# GIVER Miramichi

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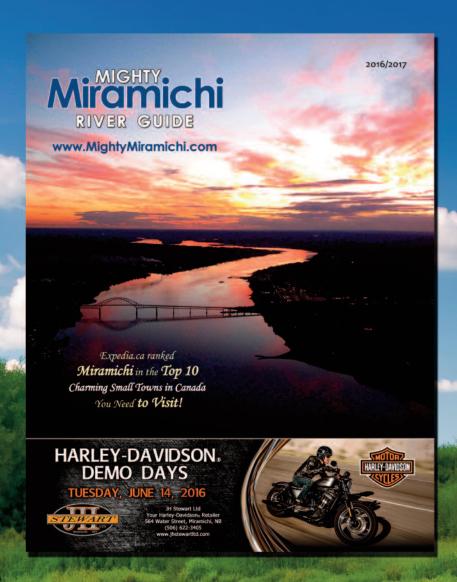
- Get Ready for Bass Fishing!
  Photos inside submitted by our readers
- The Guatemala Girls
  Spreading health & wellness in Guatemala
- WordSpring Comes to Miramichi WFNB's Annual Writing Festival

# THE MATTRESS STORE

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# The Mighty Miramichi River Guide – Pick up a copy today!



FREE COPIES on display at local restaurants, accommodations, and attractions in the Miramichi Region.

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### The Miramichi Emergency Centre for Women

## Providing Support for Women in Miramichi for 28 Years





The Miramichi Emergency Centre for Women is a nonprofit organization that provides women with or without children who are experiencing abuse, with safe shelter and support.

The Centre has a 24/7 crisis line at 622-8865. Staff are also available if you would like to book a presentation or information session. We now have an Outreach Worker who can provide Outreach Services.

The Centre greatly appreciates donations of household items, cleaning supplies, clothing, personal care items, furniture, items for children and babies etc. They also appreciate monetary donations that can go towards helping women access private specialized counselling, upgrades to the Centre etc.

The Centre has a 50/50 weekly draw entitled Chibucks to help raise much needed money for the shelter.

Chibucks is played by any person over 18 filling out a ballot and playing a Toonie in the MECW purple boxes every Tuesday by 1:00pm at any of these local locations: N&J Convenience, Curtis Corner Mainway, Cloud's Convience Store (Red Bank), Circle K Irving (Blackville), Canadian Tire Gas Bar, City Limits Convenience (Napan), SuperValu (Chatham), Sobeys (Douglastown), Nordin Esso, Miramichi Meats (Comeau's), Down River Convenience (Baie Du Vin).

#### Money raised through Chibucks supports the following:

- 5% goes to the food bank
- 5% goes to the SPCA
- Maintenance & Repair of the house
- · Specialized counselling for residents
- Training sessions for staff
- Children's programs (playground equipment, special diets, transportation to school)
- Items a resident may need when preparing to leave the house.

The Miramichi Emergency Centre for Women would like to take this time to thank the community of Miramichi for all their support over the past 28 years. For more information visit their website at www.Miramichiemergencycentre4women.com or find them on Facebook.

**Cover Photo:** Grayden and Lola May Mutch fishing bass off the beautiful banks of the Miramichi in Cassilis. Photo by Barbara Mutch

Giv'er is about enjoying your day, giving it your all, putting some muscle behind it, giving it some gas, all the while staying true to good Miramichi values. Our collaborative mindset is contagious. Send us your good stuff to talk about on the river! We're looking for events, stories, celebrations, pictures and video links about what's up, what's new, what's happening. Keep it clean, keep it positive, and we'll promote it.

Submissions: email to submit@mightymiramichi.com

Advertising: sales@mightymiramichi.com

Twitter: @mightymiramichi Facebook: www.Facebook.com/mightymiramichi

Phone: 506-352-7668

Web: www.GiverMiramichi.com

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### Classifieds

### **Real Estate**

#### House for Sale - 125 Pleasant Street, Newcastle



New Price! \$439.000

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### **Commercial Real Estate**

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### Community

Kitten Season is upon us, the Miramichi SPCA desperately needs adoptions of the older kitties to make room for new ones that will need their help!

They are also currently in need of Whiskas Dry Meaty Selections cat food and liquid laundry detergent.

For more ways you can help please visit www.spcamiramichi.com or stop by the shelter at 128 Dan Cripps St., Miramichi East.



### **Employment**

#### **Giv'er Miramichi Now Hiring!**

MCG Media is looking for a full time Sales & Advertising Consultant for the Miramichi Region. The successful applicant is responsible for networking in the community, contacting associations, groups, and businesses to understand their needs and offer advertising solutions.

#### **Desired Skills & Experience**

- Strong interest in marketing and servicing the business sector.
- Communication, interpersonal, team and organizational skills.
- Self-motivated with a positive attitude.
- PC literate, internet savvy with social media experience.
- · Available to work a flexible schedule.
- Ability to take photos and do simple image editing is an asset.

This is an entry level position with room for growth that offers a base salary plus commissions. MCG (Mighty Community Group) is a Miramichi based Marketing and Web Development Company with a passion for quality web development and helping business and communities take their products & services to the marketplace. We specialize in Web Design and Development, Business and Community Web applications, Community Web Portals, and Marketing.

#### Please submit your resume to:

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#### May 13-15: "The Fantasticks"

The local theatre company, Double L Productions, announces its next show will be the musical fantasy, *The Fantasticks*, lyrics written by Tom Jones and with music by Harvey Schmidt, and directed by Lloyd E. Cameron. The love story features eight Miramichi singers and actors with Katie MacDonald, Joey Dignam and Joe Butler in the lead roles, accompanied by Jason Howe, Paul McGraw, John Bosma, Gary Blackmore and Cindy Rule. The two act play will be presented Friday & Saturday, May 13th & 14th at 7:30pm, and Sunday May 15th at 2pm at the Vogue Theatre on Cunard Street in Chatham. Tickets are \$20 and are available at Scott's Pharmasave and Brookdale Flower Shop Inc.

#### **May 14: Estate Auction**

Dr Sproul 1867 - 1951 - Castle Lodge - Estate Auction by Key Auctions at the Loggieville Community Centre, 19 Highfield Street, Loggieville. Preview 10am -Auction 11am. Tel: 506-878-7890

#### May 15: Miramichi Worldwide

The public is invited to a presentation by Miramichi Worldwide following their recent trip to Roatan, Honduras. This will take place at St. Mary's Anglican church, Wellington, St., Miramichi on Sunday, May 15th at 7pm. Light refreshments to follow and all are welcome.

#### May 19: Cold Plate Take-Out

Includes: Ham, Potato Salad, Pasta Salad, Roll, Tomato, Cucumber & Dessert at St. Andrew's United Church, 188 Wellington Street on Thursday, May 19th starting at 10:30am. Price \$12.00/Person. (Pick-up or delivery available) Tickets are on sale now from the church office or phone Karen at 506-773-9932.

#### May 20-22: Metepenagiag Trout Derby

Pre-register at Metepenagiag Heritage Park. Catch & Release. Tel: 506-836-6111

#### **Find More Events**

www.mightymiramichi.com

May 22: Chastity Poirier's Dance Palace presents "Fire Burning on the Dance Floor" at Carrefour Beausoleil Theatre. Our talented dancers will be burning up the dance floor during their year-end dance show, featuring Jazz, Point Ballet, Lyrical, Hip Hop and musical theater dancers! Tickets are \$15 at the door! All are welcome, There will be a 12noon show and a 6pm show! Bring the family out for a day of entertainment. Tel: 506-251-3020

#### May 22: Escuminac Wharf Lobster Supper

The annual lobster supper will be held at the Baie Ste. Anne Firehall, 12noon to 5pm. \$15/plate. Everyone Welcome!

#### May 28: Fundraiser/Show and Shine for Pancreatic

**Cancer** 3rd Annual Fundraiser/ Show and Shine in Memory of Kim Lawlor (Big Daddy). There will be a BBQ, Local entertainment, Bake sale and Children's activities at NSER high school. Bring a chair! Tel: 506-836-7853

May 27-29th: The Miramichi Striper Cup bass fishing tournament. For info visit www.miramichistripercup.ca.

#### May 27-29th: Rotary Ribfest on the Miramichi

A weekend of food, entertainment, Human Foosball, the Atlantic Washer Toss Championship, children's activities and of course savory barbecued ribs from champion ribbers. Events take place on the waterfront in Miramichi. For info visit www.rotaryribfestmiramichi.ca

#### May 29: The Walk for Alzheimer's

On the last Sunday in May across New Brunswick join families and friends and Make Memories Matter in the annual Walk for Alzheimer's. Call to receive a pledge form 1-800-664-8411.

**June 5th: Gospel Concert Fundraiser** for the St. Andrew's Summer Community Kitchen. 7pm at St. Andrew's United Church. Admission is a free will offering. Reception to follow.

### **Guatemala Girls** Changing One Life at a Time

by Keltie Keir-Wilson

They call themselves the Guatemala Girls and they are a diverse team of nurses who embarked on a journey last June that changed their lives forever. Using their combined skills, education, and mindsets, they provided health care and teaching to almost 3000 vulnerable individuals in remote villages of Guatemala.

The team included Keltie Keir-Wilson (Nurse Practitioner, Central Miramichi Community Health Centre), Stephanie Lyons (Registered Nurse, Dr Everett Chalmers Hospital), Pam Thorpe (Licensed Practical Nurse, Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital), Jolene Wade, Kaitlyn Storey, Janel Russel, Amanda McCutcheon, and Stephanie Woodard (Registered Nurse Students at UNBSJ – all formally Licensed Practical Nurses).

Coming from both acute and chronic backgrounds, the Guatemala Girls have the ability to care for people of all ages. And because of their creativity and team attitude they are able to provide care with very limited resources.

Jolene Wade is the team leader and has been nicknamed "Momma Jo" because she took care of all the details, villages clinics. arranging for transportation. accommodations, and flights. The volunteer work is intense, exhausting physically and mentally, and Momma Jo always refocused the team when needed.

#### **Trip Preparation**

The cost of medications and supplies is a lot in order to prepare for a trip like this and be as effective as possible. The team hosted dances and silent auctions to raise the necessary funds. They also gratefully accepted donations from individuals and local businesses willing to help. The Guatemala Girls continue to be overwhelmed with the generosity of their communities in Hampton, Blackville, Doaktown, Fredericton, and Moncton. During the trip, the nurses frequently updated their social media and answered emails as much as possible so those who donated could feel like they were part of the trip. Guatemalan children in a remote village.



Keltie Keir-Wilson with a young patient that she made a special bond with and is looking forward to seeing on their next visit.

They wanted the public to see the work being performed and show what the dollars provided.

As they prepare for their next trip in the Fall of 2016, they have numerous fundraisers planned from Open Mic and Karaoke Nights, to a Spaghetti Dinner with Silent Auction

> and 80's themed dances. They are also accepting any donations of Tylenol, Advil, multivitamins (children's and adult's), hygiene products, creams, and ointments.



It is difficult to capture a trip of a lifetime into words, to even begin to explain the magnitude of the cultural experience. Many of the Guatemala Girls had never experienced travel beyond the borders of New Brunswick, let alone to the other side of the Atlantic. Upon arrival at the Guatemalan airport, the nurses quickly realized they were not in Canada anymore as the weather was warm and the English language was scarce. They arrived at their beautiful and quaint



hotel to discover a "rooftop paradise" filled with hammocks, which became their nightly debriefing meeting area. Changing one life at a time became the motivating motto for the group.

A typical day consisted of waking at 7 am and being on route to the villages by 8 am. Each day was a different village with varying degrees of vulnerability. Most children did not have shoes, most had parasitic infections, and all were dehydrated, but still had smiles to light up a room. The day flew by with hundreds of patients lined up and the team never left until every patient was seen. The illnesses ranged from acute to chronic and patients were so grateful for even a Tylenol or multivitamin to help. Supper was served at 6:30 pm, followed by the team's "block walk" where they would walk their village and meet up with locals along the way. The children would run to them and they would engage in the village soccer game of the evening. The most tedious task for all of the Guatemala Girls was the nightly preparation of medications for the clinic the following day. In order to travel internationally with various medications, they had to be sealed and unopened, therefore preventing any preparation. Every medication had to be counted and individually packaged to give to patients. The team would prepare medications for 200 to 400 people daily, so this task took the Back Row, L to R: Karri Matchett, Janel Russel, Jolene Wade, remainder of the evening and everyone would be fast asleep by 9:30 pm most nights.

One of the most memorable moments for one of the nurses was being blessed by the local midwife. She had delivered most of the children in the village and was extremely grateful for the presence of the Canadian nurses. The moment caught all of the nurses off guard and everyone stopped what they were doing to watch the beautiful blessing.

Many orphaned children lived with various family members, neighbours, or friends. The nurses saw that conditions were very poor, with many children being abused. One of the team's translators was a Social Worker and he would often tend to the children needing that emotional support. Throughout the day, the nurses would take turns going outside and hiding behind the cement walls of the clinic to have a quick release of tears to help them get through the rest of the day. These were only some of the reasons that debriefing every evening was imperative for the nurses to continue with their mission.

The Guatemala Girls left that beautiful country feeling even more grateful for their own country of Canada. Every one of the nurses feels extremely fortunate to have accessible resources and a government to rely on for social services when needed. The trip was truly one of a lifetime and the team is very anxious to return. The nurses are leaving this Fall and would love any help or donation readers may be able to provide.

To keep up to date with the numerous fund raising events coming up or for any further information please like their Facebook Page, "Volunteer Mission to Guatemala".



The Guatemala Girls (and Josh) a team of nurses spreading health and wellness in Guatemala

Amanda McCutcheon, Barb Irving

Front Row, L to R: Josh Goodwin, Stephanie Lyons, Keltie Keir-Wilson, Kaitlyn Storey.



Stephanie Lyons treating an elderly patient.

### Bring on the Bass!

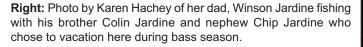
When spring arrives Miramichier's head to the river! Lucky for us they've sent in some great photos of their fishing excursions! Many of these were taken during the first annual Miramichi Striper Cup, striped bass tournament. To learn more about the Miramichi Striper Cup visit www.miramichistripercup.ca

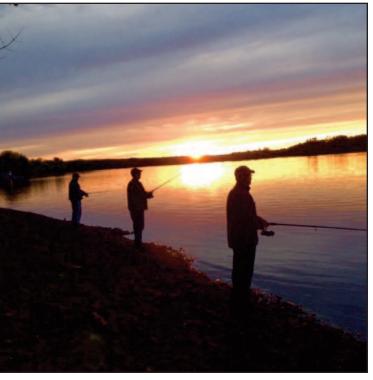


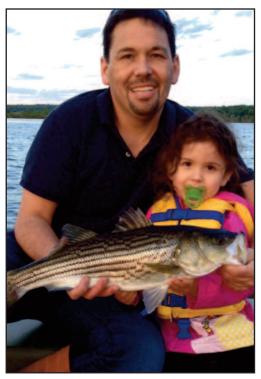




**Above:** Jacob Tenass at last year's Miramichi Striper Cup. Photo by Tara O'Shea.











Above: Young fisherwomen displaying their catch! Photos submitted by Norman Ward





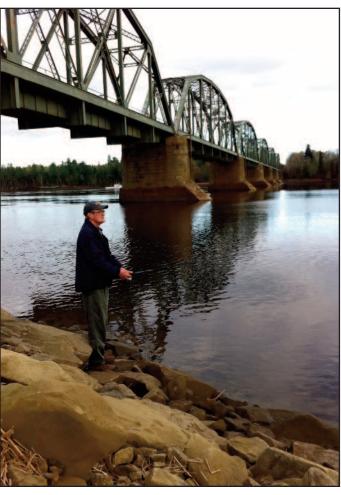
**Left:** Bass "boiling" at the surface of the water in Cassilis. **Above:** The day's catch was turned into a delicious dinner. Photos by Barbara Mutch who also submitted the photo on our cover.





**Above:** Susan Daigle of St. Charles NB says, "I caught this bad boy one week before the Striper Cup just above Strawberry Marsh. Who says women can't fish?"

**Right:** Photo taken by Laura Lea Comeau of her husband fishing at the Enclosure in Derby.





# Help **Hospice Miramichi**Raise the Roof!

Hospice Miramichi is starting a capital project this spring. The home of our future Residential Hospice at 14 Howard St. needs a new roof! This building will be a ten bed community based palliative care facility that will become home to those individuals in Miramichi and surrounding areas that are unable to stay in their residence to receive end of life care but do not wish or need to die in an acute care setting.

We will need 3600 bundles of shingles for the roof and we are looking for your help to nourish hope in those at the end of their life by purchasing bundles of shingles for \$35 each in memory of a loved one, or in recognition of your business. Your contribution is tax deductible and will be recognized in an appropriate manner on our Wall of Hope.

The focus of hospice palliative care is on comfort not cure and on life not death. Hospice Miramichi is seeking to raise the awareness of the unique needs of those living with life threatening illnesses where cure is not an option and medications are no longer controlling the condition. Hospice Miramichi will work within the community to provide practical care and support for clients and families in their



homes, in nursing homes, hospitals and residential care facilities (special care homes). Hospice Miramichi volunteers will be trained to provide practical and emotional support during the end stages of life and through the grieving process.

Donations can be made online at www.canadahelps.org/dn/27018. Donations can also be made at the Hospice Shoppe, 1737 Water Street, by calling

506-773-7607 or in person or by mail at the Hospice office on 14 Howard St., Miramichi NB, E1N 0C4.





### Miramichi is Atlantic Canada's Great Outdoors

### Tourism Association Kicks Marketing into High Gear

The Miramichi region is about to take the spotlight on the proverbial "tourism map" like never before! The Miramichi River Tourism Association (MRTA), with collaborative support and funding from both the City of Miramichi and the Province (Department of Tourism,



in the community (to both MRTA members and non-members) to help tourism businesses sharpen their marketing skills and increase their profitability. A "Marketing Boot Camp Series" has been developed, with programs specially selected to match the needs of

the Miramichi region following the original assessment.

Heritage & Culture), has launched a strategic integrated marketing program that will promote tourism to the Miramichi region under the new brand positioning – Atlantic Canada's Great Outdoors.

The new brand positioning was created after a thorough assessment of the region's tourism offerings and competitive strengths, which was done in conjunction with New York City-based Redpoint Marketing PR.

Redpoint is a tourism marketing specialist with deep roots and extensive expertise in Atlantic Canadian tourism. Their objective "from away" eyes were critical to helping Miramichi discover its most strategic positioning on the east coast tourism chessboard.

Atlantic Canada's Great Outdoors emerged as the clear choice because it:

- Broadens the region's appeal beyond "the river", while still leveraging the river's iconic fame
- Allows for four-season tourism promotion
- Encompasses all corners of the region
- Speaks to a limitless range of demographic and geographic targets

In 2016, many key things will be implemented in order to provide a marketing foundation for this positioning in a sustainable, long-term way.

First, significant training and education will be offered

#### **Upcoming topics include:**

- Tripadvisor: how to use it, why it's important
- Website and Social Media Tips: things you can do, even if you're not a web guru
- 2017 Planning: product development, creating a shoulder season, guest relations
- Email Marketing: just do it
- Integrated Marketing and Guest Loyalty: making tourists want you

Second, a proactive PR and digital marketing campaign is underway to reach consumers before they plan their vacation. Using a combination of media relations, revamped web content, email marketing, pay-per-click programs, and more, this aggressive and strategic program will generate awareness of our region's accommodations, activities, shopping, festivals and events, cultural attractions, and much more. The MRTA's website will be transformed into a powerful hub – and lure – for tourists seeking a fun, memorable vacation experience in the great outdoors.

If you want to be on the email list that informs the community about upcoming Boot Camps and opportunities to participate in the marketing activities, please email Cindy Trevors at mrta@nb.aibn.com.

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### Chef's Program in Blackville







by Jules Keenan

Everybody knows the importance of teaching our kids how to cook and fend for themselves before they move out to start living on their own, but this can be a hard thing to do, especially when we might be unsure how to trust them in the kitchen, or have trouble finding the time to show them. Blackville School, however, has started hosting a program to change this.

On February 3rd of this year, Keirsten Brennan, the community wellness and other instructors began a (photo by Jules Keenan) teaches program that

Elementary students to cook with simple, healthy recipes in very little time.

"It started last year with a unique program for high school students," Dr. Keenan said. "This year we wanted to offer it to younger students. It is called the Chef's Program and was designed by the Department of Health."

The Chef's Program runs from 3-5 pm every Wednesday after school for 12 weeks, and is currently offered to grade five students. Students are taught how to cook healthy recipes with simple ingredients, showing them that even if there seems to be very little time to make yourself a meal, there is always a better option than fast food.

"I think it's a wonderful idea," said teacher Lori Brophy, who stopped by to see where the great smell was coming



ambassador, along with the The Chef's Program instructors from left to right: Tiffany program, April Jardine said, " help of Dr. Tiffany Keenan Keenan, Kiersten Brennan, Pat Colford and April Jardine I love it; everything about

from.

Alex Martin, the father of Tvra Martin, who is one of the students in the program, said, "It's very good for them. It teaches them how to clean and cook and teaches them responsibility."

Students really enjoy it as well. When asked most said the program was amazing and they loved it.

"It's really good and I always look forward to it," said Amber Hambrook, a student from the program.

The instructor for the cooking and teaching the kids. It truly is a great

opportunity."

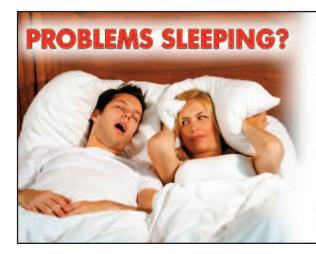
"It's definitely different." said Kiersten. "You get a lot of one-on-one time with the students, and we make different things every week."

The Chef's program is a unique program that encourages kids and gets them excited about cooking at home. Everyone involved is excited for the program to start up again next year.

"We'd love to continue, but we just need more volunteers."

If you are interested in volunteering or becoming involved, please contact Keirsten kiersten.wellnessworker@gmail.com.

Jules Keenan is a writer and amateur photographer who is currently a Grade 10 student at Blackville High School.



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### Beaubear Credit Union Receives Leadership Award



Beaubear Credit Union has been named World Client of the Year by Leadership Management International (LMI), a premier provider of leadership development programming and delivery.

"It's a real honour to receive this recognition on behalf of the great people Beaubear Credit within Union." said former CEO Andy Richardson. "Together, we have succeeded in creating a proactive culture, with measurable bottom line results stemming from our investment in leadership development of all of our people over the past four years."



Beaubear participants proudly displaying their certificates.

**Back Row, L to R:** Kathy Watt, Facilitator, Dawn Hannah, Bob Hillier, Cathy MacDonald.

Front Row, L to R: Yoland Rogers, Beth Gillis, Marilyn Daley

"We had to face the reality of our financial challenges, stabilize revenues, rationalize expenses. and generally, measure everything we did," Richardson. said management team and frontstaff embraced line training, the expectations, and now we can see the results. I'm extremely proud of people."

In 2011, in a bid to realign management's intention to change to a dedicated leadership development process, Richardson and two branch managers enrolled in the Effective Leadership Development program with

LMI. Measurable results were obtained in its 2011 financial status, more importantly, the branch managers took as their goal the challenge of creating a plan for change: teaching the staff to set goals and be held accountable for results. The three leaders particularly resonated with the idea that the LMI processes placed people at the centre.

The fall of 2011 and the years 2012 and 2013 three more senior staff, the two branch managers and four front-line staff enrolled in various LMI programs. This was the start of converting the company culture to a sales-based one.

In the meantime, Richardson enrolled in the Effective Motivational Leadership program to assist him in the preparation and execution of a strategy that was designed to

Thanks to a committed partnership between Beaubear Credit Union's management team and LMI, the credit union and its capable staff are a true testament to the power of learning and growth through goal setting, behaviour and attitude change, and measurable results.

The credit union movement has been under intense market pressure to conduct business in a new way. Big banks changed their methods of operations two decades ago, but credit unions were fairly protected because of the membership model and loyalty to members. Given the Great Recession of 2008, and major demographic and economic blows to the Miramichi Community – Beaubear Credit Union realized that remaining the same was not an option.





affect the entire organization.

The next two years the CEO and two branch managers enrolled in the Effective Personal Leadership program - this experience truly unleashed the talent and capabilities inherent in each individual. These already competent leaders became more confident in who they were as men and women, and who they were as leaders. They continued to pursue goals that moved the credit union to a more profitable status, while engaging employees as partners in the process. At the same time the remaining front-line and back office staff enrolled in LMI programs that aligned with their positions.

The investment paid off. The credit union had growth of just over five per cent; the Atlantic credit unions average is only two per cent.

One role of a good leader is duplicating yourself. This is the case at Beaubear. Richardson has since moved on to a role in Charlottetown, as CEO of PEI CUDIC, while Tosha Hamilton has assumed the role of CEO and Toby LeBlanc assumed the role Branch Operations Manager of Water Street and Pleasant Street locations. Richardson travelled to Orlando, Florida in early April to accept the award on behalf of the Beaubear Credit Union team. Beaubears' journey continues, as four more staff are enrolled in the upcoming LMI program, Effective Personal Leadership for Women beginning this month.





**Above:** Tosha Hamilton CEO Beaubear Credit Union and Kathy Watt Facilitator and Coach with LMI Inc.

**Left:** Andy Richardson, Former CEO Beaubear Credit Union and Kathy Watt







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### Asian Heritage Month Presentation

### My Name is Dakhel Faraj

May is Asian Heritage Month, a time to acknowledge the rich history of Asian Canadians and their contributions to our country. To celebrate, the Asian Heritage Society of New Brunswick invites you to an evening of theatre at the Vogue Theatre, Miramichi on Friday May 27, at 7pm for My Name is Dakhel Faraj, produced by Kitchener-

The Life Story of a Refugee from Iraq

In English, Arabic, & American Sign Language

Produced by the Kitchener-Waterloo Arab Canadian Theatre

Waterloo Arab-Canadian Theatre / KW-ACT. This FREE performance is open to all ages.

My Name is Dakhel Faraj is the true story of an Iraqi refugee now living in Kitchener, who lived under Saddam Hussein's regime and witnessed the killing of some of his own children and father by US soldiers during the invasion of Iraq in 2003. The play celebrates life, love, family, art, and condemns war.

Dakhel's story reflects the lives of many Arab refugees who came to Canada and other countries during the war on Iraq. This unique production is told polyphonically in English, Arabic, and American Sign Language by three actors each representing Dakhel Faraj. The three Dakhels tell the narrative in collaboration and cooperation, and tell most of the story in each language – but certain things are left out, and nuances are unique to each voice. The element of challenge in this presentation is partially about not getting the

whole story when people "think" they understand a situation, a distant conflict, or what it is like to be a refugee or an immigrant.

My Name is Dakhel Faraj was written and directed by Syrian-Canadian theatre artist Nada Humsi, based on interviews with Dakhel Faraj.

KW-ACT is a collective of immigrant and refugee artists, which has been active

since 2012 with support from the Kitchener-based multicultural theatre company MT Space.





### Dining & Entertainment

#### Live Entertainment on the Miramichi

May is going to be another great month filled with live entertainment for the Mighty Miramichi! Don't miss **Terry Whalen and Jock Downs** on Friday May 6th from 8 pm to midnight at the Riverside Entertainment Centre in Douglastown.

It's that time of year again, **Spring Fling** returns to the Civic Centre on Saturday May 7th with **Echo**. Doors open at 8 pm. Advanced tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at Crocker's, Jean Coutu in Chatham and Newcastle, the Miramichi Optometry Clinic, and Home Hardware in Baie Ste. Anne.

The Downtown Live Music Series continues on Saturday, May 14th when Marquee Moon Productions and *Gig & Groove* present The Blind Jacks and Dillon Ryan's Hindsight live at The Goodie Shop Lounge. Tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased at The Goodie Shop, Mill Cove Coffee or through *Gig & Groove* on Facebook. Also, call 625 8817 or 622 3078. Doors open at 8 pm, music begins at 10 pm.

The Rotary Ribfest on the Miramichi will take place May 27th - 29th along the waterfront in downtown Newcastle. There will be live entertainment Friday evening from 6-8:30 pm, Saturday from noon until 1 am, and Sunday from 12:30 to 5:30 pm. To view the entertainment schedule visit their website at www.rotaryribfestmiramichi.ca. Entertainers include the Nelson Doyle Dancers, Filipino Miramichi Dancers, Friends with Hearts, Isabella Imperatori, Jeff Hogan, Crossover and many others.

Looking ahead to June, **Whalen's Barn** season will run Thursday evenings from June 16th to September 8th. This year you can look forward to performances from **Free To Grow, Mike Biggar, Brent Mason, Rick Tiger** (Nashville), **Earthbound Trio, Jason Barry, Kendra Gale, Keith Hallett** and more. Season passes are regularly priced \$125 but for a limited time get yours for \$115. Like the Whalen's Barn Facebook Page to stay up to date.















Laura Lea Comeau captured this photo of a rainbow around the sun on April 27, 2016 in Derby.



#### **Deer Speak**

For my Best Friend, Gregory Joseph Keating

Deer Speak with the language-of-feet, white tails and feet

Like the yearling, I saw yesterday evening,

Coming in from her feeding out in the Cedar Marsh feet like little crosses.

She made her way back to the herd (to the ones-who-waited-for her)

Despite the dogs approaching, the night encroaching,

Despite the dogs approaching and the incoming dark.

The smallest deer nuzzled back into her herd:
"This is where I hurt. This is where I fell down..."

It was you I ran to like that in the night,

Deer speak with the language of feet, They run together in one body of snowy-light-and-spice.



Photo by Camille Breau







### Great Shot Miramichi! - Reader Submissions

If you have photos, stories, tips or tidbits to share we always welcome your submissions. Send submissions to submit@mightymiramichi.com. When sending photos please send high resolution jpg's (not resized for email) and remember to include your name for the photo credit and the location where the photo was taken or description of the subject matter.

P.S. We received a lot of submissions this month so if you don't see yours be sure to check the next issue too!

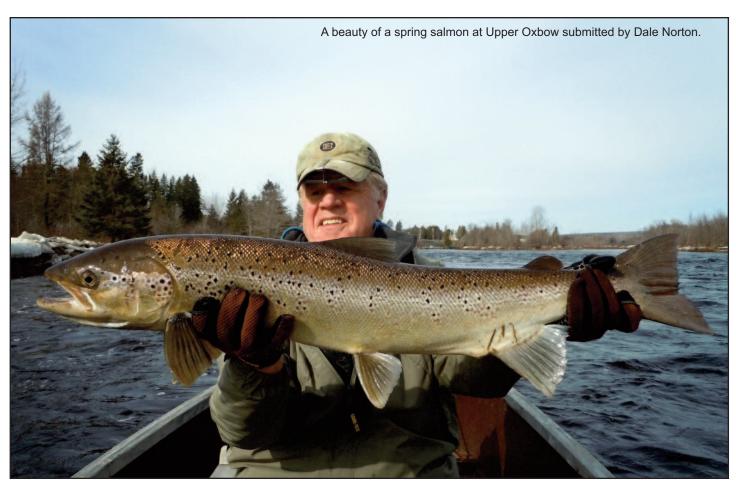


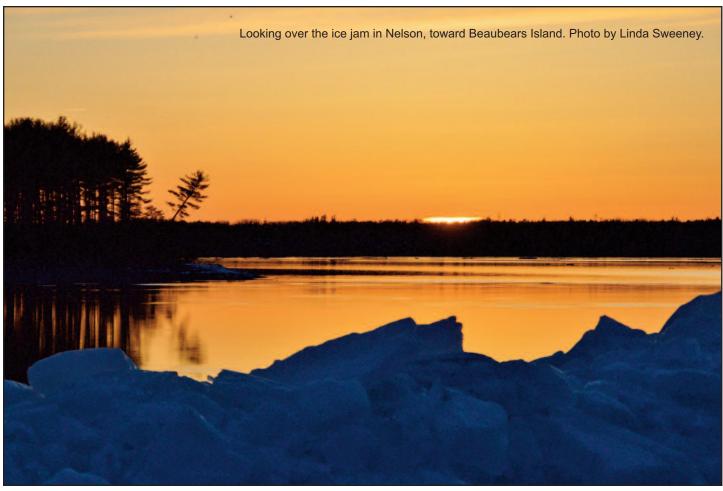
A beaver glides along in the water. Photo taken by Rebecca Janusas Richard along the NB Trail in Chatham going towards Loggieville.





Derek James Deredin, a photographer from Miramichi East, captured this beautiful sunset at the Morrissy Bridge





## WordSpring

### Comes to Miramichi

Writers' Federation of New Brunswick

The Writers' Federation of New Brunswick's (WFNB) annual writing festival, WordSpring, will take place at the Rodd Miramichi River Hotel in the Historic Chatham downtown May 27th - 29th. Members and non-members are invited to attend this exciting weekend filled with writing workshops, readings and book launches. WordSpring also features a Literary Soirée, where the WFNB's Writing Competition winners receive awards and give readings. The soirée includes dinner, music and merriment as well as a special guest speaker: poet, activist and gifted teacher, Marilyn Lerch.

The exciting roster of workshop presenters include:



### The Wonderful World of Indie Publishing with Terry Armstrong

Today's independent authors are a driving force, dominating bestseller lists and reshaping the publishing industry. With current technologies, it is now possible for any determined writer to create her or his own e-book, print book, and even audiobook. This workshop shows how to produce top quality books and how to market and sell your finished product. Thanks to Amazon, we all have instant access to a global marketplace.



### The Art of Writing Dialogue with Gerard Collins

Words speak louder than actions. Whether you're writing fiction or nonfiction, dialogue is crucial to defining character and keeping the reader engaged in your story. This workshop will show you how to create dialogue that makes your prose realistic, your characters sharp, and your story compelling. When is it appropriate for characters to speak, when should they be silent? How should characters speak to each other? This workshop will consider examples of great dialogue and fifty shades of bad.

#### WordPress Websites for Writers: An Introduction with Chris Mackay

Owning
your own
website is
one of the
most
effective
ways to
ensure that
potential



readers hear your voice and are encouraged to read your work. Whether you want to share your writing work or experiences, connect with readers, or simply have a hub for social media, it is empowering — and important — to manage your online presence using a website that you can control. WordPress is a time-tested and reliable tool. This workshop explains the kind of knowledge and commitment you need to successfully run a WordPress website.

There are three payment options available, so participants may attend as many or few WordSpring events as they desire.

Option 1 costs \$20 and includes only the Friday evening social with readings by published WFNB authors, light refreshments and a cash bar.

Option 2 costs \$100 for WFNB members or \$130 for non-members and includes the Friday night event; Saturday workshops, catered lunch, coffee breaks and Blue Pencil Café, plus Saturday's after-dinner readings by WFNB's Writing Competition winners and live music by Paula Tozer.

Option 3 costs \$35 and includes the Saturday night Literary Soirée dinner only, a three-course meal including tax and gratuity.

Sunday morning's Open Mic readings are free for all to attend, but anyone interested in reading must register before the event.

For more information or to register online visit www.wfnb.ca or email info@wfnb.ca.

Marilyn Lerch, Award-Winning Poet-Activist will be the guest speaker at WordSpring.



### The Importance of Window Coverings

By Lauren Walls

Whether you've recently purchased a new home, finished a new construction or even if you've been in the same home for years, you should consider the importance of quality window coverings. Privacy, Light Control and aesthetics are only the beginning ... have you ever considered UV protection and Energy Efficiency? The most crucial first step would be to choose a type of blind or shade that will suit your lifestyle. This has to be something that will be both practical and aesthetically pleasing. Here are a few of the most popular types to help make that decision easier.

#### Horizontal

With great light control Horizontal blinds are one of the most popular styles. The slats are available in different materials, as well as colours and finishes. Vinyl, Wood and Metal options are available which means the blinds will work with any style decor. They also come in different sizes. 1/2"-1" slats will work best on a small to medium sized window, while 2" or larger slats are best on a larger window or for a more dramatic look.

#### Honeycomb

Available in single, double or triple layers, Honeycomb Shades are great thermal insulators; they will help you control the temperature in your home. They are flexible and will work well in large or small windows with plenty of colour options to choose from. You could choose something that will blend into the surroundings or choose a bold colour that will pop for more of a statement. Different levels of opacity are also available. To completely block light and allow for lazy weekends or optimal UV protection Opaque would be the right choice. For light diffusion opt for a medium level of opacity.

#### Nantucket and Silhouette Window Shadings

This style is one of the most popular but is exclusive to Hunter Douglas. Basically, they are made up of opaque or semi-opaque fabric vanes sandwiched between sheer fabric panels, The tilt of the vanes is adjustable to control the light, while the sheer panels reduce glare. They can be used for a casual or formal look depending on fabric choices and whether or not they are pared with curtain panels.

#### **Roller Shades**

If light control is important to you, these may not be your best choice. They go up and down but there are no vanes to adjust or louvers to tilt. On the other hand they will protect your furniture from harmful UV rays. Newer roller shades allow you to finely adjust the positioning of your shade with cord and pulley technologies, as opposed to older styles that would spring back up to the top or stay stuck at the bottom. They are also great for UV protection, they will keep the



sun's UV rays from damaging furniture and accessories in your home. A great option for budget friendly shoppers, they are available in different opacity levels, and in many different fabric options as well, ranging from solids to bolder patterns and even floral options.

#### **Roman Shades**

A classic that will never go out of style! Although Roman shades won't give you maximum light control in the same way as Horizontal Blinds will, they are wonderful option to create a charming and very aesthetically pleasing look that's right on trend. Especially when it comes to country kitchens and window seats.

Still unsure? It's easy to become overwhelmed with the styles and colour options that are available. A decorator can make the process easier for you. Sample books are available so you can see and feel different fabrics or materials. They will take the proper measurements and even set up the installation. Decorators understand that choosing to install blinds in your home is an important decision and an investment that you will surely not regret!



Lauren Walls was born and raised in Miramichi. She completed her degree in Interior Design at the Centre for Arts and Technology in Fredericton. She took six months off to explore and become inspired by Europe and has returned home to join the team at Renaud's BrandSource. Lauren enjoys using her skills and training to beautify any space. For a consultation call her at 773-9408 or email laurenwalls.decor@gmail.com. Follow her on Instagram @lauren.decor.

### Buy Books - Support a Great Cause!

Autism Resources Miramichi Inc. was organized by a group of local parents and professionals who felt there was a need to have a location where they could all gather to share ideas, experiences and resources. Knowledge is power! Together, we can make a difference and improve the lives of those affected by an Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and their families. Their mission is to serve persons of all ages living with Autism Spectrum Disorders by providing tangible disseminating quality, evidence-based information; and facilitating

professional intervention and involvement in the context of a supportive and inviting environment.

Since opening their doors in 2008 they have accomplished many goals including summer camps for children, Youth and Teen group partnership with NBCC, supporting parents and families, the Autism registry, assisting families with material preparations, educational workshops, lending library and their current program for Adults and Employment. The Adult Employment program is a partnership between ARM and Post-Secondary Education Training and Labour, whereby young adults are given a learning opportunity specifically tailored to teach skills that can be utilized in a work environment. Another of their goals



resources; Just a small selection of the books available at the ence-based. ARM Book Nook, 1 Allan St, Douglastown.

that came to fruition, that they are very proud of, is the creation of the ARM BOOK NOOK.

The ARM BOOK NOOK is a unique bookstore that offers gently used books at a bargain price. It is staffed by adults living with Autism Spectrum Disorder. The objective is to give meaningful employment and offer a service to residents of the Miramichi. They have a minimum of 10,000 books on hand, which have been sorted into various genres. The selection is phenomenal. There is something for everyone, be it fictional, mystery, romance, horror and fantasy, science

fiction, best sellers, children and young adults. There are also movies, games, puzzles, and much more.

For the non-fiction reader, there is a vast selection of biographies, history, self-help, parenting, health, religion and spirituality, cooking and even travel books. You will not be disappointed in the selection, and certainly not in the price. They keep their prices very low to support their community because the community supports them through their generosity in donating the books. Without the support of the community, the ARM BOOK NOOK would not be in existence. Located at 1 Allan Street in Douglastown, behind the Northumberland Square mall.

### My Lil' Bee Honey Farm

Dr Scott MacFarlane VM sent these photos in March to announce the "Flow Hive" has arrived on the Miramichi and he's happy to see his bees slowly coming out of their winter slumber. He has been keeping bees for a couple of years and is in the process of growing his apiary at My Lil' Bee Honey Farm in Napan.

The farm currently has 23 hives but hopes to have roughly 60 come fall. Dr. MacFarlane purchased the Flow<sup>TM</sup> hive frames to try on one of his hives. The Flow<sup>TM</sup> system makes the extraction process far less stressful for the bees and so much easier for the beekeeper. He has also built an observation hive to be able to take a sneak peek at the bees

working in the hive without having to open or disturb them. Currently he produces enough honey for himself, friends and family and he attends the local farmers market whenever more is available, but fresh honey is in demand and it sells fast! Hopefully we'll hear more about the goings on at the honey

farm in future issues.

**Top:** Bees waking up from their winter sleep.

Right: The new Flow Hive

Bottom: Honey ready for sale.





### Hope Eternal

Spring, you fickle mistress!

Promising lovely dreams and returning harsh realities;

Playing with our emotions, our expectations.

Providing warm thoughts and tenderness,

You sing your siren's song, leading us,

Lulling us into a false sense of security,

Only to deny it all without a moment's notice.

Cruel heart, to toy with our affections so!

Do we not pine for your return?

For those fleeting moments

When you at last decide to reveal your lovely face?

Do we not revere and worship you,

As if our very existence relies on

That first glimpse of your vibrant beauty?

Mild to malevolent, sympathetic to spiteful, You know of no loyalty.

Dancing in front of us, teasing, tempting;
Then slipping away in a blink,
Leaving us only cold disappointment
And the struggle to find patience
Until your faithless heart decides to show itself once more. Is it the game you seek?
The thrill of being desired so much,
Yet keeping yourself aloof and apart?
Does it feed your coquettish spirit
To know of this power you possess?
Or is it that you truly are indifferent,
Holding neither love nor loathe for the beings that seek you out?

And yet, for all your mercurial moods,
We cannot help ourselves
For we are hopelessly lost to you.
Unable to exit your heartless game
Bound by life's promise and perpetuation
And waiting, always waiting
For you to welcome us into your warm embrace once more.

-Kelley Delano

Kelley Delano is a local writer and graphic designer, and a former columnist for the Miramichi Leader. Her portfolio can be viewed at www.kelleydelano.com.





### April Vye Photography

April Vye of Tabusintac is a regular contributor to *Giv'er* and the *Miramichi River Guide* and we always enjoy seeing her photos of birds and other wildlife.

**Bottom:** Blue Heron's stand in line ready to snatch the Catch of the Day!

**Top left:** Canada Geese with their little goslings along for the ride.

Top right: A partridge or ruffled grouse.







### Here We Grow Again!



Sophia's Nails recently opened up around the square in Newcastle by Anna Nguyen and Kay Pham. They left the big city of Toronto looking for small community bonds.

They offer manicures & pedicures, UV Gel nails and acrylic nails. acrylics and powdered gel nails which is something new to Miramichi.

Come relax in one of

thier huge massage chairs while you get a spa pedicure and pamper yourself!

They are also looking for an esthetician to add to the services they offer. Located at 110 Newcastle Blvd around the square. Tel: 836-9013.



The Sunny Corner General Store has been recently renovated and given a fresh look by new owners Kathy Astle, Perry Flann and Greg McKillop. Formerly the Sunny Corner Irving, this community store offers one stop shopping and friendly service with a convenience store, NB Liquor outlet, Subway and home décor items. Play your favourite local charity lotteries including Gold Rush, Chibucks, Chase the King, Fast Cash 50/50 draw and Rotary Bingo. Visit them at 1765 route 425 Hwy, Sunny Corner. Tel: 506-836-7710.



### $130\,\text{ye} \text{ARS serving miramichi area (1886-2016)}$

### Salvation Army Free Anniversary Concerts

Saturday, May 21

3pm: Ritchie Wharf (outdoor) 7:30pm: St. Mary's R.C





Sunday May 22

Worship Service at Kin Centre at 11am.

Guest Soloist: Deliah Williams, Worship Team Leader, SA

Oshawa Temple

Guest Speaker: Major Alison Cowling, Maritime Divisional

Commander





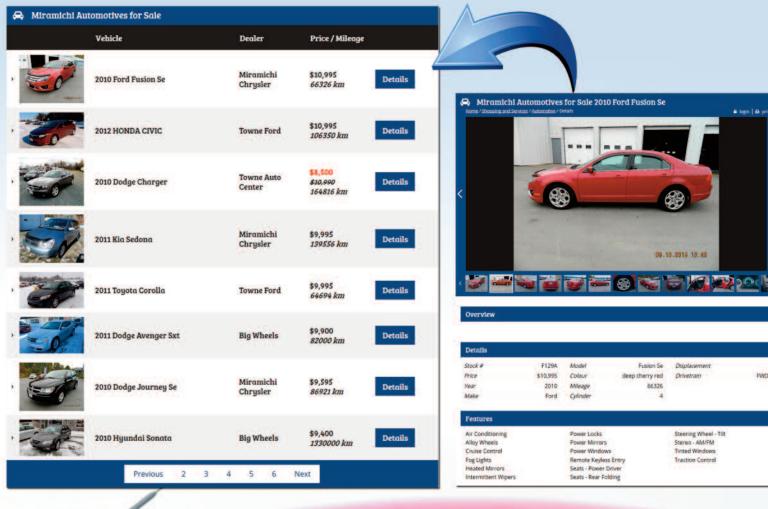
Major Alison Cowling



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### www.mightymiramichi.com/autos









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