of creating a welcoming atmosphere. It doesn't have to cost a lot. A few strips of lights, lanterns and citronella candles can make the evening feel magical.

Keep guests entertained. Be sure to walk around and chat with each of your guests. Have music to fill in the voids. A summer get-together is the perfect time to play outdoor games. Set up a volleyball net, horseshoes or lawn darts. If there are going to be



A self-serve coffee station will make morning a breeze.

younger children at your party, have a pail filled with 'glow-in-the-dark' necklaces and a s'mores station.

Drinks and food are an important part of any social gathering. Let your guests know when you invite them if they're expected to bring their drinks or snacks.

Invent a cocktail/mocktail and give it a fancy name like "Ice cream on the Green" or "Fraggle Rock". It will be easier to serve if the drink can be served from a pitcher or frozen as a slush. Your guests feel special when they are offered your signature cocktail/mocktail upon their arrival.

As the host, you are responsible for making sure your guests get home safe. Part of that responsibility means preventing people from drinking and driving. Make sure you have non-al-

coholic options, a designated driver available or room for the guests to stay over if needed.

For those who are preparing for overnight guests, the planning and preparation is a little different and usually starts with giving your home a tidying up and decluttering the room your guests will be staying in. Refresh the bed lines. Many guests from the city will appreciate the smell of sheets hung out on the line.

If your guests are staying for more than a few days, provide them with a space to unpack their belongings. Otherwise, a suitcase rack or trunk would be ideal so their suitcase isn't on the floor.

Don't forget that most people travel with a variety of tech devices. Ensure there are sufficient plugs available.

Providing small conveniences will make your guests

feel more at home. On the bedside table include an alarm clock, tissues, a notepad and pen, tourist brochures and even a welcome note.

If your guests will be sharing your bathroom, clear a space on the vanity for them to put their toiletry bags. If there are a lot of people sharing one bathroom, coordinate a bathroom schedule and pin it on the outside the bathroom door. Allow your guests to use the laundry facilities and provide a schedule if needed.

Stock the kitchen with essentials. Ask your guests ahead of time about their favourite foods and allergies. Set up a coffee station. This way early risers can serve themselves and enjoy a coffee on your front porch. If you're eating meals together, don't be afraid to assign tasks. You can chat with your guests while they chop the carrots.

Ann Hall, who often hosts summer guests, says she finds an 'open door' policy works great, with guests coming and going as they please. She also says it's important to be flexible with meal times. "Have toys, games, puzzles, movies, magazines and craft supplies available for different ages," advises Ann.

Some guests will want to tag along and do activities you have planned, but others may have plans of their own. Let them be independent. It will give you a chance to relax. If you're worried about plans getting mixed up or not knowing how many people you'll have at the supper table, make a schedule and put it on the fridge.

Your guests may not arrive with the necessities for rural living so, if possible, have on hand spare rubber boots, bug spray, fishing poles, etc.

Keeping rental guests happy

Penny MacWhirter

Treat your guests with care if you want them to have a pleasant experience. Happy guests translate into returning customers and good reviews.

Although there isn't a guaranteed method of success, there are a few easy recommendations to follow that are sure to make your space welcoming.

Check-in: Checking in should be easy. Don't make your guests go on a scavenger hunt looking for the fake rock, that looks like a real rock, to find the key.

Manual: Having a manual will result in fewer phone calls and messages. Be sure to include the TV listings in it.

Personalize: Make the stay unique and personal. A handwritten note or samples of local products will make your guests feel welcomed and special.

Communicate: It's a good idea to send a welcome email when guests book your rental. Your guests will then feel more at ease to communicate with you.

AirBnB host Lisa MacWhirter has great advice "The most important standards to uphold as an AirBnB host are first to be a responsive host and able to communicate in a timely and clear manner recommendations and expectations and, second, to be reliable and sure your listing is accurate, procedures are convenient and safe and finally to maintain a high standard of cleanliness."

By listening to your guests, you'll learn what works best for your rental. "I've discovered that offering a degree of pet-friendly accommodations is a much sought-after extra amenity that is appreciated by many of our guests," says Ms. MacWhirter.

Setting boundaries for houseguests

Holly Smith

It's summertime and you've opened your home to houseguests but after an extended visit, you're running out of steam and your guests are not showing any signs of packing. Although you've enjoyed their visit immensely, you feel it's time for things to return to normal. Here are five steps you can take to ensure the visit goes smoothly.

- 1. Set Expectations Early:** When guests are planning the visit, discuss the duration of their stay from the beginning. For example, "I'm excited to have you visit from (start date) to (end date)."
- 2. Create an Itinerary:** You should plan activities and meals with the end of the visit in mind. This can remind guests of the timeline. For example, "We have a few fun activities planned for the next few days before you head home."
- 3. Provide Gentle Reminders:** As the end of the visit approaches, give hints about their upcoming departure. For example, "I'm looking forward to our final days together. Is there anything else you would like to do before you leave?"
- 4. Offer assistance:** Help your guests with their departure arrangements. You might say "Do you need a ride on Saturday when you leave?" or "Do you have any laundry that needs to be washed before you leave on Saturday?"
- 5. Be honest:** If subtle hints aren't working, you should be straightforward but kind. Explain to them why you need your space back. It could be as simple as saying "that you need to get back to your usual routine."

Setting clear expectations and communicating with your guests will ensure a pleasant visit while also respecting your own needs and boundaries.



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FAIR:

▶ Cont'd from page 7

Cropduster, Nash and the Narrows, MLou and Hall, among others. A young band from Paspebiac, P.P.K. (Paspebiac Polyvalent Kids), will play on Thursday for the fair kickoff evening.

The Boots Fire Line Dancing is scheduled for Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. and should rally attendees eager to dance.

One of the biggest parties held annually in the Gaspé Peninsula will return this year. The Urockaoke, live Karaoke, will take place in the Trough starting at midnight on Saturday.

The Shigawake Agricultural Fair and Music Festival has a budget of approximately \$90,000, and organizing all these activities with such a small amount is a feat, stresses Dave Felker.

“We attract between 4,000 and 5,000 people over the course of the event. One of the hard things is that we have to raise prices. Some people complain about rising prices. We have by far the cheapest festival in the region. Our sound service costs have more than doubled over recent years. It used to be \$5,000, and it is now more than \$10,000. So, it is hard to keep the prices down. We do a good job at bartering. It comes down to \$1 a band for the people attending all the shows,” concludes Mr. Felker.



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you hold the key to success right now, so everyone wants to be in your corner. Take things in stride and maintain your focus while accepting all the support.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, it is important that you streamline your workflow this week; otherwise, you may not meet the deadlines imposed upon you. Start implementing a new strategy.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

This is the week to take the road less traveled, Gemini. Blaze your own trail, get out into the wilderness and possibly expand your horizons. A spontaneous idea like this can pay dividends.

CANCER – June 22/July 22

Cancer, someone in your social circle could be shielding the truth and it may frustrate you. But you can't come out and accuse this person without proof. Step back for the time being.

LEO – July 23/Aug 23

An important relationship could be coming to an end for you, Leo. You could try to salvage things, but you have to look at the bigger picture and determine if it is good to move on.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you have been coasting along without a firm di-

rection for too long at this point. While it may have been working for you, you will soon fare better with a more concrete plan.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Be mindful of other people's situations before you engage with them, Libra. What may be a good time for you will not necessarily be ideal for those around you.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, someone in your life has proven worthy of more attention. Give this person a little extra love in the days to come, and direct your focus to having a good time.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Social activities seemingly bloom around you this week, Sagittarius. There could be so much going on that you don't know where to get started. Perhaps let friends lead the festivities.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Remember, Capricorn, others are not just listening to what you say, they are reading into your actions. Make sure you are genuine in both your words and gestures this week.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

This week you may have to take the first step in rekindling an important relationship, Aquarius. Are you ready to be the catalyst?

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

There is not much you can do about financial issues, Pisces. Make an effort to start spending less, which may be the catalyst for a real examination of your budget.

MANOIR:

▶ Cont'd from page 6

“He is the one in charge. He has my complete confidence. I gave him this mandate to find a consensus for a new vocation. We had an interesting meeting this afternoon and every time I hear about it, I'm certain we will find a solution and this solution will be unifying,” mentions Mr. Lacombe.

Approximately \$25 million has been invested in the building. “It's an exceptional building that we saved and restored and which is now a blank canvas that can be offered to the community. It remains to be seen how Stéphane's (Sainte-Croix) work will land,” indicates the minister.

“We are at the discussion stage. The work with the community was done over the winter and spring. We are in discussions with our government partners. What interests us is to guarantee the sustainability of the equipment,” mentions the MNA for Gaspé.

“There is a clear interest from stakeholders to participate in the development of the Villa. We are in the process of bringing together the winning conditions and we will arrive in the coming months with very beautiful projects to satisfy the entire community,” says the MNA.

The minister wants a cultural vocation and for the population to take ownership of it. For the moment, he does not want to mention an operating budget since the envelope could vary depending on the organization that will operate it.

The Villa James was built in 1887, and work aimed at preserving its integrity on Cap Mont Joli and ensuring its sustainability began in 2022. The conservation operation resulted in its relocation, out of the erosion zone, and was the subject of heritage restoration and upgrading.

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Announcements



Obituary



GILKER: Woodburne Archibald

Woodburne Archibald Gilker, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, passed away peacefully at his home in New Carlisle on June 23, 2024, at 11:51 a.m. He was 82 years old.

Born to Lois Beebe and Archibald Gilker, Woodburne grew up in a loving family alongside his brother Neil, whom he now joins in eternal rest. He was the devoted husband of Leah Trachy for 62 years, a partnership marked by deep love and unwavering commitment.

Woodburne leaves behind a legacy of love and cherished memories. He is survived by his beloved wife: Leah Trachy; son: Nevin and daughter-in-law Marjorie McRae; grandchildren: Tyler (Danielle) and Regan (Sam), as well as their mother, Debi Woods. His great-grandson Weston, son of Tyler and Danielle Bouchard, brought him immense joy in his later years.

In his professional life, Woodburne was admired for his wisdom and acumen as a businessman. He navigated challenges with grace and foresight, leaving a lasting impression on those he worked with.

Beyond his career, Woodburne was known for his captivating storytelling. His tales wove together wisdom, humour, and a deep appreciation for life's moments, captivating all who had the pleasure of hearing them.

The family wishes to extend heartfelt thanks to the nurses at the CLSC for their compassionate care during his illness, particularly Louise, Annie, and Kathy. They are also grateful to Dr. Laliberte and Dr. Basinet for their dedicated support and house calls as well as his family doctor, Jean-Louis Levesque.

We are deeply grateful for the outpouring of support during this difficult time. Thank you for the heartfelt messages, beautiful flowers, generous donations, and comforting food. Your prayers and kind words have brought us solace as we navigate this profound loss. We miss Burne dearly and find strength in the cherished memories and the love he left behind. Your compassion and support have meant more to us than words can express. Sincerely, Leah, Nevin and Family.



In Memory

BOURGAIZE: Ada

BOURGAIZE: Lennox

In loving memory of a dear mum, mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother who passed away August 16, 2012. Also our dear brother Lennox Bourgaize who passed away July 4, 2021. We love you both.

*May the winds of Heaven blow softly,
And whisper in your ear.*

*How much we love and miss you,
And wish that you were here.*

*Gone from our sight,
But never from our hearts.*

Forever in our hearts and deeply missed by Dolly, Merle, Clayton (Eleanor), Bradford (Shirley) and families.



MAJOR: Cindy (née Ross)

In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother who passed away on August 25, 2004, at the age of 46. It's hard to believe twenty years are gone.

*Two eyes that would light up the sky at night,
One last battle you could not fight.*

*The day was long, then night, then morn,
We knew that soon you would be gone.*

*I clasped your hand so warm in mine,
Soon we would be out of time.*

*To stay with us, you fought so hard,
A million pieces went our hearts.*

*Death leaves a heartache no one can heal,
Loves leaves a memory no one can steal.*

Always loved and never forgotten, your husband: Earl; son: Michael (Cindy Walker, his daughter Rebecca); daughters: Rosalee (Michel Denis), and Roxanne (Yves Denis, their children Nicholas and Shyanne).

MAJOR: Cindy (née Ross)

In loving memory of my wonderful mother who passed away on August 25, 2004, at the age of 46. It's hard to believe twenty years are gone.

*I thought of you today,
But that it nothing new.*

*I thought of you yesterday,
And the days before that too.*

*I think of you in silence,
I often speak your name.*

All I have are memories,

*And our picture in a frame.
Your memory is a keepsake,
From which I'll never part.
God has you in his arms,
I have you in my heart.*

May the winds of heaven blow softly in your ear, how much I love and miss you and wish that you were here. Always loved and never forgotten, your baby girl, Roxanne xoxo.



MAJOR: Kenneth

April 8, 1941 – August 17, 2013

In loving memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather who passed away 11 years ago on August 17, 2013.

*Though your smile is gone forever,
And your hand we cannot touch.*

*Still, we have so many memories,
Of the ones we loved so much.*

*Your memory is our keepsake,
With which we will never part.*

*God has you in his keeping,
We have you in our hearts.*

*It is sad to walk the road alone,
Instead of side by side.*

*But to all there comes a moment,
When the ways of life divide.*

*You gave us years of happiness,
Then came sorrow and tears.*

*But you left us beautiful memories,
We will treasure throughout the years.*

Forever loved and sadly missed by your wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



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Announcements



In Memory

*When we were all together,
But secret tears and loving thoughts,
Will be with us forever.*

Always loved and never will be forgotten,
your daughters Brenda (Donald) and Joan
(Darin) and their families.



MANNING: Don

In loving memory of our dear father, grand-
father and great-grandfather, Don Manning
who passed away, one year ago on August 16,
2023

*In our hearts your memory lingers,
Sweetly tender, fond and true.
There is not a day, dear Father,
That we do not think of you.
Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but always near.
Still loved, still missed and very dear.
We can't have old days back,*



RENOUF: Lester

In loving memory of my dear husband, fa-
ther, grandfather and great-grandfather, who
passed away August 4, 2014.

*This month comes with deep regret,
It brings a day we'll never forget.
In our hearts you will always stay,
Since ten sad years have passed away.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by,
wife: Yvonne; children: Darleen (Luc), Darin
(Joan), grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Recent Graduate



Congratulations to Jaxson Forest Major of
Hope Town who recently graduated from
the Centre de Formation de La Côte-de-
Gaspé with a Diploma of Vocational Studies
in Welding and Fitting, as well as an Attes-
tation of Vocational Specialization in High
Pressure Welding.

Jaxson is the son of Gregory Major and
Penny MacWhirter; grandson of Clyde and
Lynda MacWhirter, and of the late Wayne
and Clara Major.

Best of luck in all your future endeav-
ours!

COAST ROUND-UP

COAST ROUND-UP: \$8 per week
CLASSIFIED: \$8 per week

BARACHOIS: Mountain View Golden Age

August 18: A gift bingo will
be held at the Mountain View
Golden Age club beginning
at 7 p.m. Everyone 18+ is
welcome.

BARACHOIS: The Gaspé Cancer Foundation

November 2: A ticket draw
and luncheon will be held at
the Barachois Legion from
11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. Soup,
hotdogs, sandwiches,
desserts, tea and coffee will
be available. Donations at
the door.

BARACHOIS: BADC

August 24: The Barachois
public market will start at 9
a.m. to 12 p.m. at Corner of
the Beach (Coin de Banc),
343 rte 132 East. Artisans
and garden produce. To re-
serve a table \$10 contact

Sandy Coombs at 581-887-
1417.

**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: Breaking of
Bread for believers - 9:30
a.m., Gospel meeting and
Sunday School - 2 p.m.
Thursdays: Prayer Meet-
ing and Bible Study - 7 p.m.
Everyone welcome! For
more information: 418-752-
3372 or 418-752-6011.
August 19 to 23: Vacation
Bible School held at Fair

**UNITED CHURCH
NEW RICHMOND**
**Sunday, August 18 and
August 25**
10 a.m. Service

Haven Bible Camp from
9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Singing,
memory verses, story time,
quizes, messages, and
prizes for ages: 6-12.

NEW CARLISLE: Kempffer House

The tea room is back! Open
every Wednesday with sit-
tings at 1:30 p.m. and 3
p.m. Cash only, children \$8,
adults \$12, and \$15 for the
alcove. Reservations re-
quired. For more informa-
tion, call 418-752-1334 or
email: heritagenc@globe-
trotter.net.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: 50+ Club

Tuesdays: Grocery bingo
every Tuesday at 7 p.m. \$10

**UNITED CHURCH
HOPE TOWN**
Sunday, August 18
Sunday, August 25
No service

for three cards. Extra cards
are \$1 each.

August 17: BBQ from 11
a.m. to 1 p.m. 13+ \$16, 7-
12 \$8, and 0-6 free.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: Cascapedia River Museum

Do you like the charm of old
barns? The Cascapedia
River Museum will be host-
ing an exhibition entitled "By
Gone Days" featuring photo-
graphs by Barry Le Blanc.

PARISH OF GASPÉ

Sunday, August 18
St James - Wakeham
9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, August 25
**St. Philip and St. John -
Sandy beach**
9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Every Wednesday
St. Paul's - Gaspé
10 a.m. Morning Prayer

The exhibit will run from
August 8 to September 6
and will include more than a
dozen photographs of barns
from the surrounding area.
Some owners will share
their experiences during the
official opening on August 8,
from 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, August 18
Shigawake
10 a.m. Gospel Service
at the Shigawake
Music Festival

Sunday, August 25
New Carlisle
9 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Hope Town
10 a.m. Morning Prayer
Shigawake
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist-

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

Unlock Your Creativity: Five Exciting Ways to Celebrate World Photo Day

HOLLY SMITH

PORT DANIEL: World Photo Day is August 19 and it is the perfect opportunity to capture and celebrate the beauty of everyday moments. Whether you're a beginner or a pro, this day is all about enjoying photography and the memories it creates. Here are five creative ways to celebrate.

1. Recreate Old Photos: Dig out those old family photos or memorable snapshots from your past and recreate them. This can be a fun way to see how much things (and hairstyles) have changed over the years. Try to match the original setting, outfits, and poses as closely as possible. Just imagine trying to squeeze back into your prom dress or reenacting that awkward teenage pose. Share the before-and-after photos with friends and family or post them on social media.

2. Start a Photography Challenge: Set up a photogra-



Custom calendars are a wonderful keepsake and a great way to reflect on the year's highlights.

Photo: Lynda MacWhirter

phy challenge for yourself or with friends. Choose a theme or a series of themes, such as: nature and wildlife, gardens and flowers, or sunrises and sunsets. Commit to taking and posting a photo each day for a week or a month. Not only will this keep you engaged and creative, but you'll also have a gallery of amazing mo-

ments to look back on.

3. Volunteer Your Photography Skills: Offer your photography skills to a local nonprofit community centre or school. You could take photos at the many local summer festivals, capture portraits for families, or help document a community event. Don't forget. The Gaspé Spec is always

looking for eye-catching photos to share with our readers.

4. Create a Calendar: Select your best or most meaningful photos from the past year and create a calendar for next year. Many pharmacies offer online services where you can easily design and order custom calendars. This can be a wonderful way to re-

flect on the year's highlights and create a great keepsake. Consider making calendars as Christmas, birthday, and even anniversary gifts for family and friends. There's nothing quite like flipping through the months and reliving your most cherished moments to brighten someone's day.

5. Experiment with New Photography Techniques: Challenge yourself to learn and experiment with a new photography technique. This could be long exposure photography, close up photography, or even drone photography. Spend the day researching and practicing this new technique. Not only will this expand your skills, but it will also add a fresh perspective to your photo collection.

World Photo Day offers the perfect opportunity to celebrate the creativity and joy of photography. So, grab your camera, explore and capture the beauty that surrounds you.

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